# AWWA M36 Water Audits Training Funded by MassDEP

#### MassDEP CERO Training June 27, 2019



#### Water Audit Course Outline

- 10:00-11:00am Overview of M36 Audit process, definitions and terminology, basic data needs, and walking through the M36 Audit Spreadsheet
- 11:00-11:15am Break
- 11:15am-12:15pm Review Water Balance, Performance Indicators, and Water Loss Control Strategies
- 12:15-12:45pm Lunch
- 12:45-2:00pm Group Q&A and roundtable discussion, final thoughts, and evaluations





#### AWWA M36



- AWWA Water Audit M36-4<sup>th</sup> Edition
- 2. Using the AWWA water audit spreadsheet
- 3. Water audit helps control water losses
- 4. Tested on medium and large water systems



#### Why Would We Do An Audit?

- Curiosity?
- Revenue Management
- Assist with Conservation
- Higher Customer Confidence
- Set Capital Priorities
- Respond to Regulations



You may not understand all of the benefits until completing an Audit



#### **Definitions and Terminology**

- 1. No more "un-accounted for water" M36 accounts for all water
- 2. Water Losses are broken down into Apparent and Real Losses





# Navigating a Water Audit Program

- 1. Data collection
- 2. Project Kickoff Team meetings
- 3. Review data provided
- 4. Follow up questions
- 5. Fill in spreadsheet; more questions
- 6. Revise spreadsheet
- 7. Study results

Complex but Complete



#### **The Water Balance**





### M36 Talks About

- 1. "Top Down" approach Water balance....in vs out
  - Quantifies losses
  - Assigns value to losses
- 2. "Bottom Up" approach
  - Searches out causes of losses







Weston(&)Sampson

Numbers you enter in spreadsheet

9



Numbers the spreadsheet calculates Weston & Sampson

### **Bottom Up Approach**

Searches out causes of losses

- Better measurements (metering)
- Physical inspections
- Evaluation of billing and data management

This is your "biggest bang for the water loss control buck".





Areas evaluated, "Bottom Up" Audit



#### Tasks of the Water Audit

- 1. Establish water system description
- 2. Determine Water Supplied to the Distribution System
- 3. Quantify Billed Authorized Consumption
- 4. Quantify Unbilled Authorized Consumption
- 5. Quantify Water Losses
- 6. Quantify Apparent Losses
- 7. Quantify Real Losses
- 8. Calculate "Non-revenue" Water
- 9. Assign Costs of Apparent and Real Losses
- 10. Calculate Performance Indicators
- 11. Compile the Water Balance



#### Free Audit Software – Ver. 5.0 (2014)







#### **Start Here**

- AWWA Audit
  Spreadsheet
- FREE
- The Instruction
  Sheet







# Reporting Worksheet



#### **Basic Approach for Data input**

- 1. Collect data
- 2. Enter your best numbers
- 3. Rate the "confidence" you have in each number





- Rate the confidence in the input data
  - Scale of 1 10
  - Used to help identify areas to dig deeper for future iterations

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#### Task 1: System Information

- <u>Collect Basic System Information</u>
  - Scope of Audit
    - Period of time, % time pressurized
  - Infrastructure description
    - Number of service connections, miles of main
  - Financial data
    - Total operational cost, cost of water, billing rates



#### **System Information**





#### Task 2: Water Supplied to System



(Own Sources) + (Water Imported) – (Water Exported) = Water Supplied



## Water Supplied





#### Task 2: Water Supplied to System

- Water Supplied
  - Volume of Treated Water into distribution system
    - Own sources, imported sources
    - Corrections essential (System Input Volume, SIV)
      - Enter corrected master metered volumes
  - Subtract Billed Water Exported to get Water Supplied





#### Task 3: Billed Authorized Consumption





#### Task 3: Billed Authorized Consumption

AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION	Billed metered:	514.014 MG/Yr 0.000 MG/Yr	Pent	Click here: 2 for help using option buttons below Value:		
	Unbilled unmetered:	21.924 MG/Yr		) ()	21.924	MG/Yr
	Unbilled Unmetered volume entered is greater than	n the recommended default value		1		select water
		539.024 MG/Yr	jercentage o percentage o supplie OR		e buttons to selec rcentage of water supplied OR	



### Task 3: Billed Authorized Consumption

- Quantify Billed Authorized Consumption aka Revenue
  - Compile meter consumption for the appropriate billing cycles
  - Adjust for lag time in meter readings
  - Compile volume of billed/authorized consumption
    - Consider records handling to facilitate future audits
    - Consider modifying AMR timing to coincide with audit period





# Adjusting for Lag Time

- Meter readings adjusted to match Audit period
- Prorate readings for first and last period
  - Ratio: Days in Audit period/days in billing period
  - Subtract if water delivered before audit period
  - Add water if delivered before end of audit period
  - Separate correction for each Meter Route
    - If read dates are different

