



It's Hot and Dry — Know When To Water?

In contrast to the record-breaking, multiyear drought of the early 2010s, the last few years have seemed rather lush by comparison. And our lawns and landscapes were grateful.

But, in fact, our area has seen below-average rainfall for several years, and it's getting worse. Since June 2020, our area has received less than 40 percent of normal rainfall. As expected, the Edwards Aquifer level has also dropped, triggering Stage 2 watering rules for the first time since 2018.

Stage 2 means landscape watering with a sprinkler, irrigation system or soaker hose is allowed only one day per week, from **7-11 a.m. and 7-11 p.m.** Your watering day is determined by the last digit of your street address.

The good news is most lawn grasses and native plants rarely need more than one good, deep watering per week.

Have a few dry spots in your yard that need a little extra help? No problem: Watering with a hand-held hose is allowed any day, any time.

Of course, water waste, such as water running down the street, is never allowed, regardless of the current drought stage.

“Although SAWS has plenty of water to meet customer demand coming from water projects such as the Vista Ridge Pipeline, our desalination plant and others, city ordinance requires SAWS to enter Stage 2 watering rules when the Edwards Aquifer level is triggered,” said Robert R. Puente, SAWS president/CEO.

“We have worked hard to diversify our water sources to ensure San Antonio is water secure for generations.”

While rain chances don't look promising for this summer, Texas weather can be full of surprises. If the rains return and the drought stage changes, you can always find the current, complete rules at saws.org/WhenToWater.

For weekly, science-based watering advice and other timely tips, visit GardenStyleSA.com.

DROUGHT STAGE 2

WATER WISELY

KNOW THE RULES

CHECK THE TIME

BEFORE YOU WATER

7AM Mornings 11AM

7PM Evenings 11PM

KNOW YOUR DAY

M	T	W	TH	F
0	2	4	6	8
1	3	5	7	9

last digit of address

ONCE A WEEK

Learn more at saws.org/WhenToWater

Reap Rewards for Saving Water

Are you a water-saving warrior? Sign up for WaterSaver Rewards and get a little something extra for your wily water ways!

Earn points every time you participate in a SAWS-approved conservation event or program. Then cash them in for coupons to use toward water-saving goodies like plants, mulch, compost and the ever-popular rain

barrels. But you have to sign up first. SAWS residential water customers can register online at GardenStyleSA.com/rewards.

After you've signed up, check out the GardenStyleSA.com calendar for plenty of points-earning, earth-friendly family fun including online gardening workshops, nature walks and much more.

Get your COVID-19 vaccine and continue to wear your mask.

For the latest coronavirus guidance for San Antonio and Bexar County, visit sanantonio.gov/covid19. You can also text "COSAGOV" to 55000 or call 311.

Composting Basics

Worm, hot, trench and Takakura. No, those aren't sushi styles. They're super easy home composting methods you can use to begin your journey to more sustainable living.

Explore each composting method in depth so you can decide which one works best for you. No matter which one you choose, they all help to reduce your organic waste, improve garden soil quality, increase soil saturation capacity and conserve water.

Join us for a free online Composting Basics Workshop presented by EcoCentro, June 21, 6-8 p.m. Register at ecocentro.eventbrite.com.



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

Hummingbirds Love Our WaterSaver Coupons!

Roll out the welcome mat for our tiniest avian friends! SAWS WaterSaver coupons make it easy — and affordable — to add some of these hummingbird-approved plants to your yard.

Esperanza

Both the native and tropical varieties are drought-tolerant sun lovers with bright yellow, trumpet-shaped flowers.

Mexican honeysuckle

This tropical American native is drought hardy and can handle sun or partial shade.

Red yucca

A native of South Texas, this coral, red or yellow-flowered plant can stand up to extreme sun and arid conditions.

Pride of Barbados

Hummingbirds delight in this stalwart's plentiful blooms when many other plants have given up in the Texas heat.

Turk's cap

This Texas native with long-lasting red flowers handles shady and partly shady conditions.

Apply for up to \$400 in landscape savings at GardenStyleSA.com/coupons.



Note: Some plants may be in short supply due to February's record freeze.

Traverse the Tree Tops

San Antonio's newest eco-landmark just got even better. The skywalk portion of the Robert L.B. Tobin Land Bridge at Phil Hardberger Park is now open to the public.

Climbing 18 feet off the ground, the elevated walkway offers spectacular views of the tree canopy and connects pedestrians to the land bridge. The bridge and



skywalk are about a half-mile walk from either the N.W. Military Highway or Blanco Road parking areas.

The skywalk is open to the public during park hours, from sunrise to sunset every day. No bikes are allowed on the walkway. It is ADA-accessible and features a seating area so you can relax under the trees.

For more information, visit philhardbergerpark.org.

Make Sure SAWS Can Reach You

When there's a water emergency, like low pressure or loss of service, we want to keep you in the loop.

But what happens if SAWS doesn't have your current phone number or email address to contact you? No worries — there's an easy fix for that.

Just log in at saws.org/myaccount and

look for the "Manage Accounts" button in the upper right corner (or main menu on mobile).

Select "Mobile Number" or "Email" to enter your updated information. That's it!

No Internet access? No problem. Give us a call at 210-704-SAWS (7297) and we'll be happy to update your contact information for you.

