



How To Save Water (and Money) This Summer

Thanks to a warm winter and a cool spring, green lawns are quite the sight this season. But trying to keep them that way as dry summer weather settles in can quickly lead to uncommonly high water use.

An unexpected high water bill is the last thing your household needs, especially during these uncertain times. So it's worth a reminder that SAWS water rates are set up to encourage conservation. So the more water you use, the more you pay per gallon.

That means you can save money quickly with even small reductions in water use. But it also means those who use large amounts of water will see a spike in their SAWS bill.



An in-ground sprinkler system can make it especially easy to rack up an enormous bill, since it can use 3,000 gallons or more each time it runs. And a system that's not properly programmed or maintained can use even more.

If you are using an irrigation system or sprinkler, year-round guidelines encourage watering your landscape before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m. As an alternative, you can save a lot of water by hand watering, which you can do any day, at any time — regardless of any drought stage.

For the latest drought stage information, visit saws.org/drought and follow @mySAWS on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. And remember to visit GardenStyleSA.com for weekly watering advice and landscaping tips to keep your yard looking great using less water.

Schedule Your No-Contact Irrigation Checkup

SAWS is now offering no-contact house calls for customers with in-ground irrigation systems.

One of our experts will come to your home to do a complete checkup of your sprinkler system and review your landscape — all while you remain safely inside your home. When they're done, they'll call you to review the results and answer any questions.

If you prefer a phone consultation without the on-site visit, we can do that, too! Schedule your checkup today at **210-704-SAVE**.

Your 2020 Water Quality Report

From source water to the consumer's tap, SAWS is committed to preserving and protecting the drinking water quality of our community. Public water systems like SAWS are required by law to report every year on the type and quantity of substances in their water.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality conducts water quality tests and provides the results for the report.

To learn more about San Antonio's outstanding public water supply, view your 2020 Water Quality Report online at saws.org/waterqualityreport.

Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en español, favor de llamar 210-233-3546.

Coronavirus Questions?

Keep up with the latest guidance for San Antonio and Bexar County by visiting sanantonio.gov/covid19. You can also text "COSAGOV" to 55000 or call 311.

Got WaterSaver Coupons Yet?

Attention weekend warriors — WaterSaver Coupons are waiting for you!

Through Oct. 15, SAWS residential customers can get up to four \$100 coupons to help replace part of your thirsty lawn with colorful, drought-hardy plants and permeable patio pavers. That's \$400 in savings!

Apply today at GardenStyleSA.com/coupons.

Landscape and Patioscape Coupons must be redeemed by Nov. 15. Successful projects get a bonus \$30 mulch coupon.

Be sure to practice safe distancing and wear a face mask when you head out to the garden center.

We Are Here To Help

SAWS has many programs and resources to help you avoid the hardship and hassle of a high water bill.

- Purchase a **water flow sensor device** and we'll rebate you \$150 toward the purchase after it's installed. See all eligible devices at GardenStyleSA.com/sensor.
- Sign up for a monthly **WaterSmart report** at saws.org/watersmart. You'll get

a detailed description of where and when you are using the most water, as well as tips for reducing indoor and outdoor water use.

- Binge-watch our **how-to videos** at GardenStyleSA.com/howto and learn the secrets of leak detection, drip irrigation, watering more efficiently and more.

Get Rewarded While You Stay Home

As businesses begin to gradually reopen, many of us will still continue working and teaching at home. Many public events may also be online-only for a little while.

And that's OK, because you can polish up your green thumb right from the comfort of your couch with web-based gardening and landscaping classes. And if you're a WaterSaver Rewards member, you can earn points to cash in for coupons to use toward mulch, plants, garden tools and more!



Three points will get you a coupon for \$30 off the purchase of a rain barrel or garden tool. Earn five points and get a coupon for \$50 off the cost of mulch or compost.

And seven points earns you a whopping \$70 for the purchase of just about any gardening items you want.

The GardenStyleSA.com calendar is loaded with rewards-eligible events. Earning points is as easy as taking a short quiz at the end of each webinar. Sign up today at GardenStyleSA.com/rewards.

Staying Safe in the Sun

Many people are starting to head outside to burn off the stress of being cooped up for so long. But before you make a mad dash for the great outdoors, remember to drink plenty of water.

Dehydration is a big concern during summertime as it can lead to heat exhaustion, and in more serious cases, heat stroke.

Follow these tips to stay safe in the sun:

- Eat plenty of fruits (berries, apples) and veggies (dark leafy greens, peppers, tomatoes).
- Wear sunscreen.

- Stay hydrated with water and electrolyte drinks. Drink before you feel thirsty because by the time thirst kicks in, your body has already lost too much salt.

- Avoid alcoholic, sugary and caffeinated drinks.

People over the age of 65 and those on heart or blood medication or who are overweight are most susceptible to heat stroke.

Discuss any new exercise programs with your doctor before starting. And try to plan strenuous activity early in the morning or in the evening when it's cooler.

Customer Service and 24-hour Emergency
210-704-SAWS (7297)
saws.org/waternews