April 2022

waternews

Your source for all things water

San Antonio Is In Stage 1 — Do You Know When To Water?

San Antonio hasn't seen much rain so far this year — and the dry, parched conditions have brought about the return of landscape watering rules.

Stage 1 rules have been in place since early March. That means watering your lawn with an irrigation system, sprinkler or soaker hose is allowed only one day a week before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m. on your designated day.

Which day is your watering day? Simply look at the last number of your street address:

0 or 1 – Monday
2 or 3 – Tuesday
4 or 5 – Wednesday
6 or 7 – Thursday
8 or 9 – Friday

Watering days begin and end at midnight, so no overnight watering is allowed. You can hand-water with a hose-end nozzle any time you want.

But just because you *can* water once a week doesn't mean you *have to*. Lawns can go without watering for 12 to 21 days depending on the species. And your perennial plants and trees? They can go even longer, easily getting by without water for 45-60 days.

Even your water bill will be healthier (and leaner) if you skip a week or two. Running your irrigation system just once a week can double (and sometimes triple) the amount of water you use.

Of course, the best way to drought-proof your landscape and save money is to use SAWS WaterSaver coupons and rebates!

Through Oct. 15, SAWS residential customers can apply for up to $400 in coupons to replace part of their water-guzzling grass with radiant plants like salvia, mistflower, cenizo and this region's stalwart, mountain laurel.

If it's your sprinkler system you want to make more efficient — or ditch entirely — our irrigation design rebate can help. There's even a coupon to help upgrade that confusing controller in the garage so you can use your smart phone instead.

Get all the details and apply online at **GardenStyleSA.com/coupons**.

Competitive Pay and Benefits

Come join our team!

saws.org/jobs

San Antonio Water System

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Calling all budding young shutterbugs: Get creative with a camera and connect with nature at the Picture Your World Youth Program at Bulverde Oaks Nature Preserve, Sunday May 8. $10 per youth, free for mom or dad! Details at greensatx.org.

Event Calendar

Guided Bird Tour

May 1
Mitchell Lake Audubon Center
10750 Pleasanton Road
mitchelllake.audubon.org

Family Night Hike

May 6
San Antonio Botanical Garden
555 Funston Place
sabot.org

Meditation in Chris Park

May 15
Chris Park
111 Camp St.
rubycity.org/events

San Antonio Book Festival

May 21
San Antonio Central Library
600 Soledad
sabookfestival.org

Memorial Day River Walk Artisan Show

May 27-30
Downtown River Walk
602 E. Commerce St.
thesanantonioriverwalk.com

Customer Service and 24-hour Emergency

210-704-SAWS (7297)

saws.org/waternews

Get Help Paying Your Overdue Water Bill

Behind on your water bill because of COVID-19? If so, you may be just minutes away from qualifying for hundreds of dollars in assistance.

SAWS customers can receive up to $700 in federal COVID-19 funds to help pay off their past-due SAWS bill, thanks to the American Rescue Plan Act.

It takes less than five minutes to apply, and no proof of income is needed.

To receive this assistance, you must:

- Be a SAWS residential customer.
- Live inside San Antonio city limits.
- Have an unpaid balance on charges between April 2020 and September 2021.

You could also qualify for even more help through other need-based programs.

Apply online at **saws.org/covid19** or call **210-704-SAWS** (7297).

Electronic Water Meter Rollout Begins Soon

New electronic water meters will soon be coming to your neighborhood. SAWS is installing the first wave of ConnectH2O meters this spring. Instead of once-a-month meter readings, the new devices will be "read" automatically every hour, to help you better understand your water use and put an end to unexpected high water bills.

Over the next four years, SAWS will replace almost 600,000 meters throughout the city with the new electronic meters. And we plan to keep you informed every step of the way as the meter replacement team comes to your neighborhood with this exciting new technology.

SAWS is the largest utility in the nation to bring this service to our customers and we can't wait for you to see it. Look for more details soon!

San Antonio Water System | CONNECTH2O

Opinions About Water? We Want To Hear Them!

Change is in the air — or make that water — as SAWS begins seeking input to update the utility's 50-year Water Management Plan.

Water is vital to San Antonio's quality of life. The Water Management Plan serves as a roadmap for forecasting the community's long-term water needs and ways to meet those needs.

The plan is updated about every five years to ensure the community has sustainable and affordable water supplies for generations to come.

WATER CITY SA

Visit **WaterCitySA.com** to take a quick survey and let us know which water-related topics are most important to you. There you'll also find a calendar of meetings you can join online or in-person, as well as more information about the planning process. You can also submit feedback via email to **WMP-Input@saws.org**.

Welcome to the conversation!