

Oregon

Water loss is an important issue in Oregon, where approximately 84% of the population is served by public water suppliers. The US Geological Survey (USGS) estimates that in 2015 (the most recent year available), Oregon's public water suppliers withdrew an average of about 567.04 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 \$6.25 billion for Oregon's water systems to continue to provide safe drinking water.

The agency with jurisdiction over water loss reporting is the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD). All water suppliers who request extensions of their water rights permits or new permits, with the exception of suppliers serving less than 1,000 people, are required to submit a Water Management Conservation Plan (WMCP). All such systems are required to perform an annual water audit and to report audit results once every five years, as part of a water conservation progress report. All covered systems must establish a meter testing and maintenance program; and all that are not yet fully metered must install meters on all service connections within 5 years. If an annual water audit indicates that system leakage exceeds 10 percent, the utility must establish a regularly scheduled and systematic program to detect leaks in the transmission and distribution system.

Rule reference: OAR chapter 690, division 86 -

http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/rules/oars_600/oar_690/690_086.html

OWRD Water Management and Conservation Guidance -

http://www.oregon.gov/owrd/pages/mgmt_muni_wmcp.aspx

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