



#CanTheGrease for Jolly Pipes

Don't Let a Sewer Backup Spoil Your Holidays

Plumbers love the holidays. With all the extra baking and cooking, it only takes one little mistake in the kitchen to trigger a messy, expensive plumbing disaster.

Did you know cooking grease being poured down the drain is a major cause of residential sewer clogs?

That's because fats, oils and grease harden and stick to the sewer pipes — much like cholesterol does to arteries. Over time the pipes will clog, causing nasty sewage backups and serious damage to your home — not to mention ruining your holiday get-together.

So What Exactly Is Grease Anyhow?

Grease is more than just cooking oil or melted butter. It also comes from dairy foods like milk and ice cream. It's in that goo you pour out of your canned goods after opening them. Peanut butter, fried foods, salad dressing, lard and shortening for baking, and even that delicious

frosting on your cake all contain grease.

Bottom line: If it contains fats of any kind, those fats will harden and clog your pipes. And no, washing it down the garbage disposal with hot water won't help.

Save Your Pipes and #CanTheGrease

The best way to dispose of grease? In the garbage can. Solids can be scraped right into a lined trash bin. Pour liquids into a sealable container and put it in the trash, too. Wipe any remaining grease from pots and pans with a paper towel.

SAWS performs routine maintenance on sewer lines citywide to keep things flowing. In fact, hundreds of millions of dollars are earmarked for sewer work over the next five years.

By following these simple tips, you too can help prevent costly (and disgusting) sewage spills. Your neighbors and holiday guests will thank you.



SCRAPE

grease solids directly into a lined trash can.



POUR

cooled liquid grease into a sealable container.



WIPE

remaining grease and debris with a paper towel.



DISPOSE OF ALL 3 IN YOUR BROWN CITY TRASH BIN.



Reminder of New Rates for 2019

A rate adjustment approved by San Antonio City Council in December 2017 takes effect Jan. 1, 2019.

The 4.7 percent average adjustment will change the average monthly residential bill from \$62.89 to \$65.83 — a difference of \$2.94 (excluding regulatory pass-through fees).

The tables on pages 2 and 3 show the new rates for each service and customer type. The impact on your own bill may be greater than or less than the average depending on your water use.

To estimate how your own bill will change, use the rate calculator at saws.org/calculator.



Advisory of New Water, Water Supply, Wastewater and Recycled Water Rates

PO Box 2449, San Antonio, TX 78298 • 210-704-SAWS • www.saws.org/rates

San Antonio Water System is required by law to publish a new rate schedule for water service, water supply, irrigation, wastewater rates and recycled water rates. These new rates will be effective for consumption on or about January 1, 2019. If you would like more information or assistance on estimating your bill, contact SAWS at 210-704-7297 or visit the SAWS Main Office Customer Service Center located at 2800 U.S. Highway 281 North, San Antonio, Texas 78212. An online calculator for SAWS rates is also available at www.saws.org/rates.

New Water Supply Fee Rates - 2019

Applicable Rate Class	Usage Blocks, Gallons	Fee to be Assessed (per 100 gallons)
Residential	Block 1: 2,992 Gallons	\$0.1040
	Block 2: 4,489 Gallons	\$0.1819
	Block 3: 5,985 Gallons	\$0.2338
	Block 4: 7,481 Gallons	\$0.2859
	Block 5: 10,473 Gallons	\$0.3379
	Block 6: 14,962 Gallons	\$0.3899
	Block 7: 20,199 Gallons	\$0.4678
	Block 8: Over 20,199 Gallons	\$0.6756
General	Base*	\$0.1961
	>100-125% of Base	\$0.2256
	>125-175% of Base	\$0.2941
	>175% of Base	\$0.3433
Wholesale	Base**	\$0.2554
	Over Base	\$0.7665
Irrigation	Block 1: 8,229 Gallons	\$0.2566
	Block 2: 17,954 Gallons	\$0.3592
	Block 3: 162,316 Gallons	\$0.4619
	Block 4: Over 162,316 Gallons	\$0.5903

* General Class Base equals 100% of the Annual Average Consumption.

** Wholesale Class Base is defined as 100% of the Annual Average Consumption or as agreed to by the wholesale customer and approved by the SAWS Board of Trustees.

