



## Features of the Free Water Audit Software Package

- Purpose: promote standardized method for audits
- User-friendly tool, easy toggle between worksheets, only use of MS EXCEL is needed
- Designed as a basic “top-down” water audit
- Complete list of terms and definitions
- Performance indicators are calculated, eliminating chance of math errors
- Checks in place to alert questionable data

# AWWA Water Audit Software – Instructions

**AWWA Water Loss Control Committee (WLCC) Free Water Audit Software v4.2**  
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**PURPOSE:** This spreadsheet-based water audit tool is designed to help quantify and track water losses associated with water distribution systems and identify areas for improved efficiency and cost recovery. It provides a "top-down" summary water audit format, and is not meant to take the place of a full-scale, comprehensive water audit format.

**USE:** The spreadsheet contains several separate worksheets. Sheets can be accessed using the tabs towards the bottom of the screen, or by clicking the buttons on the left below. Descriptions of each sheet are also given below.

**THE FOLLOWING KEY APPLIES THROUGHOUT:**

- Value can be entered by user
- Value calculated based on input data
- These cells contain recommended default values

Please begin by providing the following information, then proceed through each sheet in the workbook!

NAME OF CITY OR UTILITY:  COUNTRY:

REPORTING YEAR:  START DATE (MM/YYYY):  END DATE (MM/YYYY):

NAME OF CONTACT PERSON:  E-MAIL:  TELEPHONE:

PLEASE SELECT PREFERRED REPORTING UNITS FOR WATER VOLUME:  EXT:

Click to advance to sheet. [Click here: \[?\] for help about units and conversions](#)

<b>Instructions</b>	The current sheet
<b>Reporting Worksheet</b>	Enter the required data on this worksheet to calculate the water balance
<b>Water Balance</b>	The values entered in the Reporting Worksheet are used to populate the water balance
<b>Grading Matrix</b>	Depending on the confidence of audit inputs, a grading is assigned to the audit score
<b>Service Connections</b>	Diagrams depicting possible customer service connection configurations
<b>Definitions</b>	Use this sheet to understand terms used in the audit process
<b>Loss Control Planning</b>	Use this sheet to interpret the results of the audit validity score and performance indicators

**Comments:**  
 Add comments here to track additional supporting information, sources or names of participants

If you have questions or comments regarding the software please contact us at: [wlcc@awwa.org](mailto:wlcc@awwa.org)

# AWWA Water Audit Software – Reporting Input

**AWWA WLCC Free Water Audit Software: Reporting Worksheet**  
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[Click to access definition](#) Water Audit Report for:   
 Reporting Year:

Please enter data in the white cells below. Where available, metered values should be used. If metered values are unavailable please estimate a value. Indicate your confidence in the accuracy of the input data by grading each component (1-10) using the drop-down list to the left of the input cell. Hover the mouse over the cell to obtain a description of the grades

**PLEASE CHOOSE REPORTING UNITS FROM THE INSTRUCTIONS SHEET BEFORE ENTERING DATA**

**WATER SUPPLIED** << Enter grading in column 'E'

Volume from own sources:

Master meter error adjustment (enter positive value):

Water imported:

Water exported:

**WATER SUPPLIED:** 0.000

**AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION**

Billed metered:

Billed unmetered:

Unbilled metered:

Unbilled unmetered:  0.000

Default option selected for Unbilled unmetered - a grading of 5 is applied but not displayed

**AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION:** 0.000

Click here: [\[?\] for help using option buttons below](#)

Unit:  Value:

Use buttons to select percentage of water supplied OR value

## AWWA Water Audit Software – Reporting Input

AWWA WLCC Free Water Audit Software: Reporting Worksheet
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Click to access definition
Water Audit Report for:

Reporting Year:

---

**WATER LOSSES (Water Supplied - Authorized Consumption)**
value

0.000

**Apparent Losses**

Unauthorized consumption: 0.000
Pent: 0.25% Value:

Default option selected for unauthorized consumption - a grading of 5 is applied but not displayed

Customer metering inaccuracies: 0.000

Systematic data handling errors:

Apparent Losses: 0.000

**Real Losses (Current Annual Real Losses or CARL)**

Real Losses = Water Losses - Apparent Losses: 0.000

0.000

0.000

---

**NON-REVENUE WATER**

NON-REVENUE WATER: 0.000

= Total Water Loss + Unbilled Metered + Unbilled Unmetered

---

**SYSTEM DATA**

Length of mains:

