

GUIDANCE FOR WATER SYSTEMS ON MEETING THE LEAK DETECTION AND REPAIR REQUIREMENT FOR STATE LOANS AND GRANTS

Effective July 1, 2009, a water system seeking state funds for water line extension or expansion of water treatment capacity must have a leak detection and repair program. G.S. 143-355.3(b)(2). The funding agencies agree that the intent of the legislation was to require a basic program for identifying and reporting leaks and acting on that information. The level of effort necessary to meet the eligibility criteria will be below the level of effort required to receive priority points for a water loss reduction program under the existing common criteria used by the funding agencies.

The water system must include in its funding application a description of a program to identify, locate and respond to leaks in water lines and other water system infrastructure. The program is not required to use any particular technology or method of leak identification, but must be designed to actively gather and act on information about leaks in the water system. A description of the leak detection and repair program should include the answers to the following questions:

1. What tools, programs or activities are used to proactively identify and locate leaks?
2. Do written standard operating procedures exist to describe these activities?
3. How is the information on leaks tracked and managed?
4. How is information from the leak detection program acted on? Describe how the information is used in making decisions to replace, repair, or delay action on pipes and appurtenances with known leaks.
5. How is information gathered in the leak detection program reflected in the capital improvement program?
6. How effective has the leak detection program been in reducing water loss?
7. What future activities are planned?

Answer with sufficient detail to provide a clear picture of the leak detection and repair program. For example, in describing activities undertaken to identify and locate leaks, include information on the frequency of those activities.