New Recycled Class Water Rates - 2019

Meter Size	Monthly Service Availability Charge
5/8"	\$12.34
3/4"	\$16.05
1"	\$20.92
1-1/2"	\$33.24
2"	\$48.60
3"	\$129.27
4"	\$192.15
6"	\$366.53
8"	\$552.50
10"	\$757.60
12"	\$934.75

Volume Charges per 100 Gallons

Edwards Exchange	Standard Rates	Seasonal Rates
Transferred amount	\$0.0325	\$0.0325
All in excess of transferred amount	0.1218	0.1294
Non-Edwards Exchg.	Standard Rates	Seasonal Rates
First 748,000	\$0.1303	\$0.1401
Over 748,000	0.1332	0.1413

New Residential Class Water Rates - 2019

Monthly Service Availability Charge		
Meter Size	Inside City	Outside City
5/8"	\$12.82	\$16.67
3/4"	\$16.97	\$22.06
1"	\$25.22	\$32.79
1-1/2"	\$45.85	\$59.61
2"	\$70.58	\$91.75
3"	\$128.34	\$166.84
4"	\$210.83	\$274.06
6"	\$417.07	\$542.18
8"	\$664.55	\$863.89
10"	\$953.27	\$1,239.24
12"	\$1,778.20	\$2,311.67
Fee reduction if usage is less than 2,993 gallons	(2.57)	(3.34)

Volume Charges per 100 Gallons

Block Threshold	Inside City	Outside City
Block 1: 2,992 Gallons	\$0.0740	\$0.0962
Block 2: 4,489 Gallons	\$0.1295	\$0.1683
Block 3: 5,985 Gallons	\$0.1665	\$0.2165
Block 4: 7,481 Gallons	\$0.2034	\$0.2645
Block 5: 10,473 Gallons	\$0.2405	\$0.3125
Block 6: 14,962 Gallons	\$0.2775	\$0.3607
Block 7: 20,199 Gallons	\$0.3329	\$0.4328
Block 8: Over 20,199 Gallons	\$0.4809	\$0.6253

New Wholesale Class Water Rates - 2019

Meter Size	Monthly Service Availability Charge
6"	\$538.85
8"	\$860.58
10"	\$1,235.91
12"	\$2,308.35

Volume Charges per 100 Gallons

Base*	\$0.2099
Over Base	\$0.6299

* Base is defined as 100% of the Annual Average Consumption or as agreed to by the wholesale customer and approved by the SAWS Board of Trustees.

Rate Table Definitions

General Class: Includes Commercial, Industrial and Apartment Customers. **Irrigation Class:** Customers that use water for landscaping, either through a separate meter or through a pro-rated amount of monthly water use. New business service accounts that are installing an in-ground landscape irrigation system are required to install a separate landscape irrigation meter. **Wholesale Class:** Customers who have entered into contracts for wholesale water and/or sewer service with SAWS. **Recycled Water Class:** Customers that use recycled water produced by SAWS for non-potable applications through a separate recycled water meter. **Seasonal Rates:** Recycled water rates applied to all billings beginning on or about May 1 and ending after five complete billing months on or about September 30 of

New Irrigation Class Water Rates - 2019

Monthly Service Availability Charge		
Meter Size	Inside City	Outside City
5/8"	\$13.86	\$16.94
3/4"	\$19.79	\$24.12
1"	\$31.66	\$38.45
1-1/2"	\$61.29	\$74.27
2"	\$96.79	\$117.20
3"	\$179.74	\$217.47
4"	\$298.19	\$360.65
6"	\$594.32	\$718.67
8"	\$949.73	\$1,148.31
10"	\$1,364.34	\$1,649.54
12"	\$2,548.96	\$3,081.65

Volume Charges per 100 Gallons Standard Rates

	Inside City	Outside City
Block 1: 8,229 Gallons	\$0.3292	\$0.4279
Block 2: 17,954 Gallons	\$0.4607	\$0.5991
Block 3: 162,316 Gallons	\$0.5925	\$0.7702
Block 4: Over 162,316 Gallons	\$0.7570	\$0.9841

New General Class Wastewater Rates - 2019

Monthly Service Availability Charge		
Meter Size	Inside City	Outside City
5/8"	\$14.53	\$17.43
3/4"	\$15.97	\$19.18
1"	\$18.14	\$21.78
1-1/2"	\$25.41	\$30.50
2"	\$36.31	\$43.58
3"	\$72.61	\$87.12
4"	\$108.91	\$130.70
6"	\$181.52	\$217.83
8"	\$290.41	\$348.52
10"	\$435.65	\$522.77
12"	\$580.86	\$697.03

Customers with no water meter will be charged the Sewer Monthly Service Availability Charge based on a 2" meter.

Volume Charges per 100 Gallons

Block Threshold	Inside City	Outside City
Block 1: 1,496 Gallons	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
Block 2: Over 1,496 Gallons	\$0.4159	\$0.4992

New Wholesale Class Wastewater Rates - 2019

Monthly Service Availability Charge	\$ 340.07
Volume Charge per 100 gallons	\$ 0.4438

each year. **Standard Rates:** Recycled water rates applied to all billings beginning on or about October 1 and ending after seven complete billing months on or about April 30 of each year. **Base Consumption:** 100% of average monthly consumption of prior year. **Inside City:** Rates charged for customers living inside City of San Antonio City Limits. **Outside City:** Rates charged for customers living outside City of San Antonio City Limits. **Winter Average Consumption:** The fee for sewer service is based on the average monthly consumption of water during three complete consecutive billing periods beginning on or after November 15 of each year and ending on or after three full billing cycles in March. **Wastewater Customers of Other Cities:** A different rate may apply to customers being billed by SAWS for wastewater for other municipal bodies.