Number of active AND inactive service connections:

Connection density:

Average length of customer service line:

Average operating pressure:

(pipe length between curbstop and customer meter or property boundary)

Enter a percentage less than 10% in the red cell (J42), or select 'Value' option

## AWWA Water Audit Software – Reporting Input

AWWA WLCC Free Water Audit Software: Reporting Worksheet
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Click to access definition
Water Audit Report for:

Reporting Year:

---

**SYSTEM DATA**

Length of mains:

Number of active AND inactive service connections:

Connection density:

Average length of customer service line:

Average operating pressure:

(pipe length between curbstop and customer meter or property boundary)

---

**COST DATA**

Total annual cost of operating water system:   \$/Year

Customer retail unit cost (applied to Apparent Losses):

Variable production cost (applied to Real Losses):   \$/

## AWWA Water Audit Software – Reporting Output

AWWA WLCC Free Water Audit Software: Reporting Worksheet
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? Click to access definition
Water Audit Report for:   
Reporting Year:

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

Financial Indicators

Non-revenue water as percent by volume of Water Supplied:

Non-revenue water as percent by cost of operating system:

Annual cost of Apparent Losses:

Annual cost of Real Losses:

Operational Efficiency Indicators

Apparent Losses per service connection per day:

Real Losses per service connection per day\*:

Real Losses per length of main per day\*:

Real Losses per service connection per day per meter (head) pressure:

Unavoidable Annual Real Losses (UARL):

From Above, Real Losses = Current Annual Real Losses (CARL):

Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI) [CARL/UARL]:

\* only the most applicable of these two indicators will be calculated

## AWWA Water Audit Software – New Grading System

AWWA WLCC Free Water Audit Software: Reporting Worksheet
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? Click to access definition
Water Audit Report for:   
Reporting Year:

**WATER AUDIT DATA VALIDITY SCORE:**

Add a grading value for 9 parameter(s) to enable an audit score to be calculated

**PRIORITY AREAS FOR ATTENTION:**

Based on the information provided, audit accuracy can be improved by addressing the following components:

1: Billed metered

2: Customer metering inaccuracies

3: Total annual cost of operating water system

For more information, click here to see the Grading Matrix worksheet

# AWWA Water Audit Software – Water Balance

AWWA WLCC Free Water Audit Software: Water Balance				Water Audit Report For:	Report Yr:
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Own Sources (Adjusted for known errors)	Water Exported		Billed Authorized Consumption	Billed Metered Consumption (inc. water exported)	Revenue Water
	2,178.370	3,287.284	3,239.962	3,239.962	3,239.962
Water Supplied			Unbilled Authorized Consumption	Unbilled Metered Consumption	Non-Revenue Water (NRW)
	3,785.777		47.322	0.000	
Water Imported		Water Losses	Apparent Losses	Customer Metering Inaccuracies	545.815
	1,621.843	498.493	10.464	0.000	
			Real Losses	Systematic Data Handling Errors	
			488.028	1.000	
				Leakage on Transmission and/or Distribution Mains	
				Not broken down	
				Leakage and Overflows at Utility's Storage Tanks	
				Not broken down	
				Leakage on Service Connections	
				Not broken down	

