



## LWP – Update 2015-1

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

This Lost Water Plan was developed to provide an outlook and action plan for Suburban to minimize/control its annual water loss as effectively as possible. The Lost Water Plan was ordered by the Kansas Corporation Commission through Docket No. 13-SUBW-744-CON and requires semi-annual updates, after the initial plan filing until Suburban's water loss percentage is in compliance.

The lost water plan is intended to provide an overview of the methods and processes that Suburban has and will continue to use to effectively monitor and maintain an acceptable amount of lost water.

## **2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Suburban is a privately owned water utility in Basehor, Kansas. Suburban currently provides water service to approximately 1,710 residential/commercial customers, along with wholesale water to Rural Water District #6, #9, and #10 of Leavenworth County, Kansas. Suburban currently has two sources of water supply.

## **3 2014 WATER LOSS DATA**

Suburban completed the 2014 fiscal year, having produced and purchased a combined total of 174,561,000 gallons of water. The total unaccounted for water for the 2014 fiscal year was 19,973,000 gallons or 11% of the total produced/purchased by the company. The water loss percentage for 2014 is below the average unaccounted for water for districts located in close proximity to Suburban, however we are still working towards our goal of maintaining at or below 10% lost water. Data for determining the average unaccounted for water for districts surrounding Suburban is shown in chart 1 and is based on the most recent information available at this time from the Kansas Municipal Water Use Report 2011.

CHART 1

ANNUAL AND AVERAGE PERCENT UNACCOUNTED FOR WATER (UFW)  
FOR PULBIC WATER SUPPLIES

	Region	2007 Percent UFW	2008 Percent UFW	2009 Percent UFW	2010 Percent UFW	2011 Percent UFW	AVG Percent UFW
Leavenworth Co. RWD #07	8M	9	7	10	4	6	7
<i>SUBURBAN WATER, INC.</i>	<i>8M</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>9</i>
LAN-DEL	8M	6	6	NA	7	4	9
Leavenworth Co. RWD #01C	8M	8	6	9	17	15	11
Leavenworth Water	8L	11	10	11	15	14	12
Leavenworth Co. RWD #05	8M	8	9	12	26	NA	14
City of Tonganoxie	8M	16	13	13	15	14	14
Leavenworth Co. RWD #09	8M	20	13	10	15	18	15
Leavenworth Co. RWD #06	8M	9	16	13	12	24	15
Leavenworth Co. RWD #10	8M	NA	16	NA	NA	NA	16
Leavenworth Co. RWD #08	8M	20	26	17	7	15	17
Bonner Springs	8M	23	22	26	25	27	25
Leavenworth Co. RWD #02	8M	36	38	28	36	40	36
AVERAGE ANNUAL WATER LOSS PERCENTAGE (SAMPLE AVERAGE)		13	13	11	13	15	14

\*\* Data for this table has been provided by Kansas Department of Agriculture – Kansas Municipal Water Use Report complied.

[http://agriculture.ks.gov/docs/default-source/dwr-water-appropriation-documents/rpt\\_2011\\_ks\\_municipal\\_water\\_use.pdf](http://agriculture.ks.gov/docs/default-source/dwr-water-appropriation-documents/rpt_2011_ks_municipal_water_use.pdf)

**4 PROACTIVE PRACTICES TO MONITOR LOST WATER**

Suburban until most recently only read customer meters on a monthly basis, which is then used as a comparison to the amount of water pumped and purchased during the same time period to determine the amount of lost water for that billing cycle. Suburban has elected to increase the number times that we read customers meters and compare those usage amounts to the amount of

water that we pumped and purchased to twice a month or biweekly. This practice will allow us to more effectively monitor and identify any new water main leaks that way occur, during the time period between billing cycles. Customers as still only billed once a month.

#### **4.1 LEAK DETECTION**

Suburban has completed the leak testing on the remaining 38% of Suburban’s infrastructure, which was completed prior to the completion of the 2014 fiscal year. No leaks were identified in the remaining 38% of the district, however several fire hydrants we found to be not closed properly. It is important to remember that other entities have access to Suburban’s fire hydrants, for example the fire departments that are in our area of Leavenworth County.

#### **4.2 INSTALLATION OF NEW INFASTRUCTURE STANDARDS**

Suburban continues to enforce our standards for the installation of all replacement and/or installation of any new infrastructure, throughout our district. Those standards include the proper installation, specific manufactures of materials, pressure testing of all new main installations, and proper inspection by Suburban field staff prior to mains being put into service. Suburban believes that these installation standards will ensure the long term stability of our infrastructure and effectively control any new potentials for lost water.

### **5 WATER LOSS GOALS**

Suburban’s objective is to maintain an acceptable amount of UFW on an annual basis, which is at or below the regional and state averages. Suburban’s goal is to maintain a lost water percentage at or below 10% as compared to our annual production amounts, including water both pumped and purchased by the district.