



Your source for all things water

## WaterSaver Coupons are back!

### Plan now, plant later for up to \$600 in fall savings

If your long-suffering lawn is ready for a revamp, avoid the cost and frustration of replacing your sod — and apply for our fall WaterSaver Landscape Coupons instead!

Autumn is the ideal time to make the switch from turf to drought-resilient landscape beds. That's because plants that go in the ground in fall have three mostly mild seasons to get their roots established before they face their first scorching Texas summer.

Need a little extra incentive to plan now and plant later? Our fall WaterSaver Coupons will now save you more than ever: \$150 to \$600 off the cost of those new plants!

To qualify, you must remove at least 200 square feet of grass per \$150 coupon, along with any automatic sprinkler heads or drip lines in the project area. (While you're at it, you may also want to apply for our Irrigation Design Rebate for even more savings!)

Coupons will be distributed starting Aug. 15 and must be redeemed at a participating nursery by Nov. 1.

Until then, get a head start prepping the project area (aka killing the grass, either by solarizing or sheet mulching) and picking out your colorful new plants.

You'll also need to take photos of the project area to submit with your coupon application. Existing landscape beds are not eligible.

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

to help you get started. For inspiration in living color, visit the WaterSaver Community at San Antonio Botanical Garden.

Digital DIYers might enjoy the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation's free Wild Thumb app for iOS and Android. It takes the guesswork out of creating a native pollinator garden by walking you through solarizing, sheet mulching and laying out plants, step-by-step.

Don't miss this chance to level up your landscape glam game!

Get all the details and apply for your fall WaterSaver Landscape Coupons today at [GardenStyleSA.com/fall](https://GardenStyleSA.com/fall).



## City Council votes to delay decision on SAWS rates

San Antonio Water System officials and customers will need to wait a little longer to learn the fate of the utility's proposed \$3.2 billion infrastructure improvement program.

San Antonio City Council was scheduled to vote on the proposal — and a four-year customer rate adjustment to fund it — at its June 18 meeting. However, Council voted to delay that decision and instead will revisit the request in October.

"The primary driver of this rate proposal is infrastructure investment," SAWS President/CEO Robert R. Puente told the Council. "During the last five years, SAWS has successfully managed and delivered

approximately \$2.6 billion (in improvements) without a rate increase."

With the vote now delayed until October, any rate adjustment would likely take place in November, with amounts to be determined. The previous proposal would have increased the average household's bill less than \$4 a month for the rest of 2026.

The aim of the SAWS infrastructure improvement program is to upgrade essential systems across the city, from replacing aging public water and sewer pipes to modernizing outdated treatment plants to installing emergency backup power systems and more. Learn more at [saws.org/rates2026](https://saws.org/rates2026).



## Event Calendar

### Cinema on Will's Plaza: School of Rock

Aug. 8

Tobin Center  
100 Auditorium Circle  
[tobincenter.org/schoolofrock](http://tobincenter.org/schoolofrock)

### Gardening Essentials

Aug. 17

San Antonio Garden Center  
3310 N. New Braunfels Ave.  
[gardeningvolunteers.org/events](http://gardeningvolunteers.org/events)

### Beginner Bird Walks

Aug. 22

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

### Neighbors in Nature Day

Aug. 28

San Antonio Botanical Garden  
555 Funston Place  
[sabgtx.org/calendar](http://sabgtx.org/calendar)

### Star Party

Sept. 5

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

### Customer Service and 24-hour Emergency

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

## ConnectH2O meters help you save water

In 2025, an estimated 2.5 billion gallons of water was lost due to plumbing leaks in San Antonio homes and yards.

Now, thanks to ConnectH2O electronic water meters, SAWS customers can track their own water use — to catch potential leaks before they become costly repairs.

Not all leaks can be seen or even heard. But with ConnectH2O meters, we'll contact you — by email, text or phone — when continuous water flow of five gallons or more per hour is detected for more than 48 hours straight.



**CONNECT H<sub>2</sub>O**

So don't wait to investigate! Check your toilets, irrigation system, water softener and other plumbing fixtures for hidden leaks. Visit [saws.org/leak](http://saws.org/leak) for troubleshooting tips.

Still can't locate the leak? Give us a call at 210-704-SAVE (7283). We'll be happy to help you track down the problem.

Remember: Leaks between the meter and the house, and inside the home, are the homeowner's responsibility. Spot a leak on the SAWS side of the meter? Report it 24/7 at 210-704-SAWS (7297).

## Summer's here! So when do I water and how much?

San Antonio was blessed this year with a wetter-than-usual spring. The result was greener grass and brighter blooms than we've seen in ages.

So that means the drought is over, right? **WRONG!**

It will take a lot more than one rainy season to make up for six years of drought. Aquifer and lake levels are still well below average and could take years to recover.

That's why SAWS customers are still under drought stage rules and probably will be for the rest of the year.

At press time, Stage 3 rules are still in place. That means watering with a sprinkler or in-ground irrigation is only allowed between 5-10 a.m. and 9 p.m.-midnight, one day a week on your day.

As always, you can water with a handheld hose any time.

You can check the current drought rules in effect at [saws.org/drought](http://saws.org/drought). Even better: Get weekly watering amounts and summer gardening tips delivered right to your inbox! Sign up today at [GardenStyleSA.com/newsletter](http://GardenStyleSA.com/newsletter).

## Understanding 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 your area is at risk.

Using the Federal Emergency Management Agency's flood insurance rate maps, Public Works can help determine if you are in a flood zone, discuss local drainage problems, depths of flooding, special flood-related hazards in different parts of the city 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 retrofitting and drainage improvements, and provide guidance on financial assistance programs. You can also schedule an on-site visit to gain one-on-one advice offering other possible solutions.

Contact the Public Works Department-Floodplain Division at 210-206-8433 for more information. If you are experiencing flooding or drainage issues on your property, please contact 311.