

Leak report

as at 31 October 2011

Topic	Facts	Comment
General		
Length of drinking water mains	21,069 km	Sydney Water maintains this entire network of pipes and around 17,000 km of pipes from our mains to customer meters
Percentage of leaks as at end of October 2011	About 7.7%*	The Water Balance method used to estimate leakage can be uncertain. However, the differences between quarterly leakage results tend to reduce when longer-term trends are used. There is a general downward trend in real losses over the last several years. <small>*(In relation to 2005/06 supply)</small>
Rate of water saved by leak reduction program (end of October 2011)	77 million litres of water each day [#]	This equals more than 28 billion litres of water saved annually, or enough to supply 140,000 typical households (each using about 200,000 litres annually) <small>[#]Based on Global Water Balance.)</small>
Number of Sydney Water water crews repairing leaks every day	51, but can rise or fall depending on workload	Crews work on reactive jobs and also planned leak repair jobs
Number of leak and break jobs completed as at end of October 2011 (YTD 2010-11)	2145 (6,696)	Maintenance crews attend customer reports that Sydney Water's Customer Contact Centre logs
Active Leak Detection Program		
Length of mains inspected for leaks since the program began in 1999 as at end of October 2011	143,401 km	Sydney Water has inspected its entire network of water mains and plans to inspect 12,000 km of mains this financial year
Number of leaks found and fixed as at end of October 2011 (YTD 2010-11)	201 hidden leaks (891 hidden leaks)	Sydney Water uses sophisticated sonar equipment to detect hidden leaks in underground water pipes. The pipes consist of more than five million joints. After detection, the leaks are scheduled for repair
Pressure Management Program		
Number of schemes installed	162 as at end of Oct 2011	Sydney Water aims to establish about 188 schemes in high water pressure areas by June 2012
Flow Meter Program		
Number of bulk water flow meters installed	214 as at end of Oct 2011	Sydney Water aims to install 295 flow meters by June 2014 to help identify where leaks occur