

New Alliance for Conservation

As the drought maintains its hold on our area — 2015 marks the fifth consecutive year of drought conditions — several Texas universities and water utilities have joined forces to launch a statewide research and development effort focused on saving water.

The University Municipal Water Consortium consists of researchers from Texas A&M University, the University of Texas of Austin and the University of Texas at San Antonio and more than two dozen state, regional and local water providers — including San Antonio Water System. Its focus is to chart water use in hundreds of homes across Texas.

“Information gathered will play a critical role in the development of new conservation strategies and programs that will save our customers money and water,” said Dana Nichols, outdoor conservation manager for SAWS.

The research effort includes a lab focused on commercializing new technologies, as well as equipment that will measure water use in San Antonio homes and allow participants to monitor their use and detect leaks using a smartphone app.



Stage 2 Landscape Watering Rules Still in Place

Summer is just around the corner and that means gardening, lawn care and, of course, landscape watering will be topping many to-do lists.

But before you haul out the hose-end sprinklers and set ‘em and forget ‘em, remember that Stage 2 drought restrictions remain in place.

Yes, the weather has been mild and rain has been more plentiful than in the past, but Edwards Aquifer levels remain below their historic average. So let’s all continue to do our part to conserve.

Under Stage 2, landscape watering with an irrigation system, sprinkler or soaker hose is allowed only once a week — Monday through Friday — on your designated watering day, as determined by your address, 7 to 11 a.m. and 7 to 11 p.m.

Hand watering is allowed any day and any time in all drought stages. For more information on drought restrictions, visit saws.org/drought.

While You Were Sleeping...



SAWS crews worked overnight Saturday into Sunday, April 11-12, to repair a water main serving the Sonterra Boulevard area in Stone Oak. The 20-inch main running along U.S. 281 southbound had developed a leak and was temporarily patched until crews could remove the main from service during non-peak hours to permanently repair it. The line provides service to numerous homes and businesses, including Methodist Stone Oak Hospital. Service was restored to full pressure around 5 a.m. Sunday. View additional photos at facebook.com/mysaws.

Join the **MySAWS** conversation:





Save the Date:
Festival of Flowers is May 23. Visit safestivalofflowers.com.

Mitchell Lake Adventure Camp Promises Summer Fun, Learning

Looking for something new and exciting for the kids to do this summer? Why not take them on a wildlife adventure right in San Antonio's own backyard!

At Audubon Adventure Camps, your child will be outside enjoying hands-on learning and exploring the wonders of nature, just 15 minutes from downtown. They'll hike, track wildlife, learn birding and other outdoor skills, create nature art and conduct studies – all while learning to conserve our South Texas water and wildlife.

Three one-week sessions kick off June 8, with each week's activities targeted to a different age group between 7 and 12 years old.

- **June 8-12** – Outdoor Art Adventures (ages 7-11)



- **June 15-19** – Crazy Critter Crew (ages 7-9)
- **June 22-26** – Zombie Survival Skills (ages 9-12)

Register online at mitchelllake.audubon.org.
Questions? Call 210-628-1639 or email mlac@audubon.org.

Have you started on your outdoor dreamscape yet?

The WaterSaver Landscape Coupon and Patioscape Coupon programs are in full swing with exciting changes and more choices to help you create a complete outdoor living space.

Start your landscape transformation now while the weather is still mild and enjoy the fruits of your labor in time for all those summer barbecues you've got planned... just sayin'.

Here's how it works: Remove 200 square feet of grass per coupon; apply online at GardenStyleSA.com/coupon; shop for plants and patio materials at select retailers; and install plants/patio.

This year, there are 27 drought-hardy plants to choose from that can be mixed and matched for a custom look.

You can apply for one or two coupons in each program for up

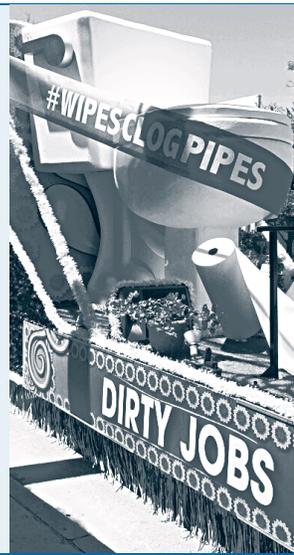
to \$600 in total savings. Customers who have automatic irrigation systems must call 704-SAVE for an irrigation consultation before receiving their coupons. Participants must also agree to a post-installation site visit by SAWS staff.

For landscape design tips, how-to videos and bushels of expert gardening advice, visit GardenStyleSA.com.



Fiesta Floaters

SAWS made a serious splash in this year's Fiesta parades, with two festive floats flaunting San Antonians' water-wise ways. "Water Through Time" graced the Battle of Flowers with its placid portrayal of the Alamo City's H₂O history, while "Dirty Jobs" boldly reminded Fiesta Flambeau revelers what NOT to flush via its cheeky, Twitter-friendly hashtag #WipesClogPipes.



Local Calendar

San Antonio Summer Art & Jazz Festival

June 5-7
Crockett Park
1300 N. Main Ave.
(at Cypress St.)
www.SanAntonioSummerArtJazzFestival.com

Texas Folklife Festival

June 13-14
Institute of Texan Cultures
801 E. Cesar E. Chavez Blvd.
texancultures.com

Essentials of Gardening Class

June 15
San Antonio Garden Center
3310 N. New Braunfels Ave.
gardeningvolunteers.org

Dia de los Daddys Car Show & Swap Meet

June 20-21
Traders Village
9333 SW Loop 410
tradersvillage.com

SAWS CUSTOMER SERVICE or **24-HOUR EMERGENCY**
704-SAWS (7297)

PAST EDITIONS
www.saws.org/waternews