

## **Indiana**

Water loss is an important issue in Indiana, where approximately 75% of the population is served by public water suppliers. The US Geological Survey (USGS) estimates that in 2015 (the most recent year available), Indiana's public water suppliers withdrew an average of about 627.84 million gallons of water per day for treatment and distribution to customers. Those public water suppliers face enormous challenges when it comes to replacing and repairing their systems. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently found a 20-year capital improvement need of more than \$7.52 billion for Indiana's water systems to continue to provide safe drinking water.

The agency with jurisdiction over water loss reporting is the Indiana Finance Authority (IFA). SB 347, enacted in early 2016, requires all water utilities to prepare and submit to the state a standardized water loss audit report using AWWA terminology. The IFA is to review these audit reports and submit a report on non-revenue water and water loss in Indiana to the legislature by November 1, 2017. The same law also directs the IFA to study and report on the infrastructure needs of water utilities in Indiana by November 2016. IFA has elected to prepare and submit these reports concurrently by the 2016 deadline. As a result, water audit training was offered to utilities in eight workshops around the state in April and May, and water utilities were directed to submit their audit reports before the end of May of 2016. Over 90% of utilities covered by the act have submitted audit reports, and these 500+ audit reports will form the basis of IFA's report to the legislature in late 2016. It should be noted that the water audit requirement in SB 347 is a one-time requirement, but it is expected that the IFA report to the legislature will address whether water audit reporting should become a regular annual practice for Indiana's water utilities.

Based on previous law and policy, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management also requires that all public water supply systems (systems that serve at least 15 connections used by year-round residents or regularly serve at least 25 year-round residents based on a one-year average) must submit annual Public Water System Sanitary Surveys. As part of the PWSSS, Indiana utilities must answer yes, no, or N/A to whether the system has ">25% water loss based on a 1-year average."

## **The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact**

Indiana is one of eight states that border the Great Lakes, which comprise more than one-fifth of the world's surface supply of freshwater and more than 95 percent of the surface freshwater supply in the U.S. Management and use of water in the Great Lakes states is governed by the Great Lakes–St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Agreement and Compact. In ratifying the Compact, each state agreed to undertake a series of actions, including the establishment of thresholds governing new or increased withdrawals of water and development of water conservation and efficiency programs. The implementation of a water loss accounting program can help Indiana comply with the water conservation and efficiency requirements of the Compact.

U.S. Geological Survey's "Estimated Use of Water in the United States County-Level Data for 2015", September 28, 2017- <https://www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/item/59a96d18e4b07e1a023db323>

EPA's "Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment, Sixth Report to Congress", March 2018 - [https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/sixth\\_drinking\\_water\\_infrastructure\\_needs\\_survey\\_and\\_assessment.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-03/documents/sixth_drinking_water_infrastructure_needs_survey_and_assessment.pdf)

IFA Water Loss Audit workshop schedule -- [http://www.in.gov/ifa/files/Final\\_Workshop\\_Schedules.pdf](http://www.in.gov/ifa/files/Final_Workshop_Schedules.pdf)

IFA Background on SB 347 -- <http://www.in.gov/ifa/2928.htm>

Department of Environmental Management - <http://www.in.gov/idem/4109.htm>

Rule Reference: IND. ADMIN. CODE tit. 327, r. 8-2-8.2

Rule Link: <http://www.indabook.org/d/Administrative-Rule-7-Indiana.pdf> (Article 8, Sec 8-2-8.2)

"Great Lakes Facts and Figures" -- [great-lakes.net/lakes/ref/lakefact.html](http://great-lakes.net/lakes/ref/lakefact.html).

"Protecting a Shared Future: Assessing and Advancing the Sustainable Management of the Great Lakes Through Water Conservation and Efficiency"-- [nrdc.org/water/files/greatlakescompact.pdf](http://nrdc.org/water/files/greatlakescompact.pdf).