# AWWA Water Audit Software - Definitions

AWWA WLCC Free Water Audit Software: Definitions		Back to Instructions
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Item Name		Description
Billed metered consumption	Find	All metered consumption which is billed. This includes all groups of customers such as domestic, commercial, industrial or institutional. It does NOT include water sold to neighboring utilities (water exported) which is metered and billed. The metered consumption data can be taken directly from billing records for the water audit period. The accuracy of yearly metered consumption data can be refined by including an adjustment to account for customer meter reading lagtime, however additional analysis is necessary to determine the adjustment value, which may or may not be significant.
Billed unmetered consumption	Find	All billed consumption which is calculated based on estimates or norms but is not metered. This might be a very small component in fully metered systems (for example billing based on estimates for the period a customer meter is out of order) but can be the key consumption component in systems without universal metering. It does NOT include water sold to neighboring utilities (water exported) which is unmetered but billed.
Connection density		number of connections / length of mains
Customer metering inaccuracies	Find	Apparent water losses caused by the collective under-registration of customer water meters. Many customer water meters will wear as large cumulative volumes of water are passed through them over time. This causes the meters to under-register. The auditor has two options for entering data for this component of the audit. The auditor can enter a percentage under-registration (typically an estimated value), this will apply the selected percentage to the two categories of metered consumption to determine the volume of water not recorded due to customer meter inaccuracy. Alternatively, if the auditor has substantial data from meter testing to arrive at their own volume of such losses, this volume may be entered directly. Note that a value of zero will be accepted but an alert will appear asking if the customer population is unmetered. Since all metered systems have some degree of inaccuracy, then a positive value should be entered. A value of zero in this component is valid only if the water utility does not meter its customer population.
Customer retail unit cost	Find	The Customer Retail Unit Cost represents the charge that customers pay for water service. This unit cost is applied to the components of apparent loss, since these losses represent water reaching customers but not (fully) paid for. It is important to compile these costs per the same unit cost basis as the volume measure included in the water audit. For example, if all water volumes are measured in million gallons, then the unit cost should be dollars per million gallon (\$/mil gal). The software allows the user to select the units that are charged to customers (either 1/1,000 gallons, 1/100 cubic feet or 1/1,000 liters) and automatically converts these units to the units that appear in the "WATER SUPPLIED" box. Since most water utilities have a rate structure that includes a variety of different costs based upon class of customer, a weighted average of individual costs and number of customer

# AWWA Water Audit Software - Grading Matrix

AWWA WLCC Free Water Audit Software: Grading Matrix										
In the Report(s), grades were assigned to each component of the audit to describe the confidence and accuracy of the input data. The grading assigned to each audit component responding recommended improvements and actions are highlighted in yellow. Audit accuracy is likely to be improved by prioritizing those items										
Overall Audit										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Billed metered</b>	Less than 50% of customers with volume based billing from meter readings for the majority of the customer population	At least 50% of customers with volume based billing from meter readings for rate billed for volume. Manual meter readings, up to 50% of customer rate, remains estimated. Limited meter readings, including meter readings, with no reading	Conditions between 2 and 4	At least 70% of customers with volume based billing from meter readings that are rate billed for volume. Manual meter readings, up to at least 50% of customer rate, remains estimated. Customer meters replaced only through regular replacement program	Conditions between 4 and 6	At least 80% of customers with volume based billing from meter readings remaining accounts are estimated. Manual meter readings, up to at least 50% of customer rate, remains estimated. Regular replacement of meters through regular replacement program, with meter readings of global estimates	Conditions between 6 and 8	At least 90% of customers with volume based billing from meter readings. At least 90% customer meter read accuracy rate with planning and budgeting for meter readings. Metering Planning (MPM) in use or meter plan in use. Good customer meter readings. Regular meter reading program. Regular replacement of meters through regular replacement program, with meter readings of global and detailed statistics, verified periodically by field party	Conditions between 8 and 9	At least 95% of customers with volume based billing from meter reads. At least 95% customer meter read accuracy rate, on maximum 50% meter reading accuracy rate, with Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) track auditing. Detailed regular customer meter testing and replacement program in place. Comprehensive billing with routine, detailed auditing, including field investigation of representative sample of accounts. Annual audit verification by field party
<b>Higher data quality for "Billed Metered" component</b>	Investigate higher data quality for "Billed Metered" component	Purchase and install meters on unattended accounts. Catalog meter readings during meter read cycle to identify unattended or missing meters. Test a random number of meters for accuracy and compare to billing system.	Investigate higher data quality for "Billed Metered" component	Purchase and install meters on unattended accounts. Estimate for too billing and based upon measured consumption. Continue to address unattended meters by removing unattended meter readings. Expand meter accuracy testing. Launch regular meter replacement program. Conduct routine audit of global statistics.	Investigate higher data quality for "Billed Metered" component	Purchase and install meters on unattended accounts. Assess cost effectiveness of Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) system for portion of unattended or address ongoing replacement of manual meter readings program. For meter replacement, conduct routine audit of global statistics.	Investigate higher data quality for "Billed Metered" component	Purchase and install meters on unattended accounts. Launch Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) system trial of manual meter readings on a large program. Customer meter accuracy testing program. Conduct planning and budgeting for large meter replacement based upon meter test and meter reading verification. Conduct routine auditing and repair unattended metering.	Investigate higher data quality for "Billed Metered" component	Purchase and install meters on unattended accounts. Launch Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) system trial of manual meter readings on a large program. Customer meter accuracy testing program. Conduct planning and budgeting for large meter replacement based upon meter test and meter reading verification. Conduct routine auditing and repair unattended metering.
<b>Billed unattended</b>	Water utility policy does not require customer metering. But or metered billed. No data collected on customer consumption. Only estimates available are derived from data estimation methods using average meter count multiplied by number of connections, or similar approach.	Water utility policy does not require customer metering. But or metered billed. Some unattended accounts exist in parts of the system (like areas or District Metered Area) with consumption recorded on portable devices. Data from these portable meters are used to infer consumption for the total customer population. Site specific estimation methods are used for unusual billable/unmetered uses.	Conditions between 2 and 4	Water utility policy does require metering and volume based billing for less than 4 unattended provisions and multiple meter counts, resulting in up to 20% of billed accounts inferred to be unattended. Although estimates of the annual consumption for all unattended accounts is included in the annual water audit, with no inspection of individual unattended accounts.	Conditions between 4 and 6	Water utility policy does require metering and volume based billing for a portion of unattended accounts. However, less than 50% of billed accounts are unattended due to the exemption or meter not installed. Only a group estimate of annual consumption for all unattended accounts is included in the annual water audit, with no inspection of individual unattended accounts.	Conditions between 6 and 8	Water utility policy requires metering and volume based billing for all customer accounts. However, less than 50% of billed accounts remain unattended because meter not installed or meter not read. The goal is to minimize the number of unattended accounts.	Conditions between 8 and 9	Water utility policy requires metering and volume based billing for all customer accounts. Less than 25% of billed accounts are unattended and/or because meter not installed is included by routine metering. The goal is to minimize the number of unattended accounts to the extent that is economical. Routine estimates of consumption are carried as the accounts are the specific estimation methods.

