



Your source for all things water

Spring Bloom blossoming again

The hiatus is history. The Bloom is back.

After three long years of “pandemic pause,” Spring Bloom returns to SAWS Headquarters, Saturday, March 11!

The free event is your prime opportunity to learn about gardening and landscape care from the pros — all while saving water. This year’s focus will be “What’s your GardenStyle?”

To help you answer that question, we’ll showcase many ways that WaterSaver plants fit with your desired landscape look. And you can even shop for these tried-and-true varieties right there at the event.

Local gardening experts will speak throughout the day, revealing their secrets to successful landscaping and how to choose a garden style that best suits your home’s terrain and character.



We’ll also have demos on how to measure 200 square feet — you’ll need to know that so you can give up some grass and take advantage of our WaterSaver Coupons and save hundreds of dollars on landscape plants and supplies.

And if you’re curious about the new ConnectH2O electronic water meters SAWS has begun installing across the city, you can get an up-close look at this technology and how it can help you save water and money.

As always, the first 1,000 adult guests will receive a free drought-hardy landscape plant. That’s in addition to the free admission and free parking.

Come celebrate the unofficial start to spring at the premier gardening event of the season!

Get all the details at GardenStyleSA.com/SpringBloom.

New SAWS rates now in effect

Does your water bill total look a little different this month? That’s because your SAWS services are now being billed at our new rates, effective Jan. 1. And that’s very good news for most SAWS customers!

The new rates reduce wastewater charges on 100% of residential bills, while 83% include reduced water charges. For the average residential customer, that adds up to \$5.80 in savings per month!

The lower water rates apply to residential customers using 9,000 gallons or less per month. Those with higher use will see a modest increase, to further encourage water conservation.

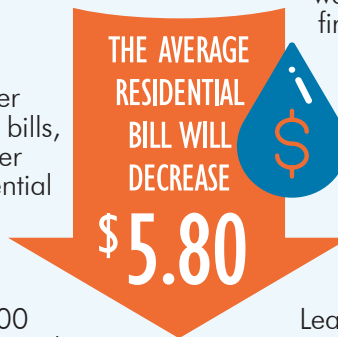
Those who meet income requirements

and are enrolled in SAWS’ Uplift Assistance Program will see an even greater bill reduction, including no charge at all for water, water supply or sewer for the first 2,000 gallons of water use.

This new discounted rate plan is funded through a new Uplift Assistance Program Fee.

The rates for commercial, wholesale, irrigation and recycled water customers also include a modest increase for 2023.

Learn more about the new rate structure at saws.org/rates. To see if you qualify for our new discounted residential rates, apply online at saws.org/uplift or call 210-233-CARE (2273).





Calling all lady birders — join an expert bird guide for a 5-mile hike focused on personal safety while listening and looking for birds during the **Bird Hike for Women**, Saturday, March 18 at Mitchell Lake Audubon Center. Register at mitchelllake.audubon.org.

Event Calendar

Earthwise Living Day

March 4

Leon Valley Community Center
6427 Evers Road

leonvalleytexas.gov

Celebrate Pollinators!

March 11

San Antonio Botanical Garden
555 Funston Place

sabot.org

St. Patrick's Day Festival & River Parade

March 17-18

River Walk

849 E. Commerce St.

thesanantonioriverwalk.com

Migratory Bird Fest

March 25

Mitchell Lake Audubon Center
10750 Pleasanton Road

mitchelllake.audubon.org

Family Cooking: Mystery Quesadillas

April 1

San Antonio Botanical Garden
555 Funston Place

sabot.org

Customer Service and 24-hour Emergency

210-704-SAWS (7297)

saws.org/waternews

Plant like a pro, yo

You don't have to be a master gardener to have a beautiful landscape. And you don't need to toil for weeks just to give it a sprucing up.

Our new Plant by Number plans will help you easily eliminate problem areas in your yard and replace them with gorgeous water-saving alternatives.

Maybe the grass near the curb looked terrible due to heat from the street. Or you'd love more color along a sunny fence. Or maybe you're blessed by so much shade the grass won't thrive in some areas. Correcting these issues is easier than ever and you'll save water doing it.



Plant by Number plans are designed like a blueprint with numbered areas that you fill in with corresponding plants. Even better: Those plants are included in our WaterSaver Coupon approved plant list.

The first batch of Plant by Number designs — including curb appeal, pollinator garden and corner bed — will be available at SAWS Spring Bloom, March 11. So don't miss it!

It's an easy-peasy way to help you take care of trouble spots.

Learn more at GardenStyleSA.com/PlantByNumber.

The drought continues and so do Stage 2 watering rules

Late January showers were a welcome relief, but they didn't put an end to the ongoing drought. We started 2023 with very dry soil and a hefty rainfall deficit. This means Stage 2 watering rules — and enforcement of them — are still in effect.

As a reminder, under Stage 2, landscape watering with a sprinkler, irrigation system or soaker hose is allowed only from 7-11 a.m. and 7-11 p.m., one day a week, based on the last number of your street address. You can still hand-water with a hose-end nozzle any time.

SAWS water enforcers are patrolling neighborhoods, including gated communities, and issuing fines — not warnings. So make sure your irrigation system is set to water only on your day between 7 and 11.

And if you were thinking about planting new grass this year, please don't. This could be another challenging summer for lawns.

Remember to visit GardenStyleSA.com for weekly watering advice and landscaping tips to keep your yard thriving — even in drought.

Marching the dream forward again

SAWS employees and their families joined tens of thousands of their fellow San Antonians to march for the dream at the 2023 Martin Luther King Day March, Monday, Jan. 16. It's been three years since the event took place thanks to the ongoing pandemic. The spirit of justice and hope that Dr. King envisioned lived on virtually until the in-person event was finally able to return this year. San Antonio's annual MLK Day proceedings are among the largest in the U.S.

