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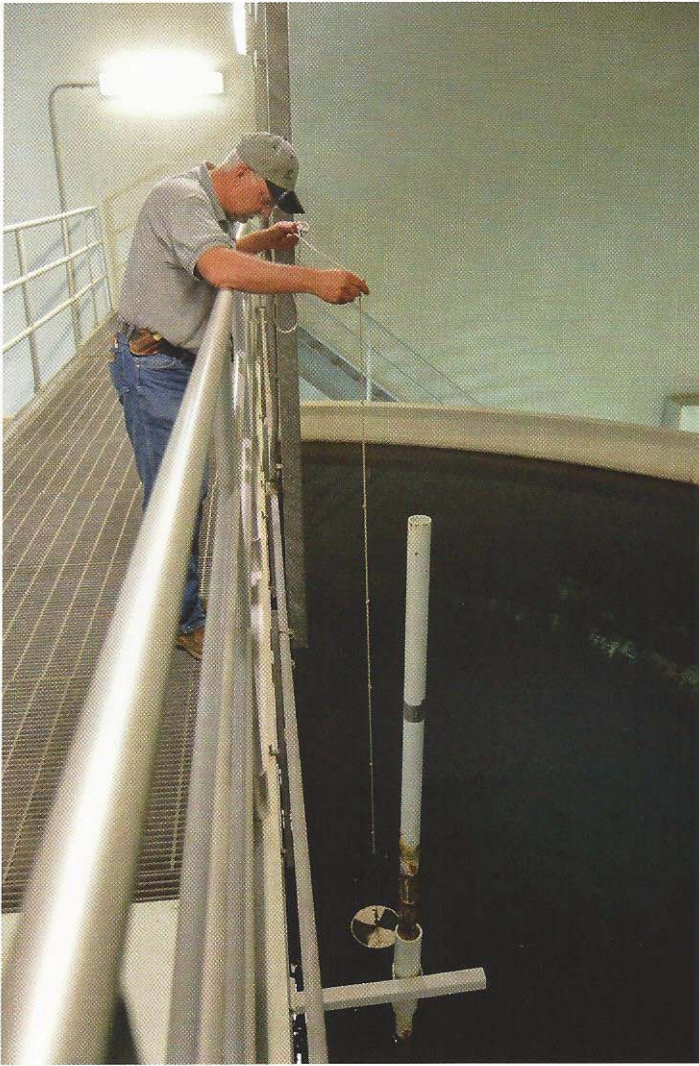
Municipal Water Infrastructure

2018 Legislative Wrap-Up

Does the Mayor Vote?



A Publication of The
League of Kansas Municipalities




City of Holton Water/Wastewater Superintendent Dennis Ashcraft checks the water levels at the plant.

The water report also shows an aggregate example of how water is used in Garden City. This data is telling because they can communicate the fact that 40% of water used in Garden City is on residential outdoor watering practices.

“Even prior to the report, our overall water usage has remained relatively flat,” said Jones. “As the community has grown, the gallons per capita per day has gone down and tells us that we’re conserving water overall. However, overall usage of water by the community has gone up but this can be attributed to the growth and ongoing industrial activity occurring in our City.”

The other benefit of collecting this neighborhood-specific data is city officials can make assumptions and generalizations of how water is used in the city and forecast how future developments will impact our municipal utility.”


 **Megan Gilliland** is the Communications and Education Manager for the League of Kansas Municipalities. She can be reached at mgilliland@lkm.org.

Work in Water

Wichita State University’s Environmental Finance Center’s Work in Water Experience teaches Kansas high school students about the critical role that public water utilities fill in their community. This unique, hands-on learning program allows students to see first-hand the skills, technology, and people that are working to ensure the public has access to safe, healthy drinking water and water recycling resources.

This educational program, designed by WSU Environmental Finance Center as part of the Careers in Water Stewardship project, aims to increase young people’s knowledge of the importance of water treatment for the environment and public health, and to stimulate interest in occupations in environmental water management.

The WSU program utilizes in-classroom experience learning as well as an internship opportunity for high school students interested in working at their community’s drinking water treatment plant and wastewater treatment facility. This unique program allows students to network with water industry professionals, take part in public service and career development opportunities, and build transferable skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, and effective communication.

The Work in Water Program was designed to be shared and continued by communities and public works departments across Kansas who are looking to promote the public water industry. The Environmental Finance Center provides online resources for communities seeking to build their own educational program. The resources are available online at [www. https://bit.ly/2xuFMbM](https://bit.ly/2xuFMbM). Contact Tonya Bronleewe, Program Manager, at tonya.bronleewe@wichita.edu. 



Olathe West students watch water being treated to safe drinking water standards at the Olathe Water Treatment plant.