## Data Entry Exercise

- Switch to Excel to enter data and discuss

## Audit Output – Performance Indicators

- Financial Performance Indicators
  - allow for economic understanding of losses and provides comparison for project payback
- Operational Performance Indicators
  - defines and quantifies industry standards
  - highlights areas of comparison and annual tracking
  - creates indices for comparison across water systems
- Validity Score and Top 3 Priority Areas

## Financial Performance Indicators

- % Non-revenue water by volume
- % Non-revenue water by cost
  
- Annual cost of apparent losses
- Annual cost of real losses

## Operational Performance Indicators

- Water Losses (WL) - gal
- Apparent Losses (AL) - gal
- Current Annual Real Losses (CARL) – gal
- Normalized Apparent Losses
  - gal/service connection/day
- Normalized Real Losses
  - gal/service connection/day
  - gal/service connection/day/psi
  - gal/miles of mains/day
  - gal/miles of mains/day/psi

## Operational Performance Indicators (continued)

- Unavoidable Annual Real Losses (UARL)
  - gal
  - calculation based on worldwide data for lowest theoretical real losses attainable
  - not valid for systems with less than 3,000 connections or connection density less than 32 connections per mile
  - includes consideration for rise in system leakage, service connection density, system pressure
- Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI)
  - dimensionless
  - CARL/UARL

## Excerpts from AWWA North-American Dataset (2011)

Key Performance Indicator	#	Average	Range		
NRW as a % by Volume	21	22.6%	6.8%	-	45.5%
NRW as a % by Cost	21	10.0%	1.7%	-	23.0%
Apparent Losses (gals/conn/day)	21	14.95	2.36	-	65.89
Op24 – Real Losses (gals/conn/day)	18	63.32	17.07	-	149.71
Op24 – Real Losses (gals/mile of main/day)	3	1,821.15	645.42	-	3,496.21
Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI)	21	3.57	1.15	-	12.68
Water Audit Data Validity Score	21	74.97	52.28	-	89.72

## Excerpts from AWWA North-American Dataset (2011)

Cost Data	#	Average		Range		
Annual operating cost (Million \$)	21	51.22		1.36	-	224.43
Annual operating cost (\$/1,000 gal of Water Supplied)	21	\$ 3.32	\$	1.15	- \$	8.14
Customer retail unit cost (\$/1,000 gal)	21	\$ 4.57	\$	1.10	- \$	8.38
Variable production (or import) cost (\$/1,000 gal)	21	\$ 0.73	\$	0.18	- \$	2.16
NRW - Total Annual Cost (Million \$)	21	5.81		0.04	-	42.97