

Kansas water use data is collected and published by the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources' Water Appropriation Program.

Each year, about 14,000 water use report forms for 32,500 active water rights are mailed to water right holders for the 14 classified beneficial uses of water. The forms are to report water use for the year that just ended.

The largest water use category is irrigation. The other categories are municipal, industrial, hydraulic dredging, stockwatering, recreation, contamination remediation, artificial recharge, thermal exchange, dewatering, fire protection, water power, sediment control and domestic.

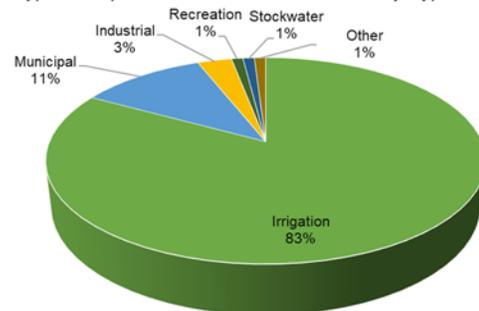
### Online Water Use Reporting

Online reporting is available for all types of water use and can be accessed at [www.KSWaterUseReport.org](http://www.KSWaterUseReport.org). Online reporting is open from the time the reports are mailed through the reporting deadline of March 1st. In order to access an online water use report, a PIN and Person ID number, which can be found on the lower left corner of the paper water use report, will be required. Terms and Definitions, as well as instructions, are provided on the webpage with links at the top of the page to help you navigate through the different parts of the report that may be required for specific uses made of water. Water users can contact the DWR Water Use section at 785-564-6638 or contact their local Field Office to obtain PIN and Person ID numbers and to receive guidance on filling out the report. Online reporting offers a reliable and efficient way to submit most water use reports as required by Kansas Law. **Please only submit one form (online or paper) not both.** Add 2018 information here.

### Mailing Water Use Report Forms

Each water use report form is preprinted with a name, address, and water right file number pulled from the Water Right Information System (WRIS) database. The forms typically are mailed the first working week in January. Kansas law (K.S.A. 82a-732) requires reports to be returned to the Division of Water Resources by March 1. About 96% of the reports are filed on time each year. Beginning with the 2018 reporting year, mailed water use reports must include a paper filing fee of \$20 per file number. The paper filing fee can be avoided by reporting water use online

Typical Reported Water Use for Kansas by Type of Use



### Timely Processing

When the paper forms are returned to the Division of Water Resources, preliminary data are entered into the database and the form is flagged to show if it was filed on time. Each paper report is then reviewed by a water use unit staff member, who will analyze the report at face value. This process is called coding.

Coding is an extensive process. When a paper report is received it goes through an analysis process by an environmental scientist, who codes the data for later classification, comparison and general inquiry. After the coding process is complete, the reports are returned to the data entry section for entry with the codes applied. The online system eliminates the coding and data entry time. Because most water users are completing reports online now, the water use team can focus more resources on getting better data. All data entry must be complete by April 15 to meet deadlines related to interstate water compacts.

### Delinquent Reports

The 4 percent of water use reports that do not get filed by March 1 enter the delinquent stage, which involves tabulation and notification through a series of communications from DWR.

The first delinquent penalty letters are sent in mid-April and are grouped into two subcategories: those who have not filed a report at all; and those who have filed a report after the March 1 deadline. Currently, the civil penalty issued through these letters is \$250 per water right file number, if the report and penalty are received by June 1.

A second and final notice is sent during mid-May to those who have not resolved the delinquent report and penalty. If penalties and reports are not filed by June 1, a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,000 is assessed, per file number, and the water right could be suspended pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-732(b). Our success gathering this vast amount of data each year hinges on the serious and persistent pursuit of delinquent reports.

## Quality Control

DWR has a series of quality control checks to identify data problems like excessively high use, very low use or missing information and staff communicate with water users to improve data integrity. The U.S. Geological Survey reviews municipal and irrigation data summaries each year and publishes a national water use report every five years.

## Water Protection Fee

In July, stockwatering and industrial water use information is assembled and transmitted to the Kansas Department of Revenue for their annual water protection fee billings. K.S.A. 82a-954 authorizes the Department of Revenue to assess 3 cents for every thousand gallons of water under these uses. The Department of Revenue sends its bills around September 1 each year for the previous year's water use. The water protection fee generates about \$1.4 million a year for water related projects. Additional funding for the water protection fee is collected from other sources, and billings are based on data reported to DWR.

## Maintaining the Database

Throughout the year, the WRIS database is updated to reflect ownership and correspondent changes. There are about 3,000 such updates each year.

## Water use details are used:

- to certify water rights
- to include check-off notices for chemigation
- in interstate compact administration
- for water banking
- for database maintenance within DWR
- in possible abandonment of water rights
- for compliance and enforcement activities

## Who Uses Our Data?

The Kansas Water Use Reporting Program yields important information about how water is used in Kansas. Detailed data exists for ALL nondomestic water use:

- how much water is used
- where water is used
- how water is used

## Other agencies using our water use data:

- Kansas Water Office
  - for water management and basin planning
  - to target technical assistance
- U.S. Geological Survey
  - for five-year national water use report
  - for present and future demands
  - for technical report modeling
- Kansas Geological Survey
  - to monitor statewide water levels for technical report modeling
- Kansas Groundwater Management Districts
  - for local groundwater management district water use
  - for policy planning
- Kansas Rural Water Association
  - to identify candidates for technical assistance
- Kansas Department of Revenue
  - to help with property valuation
  - to assess water protection fee
- State Conservation Commission
  - to help irrigation efficiency
  - to help with best management practices
- Kansas State University
  - to identify candidates for technical assistance
  - for crop net irrigation requirements
- Cities and Public Water Suppliers
  - for peer comparison
- Kansas Corporation Commission
  - identifies energy type

