

Benefits of MnWARN:

- There is no cost to participate.
- MnWARN is like investing in a no cost insurance policy to access resources when needed.
- MnWARN increases emergency preparedness and coordination.
- MnWARN enhances access to specialized resources.
- MnWARN expedites arrival of aid (don't have to work out the administrative items; the agreements and WARN protocols work them out in advance for you).
- MnWARN agreement contains indemnification and worker's compensation provisions to protect participating utilities and provide reimbursement protocols.
- There is no obligation to respond.



Photo above: Water supply recovery efforts after a disaster.

How Does My Utility Participate?

Participation in MnWARN is voluntary and membership is free. To participate in MnWARN, simply fill out the Membership Information Form and submit to MnWARN along with the Mutual Aid Agreement and Resolution. The governing entity must adopt the Mutual Aid Agreement and Resolution. MnWARN also recommends that a sample equipment schedule of fees be adopted by your governing entity. In the event of a MnWARN response, if a schedule of charges is not agreed upon, the default will be FEMA rate of reimbursement.

Members must identify Authorized Officials and alternates, provide contact information including 24-hour access, and maintain resource information made available by the utility for mutual aid and assistance response. This is done in the application process and should be updated annually.

Membership Information Form, Mutual Aid Agreement, Resolution, and sample equipment schedule of fees can be found online at: www.MnWARN.org.

For more information:

MnWARN

217 12th Avenue SE
Elbow Lake, MN 56531
800-367-6792
www.MnWARN.org

MnWARN



Minnesota's Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network

Utilities Helping Utilities

When disaster strikes, how will your utility obtain assistance?

MnWARN—Minnesota's Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network

A Water and Wastewater Agency Response Network (WARN) is a network of utilities helping utilities respond to and recover from emergencies. Mutual Aid/Assistance is one agency helping another based on a written agreement. The assistance is provided across jurisdictional boundaries in the event of an emergency. Participation is voluntary. There is no obligation to respond. This provides a utility with access to specialized, certified, and knowledgeable utility personnel. A WARN is important because utility resources are specialized; utilities must be self-sufficient; and utilities must fill in the gap before the arrival of government aid.



Photo above: Locating service lines after a disaster.

MnWARN's Mission

To promote and support a statewide response to utility emergencies and disasters through mutual assistance for water, wastewater, and stormwater utilities in Minnesota.

What is a WARN?

Leaders in the water/wastewater community and state agencies have joined together to create the Minnesota Water/Wastewater Utilities Agency Response Network.

MnWARN is a formal emergency response program in Minnesota. MnWARN is a mutual aid agreement to provide a program whereby water, wastewater, and stormwater utilities sustaining physical damage from natural or man-made disasters in the state of Minnesota can obtain emergency assistance, in the form of personnel, equipment, and materials and other associated services necessary to protect the health and welfare of the utilities' customers.

Law enforcement and fire departments have been organized for many years. MnWARN is an initiative to organize the water and wastewater professionals to be prepared to respond to water, wastewater, and stormwater entities in a professional and timely manner. A pre-established agreement among a network of utilities can complement and enhance local capabilities to prepare to respond to a broad range of threats, both natural and man-made.

This initiative is not meant to compete with any existing mutual agreements that your utility may already have in place with neighboring communities or counties. This initiative is meant to enhance the abilities of utilities to help utilities.

It is essential that all partners in the water, wastewater, and storm water community work together to support this concept.

MnWARN assists members utilities with:

*Emergency assessment, emergency response, and recovery.

*Mutual Aid Agreement for sharing emergency resources with members.

*Resources to help recover from a disaster.

*Emergency contact network.

*Voluntary participation.

Promoting and supporting a statewide response to utility emergencies and disasters through mutual assistance for water, wastewater, and stormwater utilities in Minnesota.

Visit our Web site at www.MnWARN.org for more information.

"MnWARN.....bringing the water and wastewater utility community together."