

Digging deep for our water future

Expansion, upgrades take shape at Clouse Water Recycling Center

At first glance it may just look like a huge hole in the ground. But this massive construction site on the far South Side signals the renewal of a vital service we all use every day.

Ever wonder where the dirty water goes after you flush? For about 1.5 million San Antonians, the answer is the Steven M. Clouse Water Recycling Center.

The plant takes in about 125 million gallons a day, cleaning up your shower, laundry and even toilet water to near-drinking-quality to be reused or released into the environment.

Sadly, parts of this 1980s-era plant are nearing the end of their expected life. The good news: SAWS is updating and expanding the facility to serve our city for decades to come.

That giant, 100,000 square foot hole? It will be home to three brand new aeration basins and settling tanks.

When completed in 2028, these structures will allow SAWS to treat even more wastewater while meeting future environmental rules. The new parts will work alongside existing infrastructure, creating a larger, more efficient treatment system.

Six new high-capacity blowers are also being installed to support both the current and future facilities. These gigantic fans push massive amounts of oxygen into the aeration basins to feed the microscopic “bugs” that break down organic waste.

The new blowers will replace outdated equipment to help keep operations running smoothly. Construction continues to make steady progress, with half of the new blowers expected to be installed by the end of 2026.

Want to see the process for yourself? Keep an eye out for our Rain-to-Drain tours, where you can experience it all firsthand.

Learn more at saws.org/tour.



The SAWS Steven M. Clouse Water Recycling Center treats wastewater for about two-thirds of San Antonio area residents and businesses.

PUBLIC NOTICE

UPDATE ON DECLARATION OF INTENT TO CHANGE WATER, WASTEWATER AND IRRIGATION RATES

If approved by San Antonio City Council on or after October 8, 2026, the implementation of new water, wastewater and irrigation rates will apply to consumption on or about January 1, 2027.

Customers will begin receiving bills that reflect the proposed new rates on or about

February 1, 2027. The proposed new rates are scheduled for review and consideration by San Antonio City Council on or after October 8, 2026.

More information is available at 210-704-SAWS (7297) or saws.org/rates2027.

Para información en español, por favor lláme al 210-704-7297.

Show our shady friends some love — and get a free 1-gallon tree while supplies last — at **Día del Árbol: Texas Arbor Day**, Saturday, Nov. 14 at Mission Marquee Plaza. Get details at missionmarquee.com/events.

Event Calendar

Sustainable Gardening Tour

Nov. 6

San Antonio Botanical Garden
555 Funston Place
sabttx.org/calendar

Art in the Parks Artisan Fair

Nov. 14

Japanese Tea Garden
3853 N. Saint Mary's St.
saparks.org/events

Tree Trail Trek

Nov. 21

Stone Oak Park North Trails
20395 Stone Oak Parkway
bexarbranches.org/event

Holiday River Parade Viewing Party

Nov. 27

Tobin Center
100 Auditorium Circle
tobincenter.org/holidayparade

Beginner Bird Walks

Nov. 28

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

Customer Service and 24-hour Emergency

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

Turn off landscape sprinklers now to save big in 2027

Saving water now can add up to big savings throughout 2027!

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 2027.

The dates for the winter average calculation fall during the cool season. Because warm-season plants and grass grow very little in winter, rain can meet most plant water needs until the ground warms up in spring.

If your irrigation system is set to run every week in winter, you may be using more water than your yard needs — and missing one of the biggest chances to save.

Check the schedule

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

Winter Average Period 2026-2027

Billing Cycle	Winter Averaging Starts	Winter Averaging Ends	Month Billed
17	Nov. 15	Feb. 22	March
18	Nov. 16	Feb. 23	March
19	Nov. 17	Feb. 24	March
20	Nov. 20	Feb. 25	March
21	Nov. 21	Feb. 26	April
01	Nov. 21	Mar. 01	April
02	Nov. 22	Mar. 02	April
03	Nov. 27	Mar. 03	April
04	Nov. 28	Mar. 04	April
05	Nov. 29	Mar. 05	April
06	Nov. 30	Mar. 08	April
07	Dec. 01	Mar. 09	April
08	Dec. 04	Mar. 10	April
09	Dec. 05	Mar. 11	April
10	Dec. 06	Mar. 12	April
11	Dec. 07	Mar. 15	April
12	Dec. 08	Mar. 16	April
13	Dec. 11	Mar. 17	April
14	Dec. 12	Mar. 18	April
15	Dec. 13	Mar. 19	April
16	Dec. 14	Mar. 22	April

Note: Actual meter reading dates may vary slightly.

White House cyber director visits SAWS



While in San Antonio to announce a new cybersecurity program for water utilities, Sean Cairncross, national cyber director, got an intimate look around SAWS' H2Oaks Center desal and ASR plant in southeast Bexar County. He was welcomed by SAWS President/CEO Robert Puente.

Cybersecurity is a critical part of SAWS' mission to ensure water reliability, strengthen our infrastructure and safeguard a dependable long-term water supply. Cairncross praised SAWS for outstanding work, saying he "saw firsthand the operation's complexity and the responsibilities these plants have to Texans."

Autumn irrigation season is winding down

Now that fall is here, it's time to check your irrigation controller. Make sure the clock shows the correct time and day. If not, reset the controller to avoid a drought stage watering rule violation.

With peak summer heat behind us, grass and plants need less water. This is a good time to switch to morning-only watering since brown patch and other fungus thrive in grass left wet overnight.

Check for broken sprinkler heads, leaks and overspray onto sidewalks. Small changes can help lower your bill *and* keep your yard healthy.



Want to find more ways to save? Schedule a free WaterSaver irrigation check-up at 210-704-SAVE.