

Fall back on lawn watering and save money

Here's a fun fall fact: In San Antonio, the day will be 80 minutes shorter on the last day of October than it was in September.

There are also more hours of darkness than daylight. For many of your plants, this means they have less time to soak up the sun. So, they produce fewer leaves and their water needs are much lower than they were in summer.

And for your home water use, it signals the beginning of the season to save.

That's because you can dial down landscape watering for the year — and reap the benefit of a lower water bill just in time for the fast-approaching holiday season.

Many sprinkler system controllers have a



seasonal adjust feature to make it easier to shorten the irrigation cycles. As warm season turfgrass winds down its growing season, watering times can be reduced. A good rule of thumb is to reduce to 70% for October, 40% for

November, and turn it off completely in December, running it manually once-per-month in winter only in the absence of rainfall.

As temperatures begin to cool, it's also a good idea to switch turfgrass watering to the morning hours instead of evening. This helps prevent the risk of fungal

disease which can spread in wet grass overnight.

It's time to give watering a rest for the season. Your plants and wallet will thank you!

For more ways to save water and money all year long, visit GardenStyleSA.com.

Switch off sprinklers now to lock in savings for 2026

How much you're charged for your sewer service is up to you. Save water now, save money throughout 2026. It's as simple as turning off your irrigation system for the season.

SAWS sewer charges are based on your average winter water use. So, the less water you use from mid-November to mid-March, the lower your monthly sewer charge will be for the rest of 2026.

If you're still running your irrigation system at least once per week during the winter, you're making an expensive mistake.

Bottom line: Saving water now can add up to big savings throughout 2026.

Check the schedule

The chart shows the approximate start and end dates of the winter averaging period for each SAWS billing cycle. Your billing cycle is shown in the blue "Current Bill Summary" section on the upper left portion of your bill. SAWS will begin billing you at the newly calculated sewer rate in the month shown.

Winter Average Period 2025-2026

Billing Cycle	Winter Averaging Starts	Winter Averaging Ends	Month Billed
17	Nov. 15	Feb. 25	March
18	Nov. 18	Feb. 26	March
19	Nov. 19	Feb. 27	March
20	Nov. 20	Mar. 02	April
21	Nov. 21	Mar. 03	April
01	Nov. 21	Mar. 04	April
02	Nov. 22	Mar. 05	April
03	Nov. 25	Mar. 06	April
04	Nov. 26	Mar. 09	April
05	Nov. 27	Mar. 10	April
06	Dec. 02	Mar. 11	April
07	Dec. 03	Mar. 12	April
08	Dec. 04	Mar. 13	April
09	Dec. 05	Mar. 16	April
10	Dec. 06	Mar. 17	April
11	Dec. 09	Mar. 18	April
12	Dec. 10	Mar. 19	April
13	Dec. 11	Mar. 20	April
14	Dec. 12	Mar. 23	April
15	Dec. 13	Mar. 24	April
16	Dec. 16	Mar. 25	April

Note: Actual meter reading dates may vary slightly.

Event Calendar

Cinema on Will's Plaza: Beethoven

Nov. 8

Tobin Center
100 Auditorium Circle
tobincenter.org/events

Mandala Weaving

Nov. 9

San Antonio Botanical Garden
555 Funston Place
sabot.org/events

Guided Bird Tour

Nov. 16

Mitchell Lake Audubon Center
10750 Pleasanton Road
mitchelllake.audubon.org/events

Pilates in the Park

Nov. 29

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

Night Hike

Nov. 28

Government Canyon State Natural Area
12861 Galm Road
tpwd.texas.gov/calendar

Customer Service and 24-hour Emergency

210-704-SAWS (7297)
saws.org/waternews

(Motor) oil and water don't mix

It's estimated that Americans improperly dump about 193 million gallons of used motor oil every year. That oil can wind up in storm drains and contaminate our rivers, creeks and lakes — and yes, even someone's drinking water.

Recycle used motor oil at the City of San Antonio's permanent drop-off location.



Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility

7030 Culebra Road
San Antonio, TX 78238

Tuesday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon
(except holidays)

For a list of drop off requirements, visit sa.gov/swmd.

Understand your flood risk

Do you know if the area you live in is prone to flooding? The City of San Antonio Public Works Department can help you determine if you're at risk.

Using the Federal Emergency Management Agency's flood insurance rate maps, Public Works can show you basic flood information including flood zones, local drainage areas, depths of flooding, flood-related hazards and historical flood data. They can also share with you the

areas of town that provide natural floodplain ecosystem functions.

If flood water affects your property, Public Works can investigate the problem to give property protection advice, including drainage improvement suggestions and guidance on financial assistance programs.

Contact the Public Works Floodplain Division at 210-206-8433 for floodplain-related questions. If you are experiencing flooding or drainage issues on your property, call 311.



Farewell wishes for retiring SAWS Board members

President/CEO Robert Puente and Board Chairwoman Jelynn LeBlanc Jamison thanked Amy Hardberger, secretary, and David McGee, vice chairman, for their years of service on the SAWS Board of Trustees.

Both were recognized and showered with parting praises during the September Board meeting.

Lauded for their "strong integrity and high character," Jamison thanked them for

providing the highest level of service to SAWS and the community.

"You bring your relevant knowledge and expertise to the table in a way that fosters a respectful, open-minded and collegial atmosphere," she said. "For that I am most appreciative."

In addition to Hardberger and McGee, Eduardo Parra wrapped up six years of service on the SAWS Board in December 2024.

