



SAWS Says Conservation Efforts Helping

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SAN ANTONIO -- San Antonio Water System officials announced Thursday that water conservation efforts helped San Antonio use 23 percent less water this June than they did in June of 2008.

The announcement came even as the Edwards Aquifer remains dangerously close to stage three conservation levels. The water company also reported that the conservation efforts have worked especially well on the weekends, when SAWS customers are only allowed to water lawns by hands. SAWS official Anne Hayden said the dip in water usage shows that residents understand the dire straights San Antonio is in when it comes to the drought.

"There is enough water for businesses and residents in San Antonio," Hayden said. "But we have to use what we have wisely."

Hayden added that the water conservation has also yielded positive results in attempts to conserve energy since reduced pumping has led to reduced energy usage. San Antonio entered stage one water restrictions April 10 and moved to stage two restrictions last month. Since that time, the aquifer has been close to stage three levels several times this month.

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