Untapped Local Water Source to Benefit the Region

Groundwater Desal Program Progressing

A plentiful, untapped local source of water for the region is just around the bend.

San Antonio Water System is developing a new water supply project in southern Bexar County to bring additional millions of gallons of water to the region.

SAWS will desalinate brackish groundwater — water too salty to drink — from the Wilcox Aquifer. This new water source will be made drinkable using a reverse osmosis water treatment facility, which will be located at the existing SAWS Twin Oaks Aquifer Storage & Recovery site.

SAWS has already drilled more than half of the 16 wells for the project. Design for the desalination program will be completed early next year. Construction of the remaining wells, along with the treatment plant and well field collection system is scheduled to begin by mid-2014.

The first phase of the project will be complete by 2016 and deliver an additional 12 million gallons of water per day to SAWS customers, adding to the city’s diverse water sources that already include Canyon Lake, Trinity Aquifer, Lake Dunlap, Carrizo Aquifer and the Edwards Aquifer.

To learn more about our groundwater desal program, visit saws.org/desal.

San Antonio Still in Drought

Make the Most of Hand Watering

San Antonio is in the third year of drought and although we’ve had rain, it hasn’t been enough to overcome the deficit. Residents are encouraged to continue being frugal with their water use.

That means making the most of hand-watering. It’s an enjoyable, relaxing way to spend time in your yard — and it’s allowed any day and time.

During Stage 2 drought restrictions, watering with an irrigation system or sprinkler is allowed only once a week from 7-11 a.m. and 7-11 p.m.

For the latest information on drought restrictions, visit saws.org/drought.
If you haven’t already done so, now is the time to add plenty of compost and a small amount of organic fertilizer to your fall garden beds. The combination increases fertility and decreases the need for excessive irrigation.

Knock, Knock… Who’s There?
A Water Filter Salesman…

SAWS has recently received reports of sales people calling homes representing SAWS tap water as dangerous and trying to sell overpriced water filters.

From source water to the consumer’s tap, SAWS is committed to preserving the drinking water quality of our community. San Antonio has been rated as having a superior-quality water supply by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality since 1936.

It’s normal for all drinking water to contain trace amounts of minerals and other substances. If you prefer to use a filter to soften San Antonio’s hard water, or one that removes chlorine and fluoride, purchase one from a reputable source that can be contacted locally.

To learn more about the quality of your drinking water, visit saws.org/waterqualityreport.

SAWS Offices Close for Holiday
24/7-Emergency Services Still Running

San Antonio Water System offices will close Monday, Sept. 2, for the Labor Day holiday.

Emergency field crews will continue operation. For water or sewer leaks or other emergencies, call 704-SAWS (704-7297).

Low-Cost Legal Aid Available for Senior Citizens

Free or low-cost legal services are now available to seniors living in Bexar County.

The “Legal Assistance Information for Senior Citizens” pamphlet, available at senior centers throughout Bexar County, lists agencies and organizations offering income-based services such as will preparation, medical powers of attorney, medical directives and other key legal documents.

The pamphlet is also available in PDF format at www.bexar.org/CDP/CommunityPrograms.html.

CONTACT US

SAWS CUSTOMER SERVICE
704-SAWS (7297)

24-HOUR EMERGENCY
704-SAWS (7297)

PAST EDITIONS
www.saws.org/waternews

You can start planting your fall vegetables, especially tomatoes and pumpkins. Remember, a little sweat now leads to a lot of sweet in the fall!