

Water for Texas

Water Loss and Leak Detection Services

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) offers services to help utilities detect and manage water loss. Reducing the amount of water loss can be a significant conservation measure for utilities. By minimizing water loss, utilities can increase their efficiency, improve their financial status, reduce the need to search for additional water sources, and help sustain long-term water supplies. A consistent approach to auditing water loss gives utilities a reliable means to measure water loss and implement changes to reduce loss.

The Texas State Legislature requires that all retail public utilities in Texas file a water audit with the TWDB once every five years. The next scheduled report is for the year 2015 and is due by May 1, 2016. In addition to this requirement, starting in 2013 any retail public water utility that has an active loan with the TWDB must file a water audit annually for the life of the loan. To assist utilities in conducting a water loss audit and controlling water loss, the TWDB offers several services described below.

Water Loss Accountability Assistance

TWDB staff members are available to consult with utility personnel regarding current water loss accountability methods and procedures. The TWDB also has an online water audit worksheet for utilities, which can be accessed at <http://www.twdb.texas.gov/conservation/municipal/waterloss/index.asp>.

The TWDB Water Loss Audit Manual provides information on conducting a water loss audit and implementing a water loss program. Copies can be found at http://www.twdb.texas.gov/publications/brochures/conservation/doc/WaterLossManual_2008.pdf.

Additional information on water loss services can be found at <http://www.twdb.texas.gov/conservation/resources/waterloss-resources.asp>.

Leak Detection and Flow Meter Equipment

The TWDB lends acoustical leak detection equipment to utilities for 30 days. The only expense for utilities is the return shipping. The device has headphones and a ground microphone that can pinpoint leaks on a variety of pipe sizes and materials. The TWDB also lends ultrasonic flow meters to utilities for 30 days. Again, the only cost is the return shipping. More information about this equipment can be found at <http://www.twdb.texas.gov/conservation/municipal/waterloss/leak-detection.asp>.

To obtain more information regarding water loss audits or available leak detection equipment, contact conservation staff at (512) 463-7955 or WLAGroup@twdb.texas.gov.