As needed, adjust for each customer class



## **Example Data Sources**

- Billed Metered
  - Residential
  - Agriculture
  - Municipal/institutional
  - Commercial
  - Construction site (hydrant)

- Billed Unmetered Flat Rate
  - Community gardens
    - Size
  - Municipal buildings/Libraries
    - Size/use
  - Seasonal Users
    - Size/use



#### Task 4: Unbilled Authorized Consumption



Unbilled Water Provided as a Matter of Policy



#### **Unbilled Authorized Consumption**

	AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION:	greater than th	539.024 MG/Yr		1	Use buttons to select percentage of water sumplied	
	Unbilled unmetered:	2 7	21.924	MG/Yr		) 🛞 21.924	MG/Yr
	Unbilled metered: 🄜	? 8	3.086	MG/Yr	Pont	Value:	
AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION	Billed metered:	7 7	514.014	MG/Yr		Click here: for help using buttons below	option



#### Task 4: Unbilled Authorized Consumption

Quantify Unbilled Authorized Consumption

- Consistent with supplier by-laws may include municipal buildings
- Firefighting and training, system flushing, street cleaning, water consumption at public facilities – some of these may or may not be metered
- Use metered measurements or best estimates
  - Minimize estimation if possible
  - Estimates need to be objective and realistic



#### Policy Decision as a Public Service



# Authorized Consumption (Unbilled)

- Quantify Unbilled Authorized Consumption
  - Compile unbilled metered consumption
  - Compile unbilled unmetered consumption
  - Compile volume of unbilled/authorized consumption
    - Review CEMU Data
    - Consider developing forms and/or spreadsheets to better track
      unbilled consumption for future audits





## **Example Unbilled Authorized**

- Unbilled Metered
  - Municipal Buildings
  - Municipal Fields/Parks
  - Water/Sewer Facilities
  - DPW Use

- Unbilled Unmetered
  - Community gardens
  - Cemeteries
  - Bleeders
  - Tank overflows
  - Fire fighting/training
  - Yes, you should include leak detection and breaks



#### Task 5: Quantify Water Losses



#### 2 Kinds of Water Losses



#### **Calculating Water Losses**





#### Task 5: Quantify Water Losses

- Quantify Water Losses
  - Apparent losses relate to billing and records keeping
  - Real losses relate to water leaving system







#### Task 6: Apparent Losses



Categories of supply, demand and loss

Weston & Sampsoñ

## **Calculating Apparent Losses**

- Sources of Losses
  - Inaccurate meters
  - Systematic Data handling errors



- Based on
  - Meter records
  - Policy evaluation
  - Water system history

OR

 M36 Default Estimate



#### Task 7: Real Losses



Real Losses = Water Losses – Apparent Losses



#### Task 7: Real Losses

- Real Losses (calculated by spreadsheet)
  - Total water losses minus apparent losses
  - An approximation
  - Gut check.....based on records

Save Water Save Money



Accuracy of "Real Losses" depends on accuracy of prior calculations



#### Value of Losses

- Apparent Losses valued at retail rates
  - Supplied but not paid for
  - Meter read errors, unbilled accounts
- Real Losses valued as "Delivered Water"
  - Annual Operating Budget divided by water delivered



#### Task 8: Calculate Non-revenue Water



Non-Revenue Water increases rates for paying customers



#### Task 8: Calculate Non-Revenue Water

- Calculate "Non-revenue" Water
  - Add Water Losses to Unbilled Authorized Consumption

#### This calculation is done by the spreadsheet



#### NON-REVENUE WATER NON-REVENUE WATER: ? 81.853 MG/Yr = Water Losses + Unbilled Metered + Unbilled Unmetered

#### In addition, the audit calculates the costs of nonrevenue water

No recovery of costs to produce and treat "Non-Revenue" Water



# Task 9: Assigning Costs

- Enter cost data per audit spreadsheet
- Understand the "value" of losses
- Cost of Apparent Losses
- Cost of Real Losses
- Prioritize water loss control efforts
  - Money in the right places





#### **Calculate Cost of Losses**

#### COST DATA

Total annual cost of operating water system: Customer retail unit cost (applied to Apparent Losses) Variable production cost (applied to Real Losses):

\$4,366,489 \$/Year \$7.53 \$/100 cubic feet (ccf) \$593.75 \$/Million gallons Use Customer Retail Unit Cost to value real losses

System Attributes:		Apparent Losses:	2.775	MGYr
	•	Real Losses:	54.068	MG/Yr
	-	Water Losses:	56.843	MG/Yr
	Jnavoidable Annual R	eal Losses (UARL):	70.17	MGIYr
	Annual cost of	of Apparent Losses:	\$27,931	
	Annual o	ost of Real Losses:	\$32,103	Valued at Variable Production Cost
				Return to Reporting Worksheet to change this assumption

