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STAGE 4

Stage Four Alert begins when the Edwards Aquifer level drops to **630** feet mean sea level at the monitored well.

Stage Four may also be declared if the total supply of water from the Edwards Aquifer and other sources is insufficient to meet customer demand, even while complying with lesser restriction stages. Stage Four restrictions may be declared at the discretion of the City Manager upon completion of a 30-day monitoring period following Stage Three declaration.

- The most restrictive requirements of [Stage One](#), [Stage Two](#) and [Stage Three](#) remain in effect, unless added to or replaced by Stage Four rules.

- A residential drought surcharge is assessed for use of more than 12,717 gallons per month. The surcharge is a flat rate of \$0.4246 per 100 gallons.

A commercial drought surcharge is assessed on all irrigation accounts (and assumed irrigation on general class accounts) for use of more than 5,236 gallons per month. The surcharge is a flat rate of \$0.4246 per 100 gallons.

- Surcharge will be in effect for a minimum of one complete billing month. The surcharge will remain in effect if the city is still in Stage Four at the beginning of the next billing month.

- Landscape watering allowed only EVERY OTHER WEEK with an irrigation system, sprinkler or soaker hose. Weeks when no watering is allowed will be announced via local media and online.

- Landscape watering is allowed only from 3-8 a.m. and 8-10 p.m. on your designated watering day, as determined by your address.

- Watering with drip irrigation is allowed every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, but only from 3-8 a.m. and 8-10 p.m.

- Watering with a hand-held hose is allowed any time on any day.

- Use of fountains, waterfalls, or other aesthetic water features — outdoors or indoors — is prohibited, unless a variance has been granted for 100 percent non-potable water use.

- All residential swimming pools must have a minimum of 25 percent of the surface area covered when not in use. Inflatable pool toys or floating decorations may be used for this purpose.

How does the drought surcharge effect me?

Use the drought surcharge calculator below to estimate how much your water bill could be effected by excess water use.

Drought Surcharge Calculator	
Account Type:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Residential <input type="radio"/> Commerical
Water use in gallons:	<input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Reset"/> <input type="button" value="Calculate"/>
Estimated Drought Surcharge:	\$
This is the estimated amount that will be added to your regular monthly bill .	

Note: This online calculator is for estimating purposes only. Your actual bill may vary slightly due to mathematical rounding. If you have specific questions about your bill, you can e-mail SAWS Customer Service at service@saws.org.

Landscape Watering

Landscape watering is allowed only **EVERY OTHER WEEK**, from **3-8 a.m. and 8-10 p.m.** with an irrigation system, sprinkler or soaker hose, and only on your designated watering day:

Last Digit of Street Address	Watering Day
0 or 1	Monday
2 or 3	Tuesday
4 or 5	Wednesday
6 or 7	Thursday

- **Washing impervious cover** such as parking lots, driveways, streets or sidewalks is prohibited. Health and safety exceptions may be requested from SAWS in writing.
- **Residential washing of vehicles** or other equipment only on assigned watering days/times. No street runoff allowed.
- **The use of [SAWS-certified car wash facilities](#)** is allowed any day. *Wash facilities not certified by SAWS will not be able to operate during Stage 4.*
- **Additional restrictions** may be established at the discretion of the city council.

And don't forget to follow these year-round rules:

- Water waste is prohibited at all times. This includes lawn watering overspray and runoff.
- Restaurants may serve water only on request (to reduce dishwashing).
- Charity car washes allowed only at commercial car wash facilities.

8 or 9 Friday

No watering on weekends with a sprinkler, soaker hose or irrigation system. Areas without a street address, such as medians and neighborhood entryways, water on Wednesday.

Water for Generations

San Antonio's cheapest source of water is conservation — water we don't use. That's why our proven [conservation programs](#) have become a cornerstone of the community's [long-term water management and supply strategy](#).

With your help, we can keep SAWS rates among the lowest in the nation, while managing tomorrow's water today.



The use of treated wastewater or recycled water is a defense to prosecution under these rules. Stage Four restrictions continue until there is an announcement in the newspaper that Stage Four has been canceled.



Join the conversation



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