New General Class Water Rates - 2019

Monthly Service Availability Charge		
Meter Size	Inside City	Outside City
5/8"	\$13.86	\$16.94
3/4"	\$19.79	\$24.12
1"	\$31.66	\$38.45
1-1/2"	\$61.29	\$74.27
2"	\$96.79	\$117.20
3"	\$179.74	\$217.47
4"	\$298.19	\$360.65
6"	\$594.32	\$718.67
8"	\$949.73	\$1,148.31
10"	\$1,364.34	\$1,649.54
12"	\$2,548.96	\$3,081.65

Volume Charges per 100 Gallons

	Inside City	Outside City
Base*	\$0.1810	\$0.2354
>100-125% of Base	\$0.2084	\$0.2710
>125-175% of Base	\$0.2717	\$0.3533
>175% of Base	\$0.3171	\$0.4121

* Base equals 100% of the Annual Average Consumption

For a new general class water customer who does not have a record of prior-year consumption history in order to establish a base use, a default base amount shall be assigned using the average monthly consumption for the prior calendar year for the average apartment, general or industrial account (as applicable) having the same meter size and sub-classification as the customer.

New Residential Class Wastewater Rates - 2019

Monthly Service Availability Charge		
Meter Size	Inside City	Outside City
5/8"	\$14.53	\$17.43
3/4"	\$15.97	\$19.18
1"	\$18.14	\$21.78
1-1/2"	\$25.41	\$30.50
2"	\$36.31	\$43.58
3"	\$72.61	\$87.12
4"	\$108.91	\$130.70
6"	\$181.52	\$217.83
8"	\$290.41	\$348.52
10"	\$435.65	\$522.77
12"	\$580.86	\$697.03

Customers with no water meter will be charged the Sewer Monthly Service Availability Charge based on a 5/8" meter.

Volume Charges per 100 Gallons*

Block Threshold	Inside City	Outside City
Block 1: 1,496 Gallons	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
Block 2: 2,992 Gallons	\$0.3104	\$0.3726
Block 3: Over 2,992 Gallons	\$0.4657	\$0.5588

* Determined by Winter Average Consumption; customers who do not have a record of winter water usage will be billed an interim average for sewer service assuming 5,985 gallons monthly sewer usage.



Freezing temperatures are always a possibility this time of year.
Remember to protect your pipes, plants and pets!

Event Calendar

Discover Birds at Brooks

Jan. 5

The Greenline at Brooks
2532 Sidney Brooks
mitchelllake.audubon.org

Explore the Canyon

Jan. 19

Government Canyon State
Natural Area
12861 Galm Road
tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks

Martin Luther King Jr. March

Jan. 21

MLK Academy
3501 MLK Drive
sanantonio.gov/MLK

MedDropSA Collection Event

Jan. 26

Bulky Waste Collection Center
2755 Rigsby Ave.
MedDropSA.com

Bird Tour

Jan. 27

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

Customer Service and 24-hour Emergency

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

Gather Your Expired Medications

Collection Event is Jan. 26

A new year means a fresh start, a clean slate, an opportunity to clear out the clutter. Why not start with your medicine cabinet?

Gather all those expired prescriptions and over-the-counter medications and bring them to the first MedDropSA collection event for 2019.

Bring any unwanted medicines, along

with other household hazardous waste items, to the City of San Antonio's collection event. Please empty pill bottles into a zipper storage bag and remove labels from bottles of liquids and inhalers.

MEDDROPSA

Saturday, Jan. 26

8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Bulky Waste Collection Center
2755 Rigsby Ave.

This safe, free disposal method helps keep pharmaceuticals out of the environment and out of the reach of unintended users.

For more information, including future events, visit MedDropSA.com.



Friends of a Feather

Rescued raptors strike a stately pose alongside SAWS President/CEO Robert R. Puente, U.S. Reps. Henry Cuellar and William Hurd, and Councilwoman Rebecca Viagran, Oct. 26 at Mitchell Lake Audubon Center. Cuellar and Hurd were honored by SAWS for working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to secure \$1.5 million in federal funding for Mitchell Lake. The pilot project will use constructed wetlands to improve the area's surface water quality and ecosystem. The former wastewater facility has become a world-renowned birdwatching destination and is home to more than 300 species, including the crested caracara (left) and great horned owl (right).

SAWS Offices Close for Holidays

San Antonio Water System offices and payment centers will close for the following holidays:

- Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 24-25.
- New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 31-Jan. 1.

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, Jan. 21.

Payments can always be made online at saws.org or through our pay-by-phone service at 210-704-7297. For a full listing of pay agencies throughout the city, visit saws.org/service. As always, you can report emergencies or water outages 24/7 at 210-704-7297.