2 8



#### Task 10: Performance Indicators

- Examples of straightforward indicators
  - Volume of non-revenue water as a percent of water supplied
  - Value of non-revenue water as a percentage of the cost of operating the system
  - Volume of Apparent Losses divided by number of service connections per day





#### Task 10: Performance Indicators

- Examples of Complex Indicators
  - Real Losses divided by number of service connections per day per system pressure (psi)
  - Unavoidable Annual Real Losses (UARL)
  - Infrastructure Leakage Index (CARL/UARL)
    - CARL (Current Annual Real Losses)
    - UARL (Unavoidable Annual Real Losses)



Year to year changes Comparison among systems



# **Calculating Performance Indicators**





#### Task 11: Compile the Water Balance

- Compile the Water Balance
  - Review the water balance
  - All columns add up to the same sum
  - Check...do the numbers seem reasonable?
  - Assigning a likely degree of error is an essential step
    - Go after apparent losses based on uncertainty
    - Use the Grading Matrix:







#### Task 11: Water Balance Sheet

1		AWWA Fre	e Water Audit Software	e: <u>Water Balance</u>	WAS V5.0 In Water Water Association 2014, Al Rights Reserved
	Wa	ter Audit Report for:	Exceptional Water Co. (0000001)		1
Reporting Year:			2016	1/2016 - 12/2016	
		Data Validity Score:	79		H.
	Water Exported 0.000			Billed Water Exported	
Own Sources (Adjusted for known errors) 595.867 Water Imported 0.000			Billed Authorized Consumption	Billed Metered Consumption (water exported is removed) 514.014	Revenue Water
	Water Supplied 595.867	Authorized Consumption 539.024	514.014	Billed Unmetered Consumption 0.000	514.014
			Unbilled Authorized Consumption	Unbilled Metered Consumption 3,086	Non-Revenue Water (NRW)
			25.010	Unbilled Unmetered Consumption 21,924	
			Apparent Losses 2.775	Unauthorized Consumption	81.853
				Customer Metering Inaccuracies	
		Water Losses		Systematic Data Handling Errors	
		56.843		Leakage on Transmission and/or Distribution Mains	
			Real Losses 54.068	Not broken down	
				Leakage and Overflows at Utility's Storage Tanks Not broken down	
				Leakage on Service Connections Not broken down	

Calculated by the spreadsheet based on prior input

Weston psoñ

#### Dashboard





#### Audit Results

#### "PRIORITY AREAS FOR ATTENTION" Calculated by the spreadsheet based on input

WATER AUDIT DATA VALIDITY SCORE:

\*\*\* YOUR SCORE IS: 79 out of 100 \*\*\*

A weighted scale for the components of consumption and water loss is included in the calculation of the Water Audit Data Validity Score

#### PRIORITY AREAS FOR ATTENTION:

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

1: Volume from own sources

2: Billed metered

3: Unauthorized consumption



## Methods for Controlling Losses

- Controlling Apparent Losses
  - Test customer meters, replace
  - Reduce data handling errors
  - Eliminate unauthorized consumption

Data base to track age and accuracy of residential meters





### Methods for Controlling Losses

- Controlling Real Losses
  - Zone flow measurement
  - Acoustic leak detection
  - Replacement of old mains
  - Timely repair
    - System components
    - Customer lines
- Component Analysis







## Loss Control Target: Shrink the Box

#### **Benefits vs Costs**

#### **Real Loss Control**

- 1. Pressure management
- 2. Speed of repairs
- 3. Active leak control
- 4. System management and maintenance



How much does it cost to shrink the box?



#### **Best Management Practices**

- Annually test the accuracy of the flow through the finished and raw water master meters and simultaneously calibrate the electronics/update SCADA
- Replace old inaccurate source meters
- Standardize meter reading system
- Right size and test large customer meters
- Audit accounts for type of use and consumption history for inconsistencies to help identify potential theft
- Verify the correct number of fixed zeros on customer meters
- Flag low consumption and high consumption on customer accounts and (if possible) flag leaks and meter tampering
- Conduct a one month audit during minimal CEMU volume potential to improve water balance and better pinpoint real vs apparent losses
- Conduct a mini audit of each pressure zone within the system to target problematic areas



#### **Best Management Practices**

- Communicate the importance of recording water use to water employees and other departments; collect more accurate estimations of each department annual usage
- Monitor and record unmetered uses such as unmetered fire (tests) services
- Perform annual system wide leak detection survey and document leak repairs starting from the first point of awareness to isolation/shutdown plus duration of repair work – confirm leak detection survey flow rate estimations
- Implement improved tracking methods for all unmetered consumption; report volumes on ASR as applicable
- Have more than one person review the data reported in the ASR for quality control and education of additional employees
- Map metered accounts vs private wells to locate potential unauthorized usage



# Group Q&A and Roundtable Discussion



# Final Thoughts and Evaluations



# The free AWWA M36 Water Audit Software can be found at:

<u>https://www.awwa.org/Resources-</u> Tools/Resource-Topics/Water-Loss-Control

