

## The planting pause is over — get WaterSaver Landscape Coupons!

It may not feel like it, but fall is definitely in the air. Days are getting shorter and average temperatures are starting to drop.

Along with the gradual change of seasons, it's finally time to begin revamping your drought-weary landscape. Autumn's perfect for replacing part of that drab, crunchy lawn with colorful garden beds. That way, your new plants will have fall, winter and spring to get established before next summer's heat hits.

SAWS has a lot of help for you — starting with our WaterSaver Landscape Coupons!

Through Oct. 15, residential customers can apply for up to four coupons to transform up to 800 square feet of landscape. Each coupon is worth \$125 to purchase plants from a local nursery. There are more native and well-adapted plant choices this year and 1-gallon ornamental trees are now included!

Need help smothering any remaining grass? Sheet mulching will take care of it — visit [GardenStyleSA.com/sheetmulch](https://GardenStyleSA.com/sheetmulch) to watch a quick how-to video.

Not sure what to plant? We have 20 free landscape plans to help you get started at [GardenStyleSA.com/PlantByNumbers](https://GardenStyleSA.com/PlantByNumbers).

Whether your project area is under a shade tree, along a fence or even in that sun-scorched strip out by the street, there are plenty of designs with beautiful, hardy plants to choose from.

Hot tip: Shop early! Coupons can be redeemed through Oct. 31 but plant choices at local nurseries will be best in September.

For each coupon, you must replace at least 200 square feet of grass with your newly purchased plants. You also need to remove any automatic sprinklers or drip lines in the project area.

Be prepared to provide your freshly planted plants with TLC in the form of hand-watering. Don't worry — it won't take a long time, but it is an absolute must for establishing new plants. And don't forget to upload a photo of your completed project by Nov. 15.

Get all the details and apply today at [GardenStyleSA.com/coupons](https://GardenStyleSA.com/coupons).



**WaterSaver Coupon Timeline**  
 Oct. 15 Last day to apply  
 Oct. 31 Last day to redeem  
 Nov. 15 Proof of planting due

### Clouse's legacy lives on

Steven M. Clouse, San Antonio Water System's chief operating officer and the namesake of our city's largest water recycling center, died in August. He was 66.

Throughout his nearly 40 years at SAWS, Clouse was instrumental in making it the world-class utility it is today.

He guided the organization through the unimaginable COVID-19 pandemic, an extreme winter storm that paralyzed most of the state, and ongoing drought challenges not seen since the 1950s. And he was the visionary behind SAWS' "environmental trifecta" — making San Antonio the first in the nation to recycle all its sewage

treatment byproducts including water, biosolids and methane gas.

From the 1980s when he worked as a water sample collector to 2008 when he was named chief operating officer, Clouse developed deep knowledge of water quality, treatment technology, and water chemistry, making him the ideal leader to bring new water supplies to our city.

"He oversaw 13 water projects from seven different sources that keep our community thriving," said

SAWS CEO Robert R. Puente, adding that Steve "made me a better CEO."

Clouse retired in 2022 after selflessly serving SAWS for a second time as COO.



## Event Calendar

### San Antonio River: The Untold Story

Oct. 7

Eco Centro  
1802 N. Main Ave.  
[ecocentro.eventbrite.com](http://ecocentro.eventbrite.com)

### Second Saturday Habitat Work Day

Oct. 11

Mitchell Lake Audubon Center  
10750 Pleasanton Road  
[mitchelllake.audubon.org](http://mitchelllake.audubon.org)

### Family Fishing Day

Oct. 25

Brackenridge Park (Joske Pavilion)  
3700 N. St. Mary's St.  
[brackenridgepark.org/events](http://brackenridgepark.org/events)

### Wildlife Trick or Treat

Oct. 25

Government Canyon State Natural Area  
12861 Galm Road  
[tpwd.texas.gov/calendar](http://tpwd.texas.gov/calendar)

### Muertos Fest

Oct. 25-26

Hemisfair  
630 E. Nueva St.  
[muertosfest.com](http://muertosfest.com)

### Customer Service and 24-hour Emergency

**210-704-SAWS (7297)**  
[saws.org/waternews](http://saws.org/waternews)

## Thinking about new grass? Think again.

Looking at a crispy brown lawn day after day is a downer. But before you run to the nursery for pallets of sod, consider this: a new lawn — whether it's Bermuda, St. Augustine or Zoysia — takes an immense amount of water and care.

Couple that with once-a-week Stage 3 rules and you've got a no-win watering scenario.

That's because no exceptions or variances are granted for



watering newly replaced turf, whether due to drought, disease, winter freezes or any other reason. Plus, if your residential water use goes above 20,000 gallons per month, a hefty drought surcharge will appear on your next bill.

Here's a better idea: Instead of replacing grass, why not turn those unsightly dirt patches into the drought-tolerant landscape of your dreams? We'll even help you pay for it! Learn more at [GardenStyleSA.com/coupons](http://GardenStyleSA.com/coupons).

## Watch SAWS board meetings on TVSA

Catching the replay of SAWS Board of Trustees meetings just got a little easier, thanks to a partnership with the City of San Antonio.

The utility's Board meetings are now being aired on TVSA's Government Channel Friday at 6 p.m. following the monthly meeting the previous Tuesday.

"We are pleased to make our meetings accessible to a larger audience," said Gavino

Ramos, senior VP of communications and external affairs. "This partnership allows us to continue our commitment for transparency on how we are serving San Antonio as a public utility."

SAWS Board meetings, which are typically held in person at 9 a.m. on the first Tuesday of every month, can also be watched via livestream or on-demand anytime at [saws.org/live](http://saws.org/live).

### Where to watch

	AT&T	Grande	Spectrum	Broadcast
TVSA Government Channel	99	20	21	16

## Flutter by the Butterfly Festival Oct. 18

Children and grown-up kids of all ages are invited to immerse themselves in the educational event that celebrates migrating monarchs, pollinators and the ecosystems that sustain them. The annual Monarch Butterfly & Pollinator Festival is Saturday, Oct. 18 at Brackenridge Park.

Activities include monarch tagging demos, educational booths, a monarch migration obstacle course and the "People

as Pollinators" experiment where everyone becomes a pollinator for the day!

The free event happens 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and is held in partnership with Blooming with Birdie and supports the Mayor's Monarch Pledge and the City of San Antonio as a Monarch Champion City.

For more information, visit [brackenridgepark.org/monarch](http://brackenridgepark.org/monarch).

