

OH WARN

Spring Directors Conference

April 22, 2014

What is OHWARN

- **Water/wastewater Agency Response Network**

A formalized Network of
“Utilities helping Utilities”.

- Emergency Preparedness
- Mutual Aid Assistance During Emergencies
- Sharing of Resources Statewide
 - Personnel
 - Equipment
 - Materials
 - Water/Wastewater System Expertise



Why Do You Need OHWARN



Disasters will strike

THE PLAIN DEALER

BLACKOUT

Millions struggle without power

Northeast
Obama wants
for power
to return

**Lights go
out from
New York
to Cleveland**

Northeast affects much of Midwest

**Ohio speaks
to Midwest as
blackout spreads**

**Blackout
coverage**

The image shows a newspaper page from 'THE PLAIN DEALER' with a large headline 'BLACKOUT' and a sub-headline 'Millions struggle without power'. The page features several columns of text, a large photograph of a city street with cars and streetlights, and a map of the Northeast and Midwest regions. The text discusses the impact of a power outage on millions of people, including mentions of Obama and the Midwest.

Are Your Utilities Prepared?

Your utilities will need help.



Who will they call for help?

Are You Prepared?

Every Water Service is Running & Water System is Depressurizing.



Who will you
Call?

What Happens When Your Utility is out of Service?

- Water Systems
 - Lack of safe drinking water.
 - Eventually there is no water for Fire Suppression.
 - Toilets no longer flush leading to unsanitary conditions.
 - Schools and Businesses are forced to close.
- Sewer System
 - Untreated wastewater is discharged to the environment.
 - Waste water can back up into basements or flood neighborhoods.

Why is OH WARN Needed

- Utility operations are specialized.
- We must be self-sufficient.
- Assist with filling the gap.
- Community recovery efforts rely on W/WW systems.
- Large events impact regional areas.
- Disasters impact employees.

Benefits of Membership

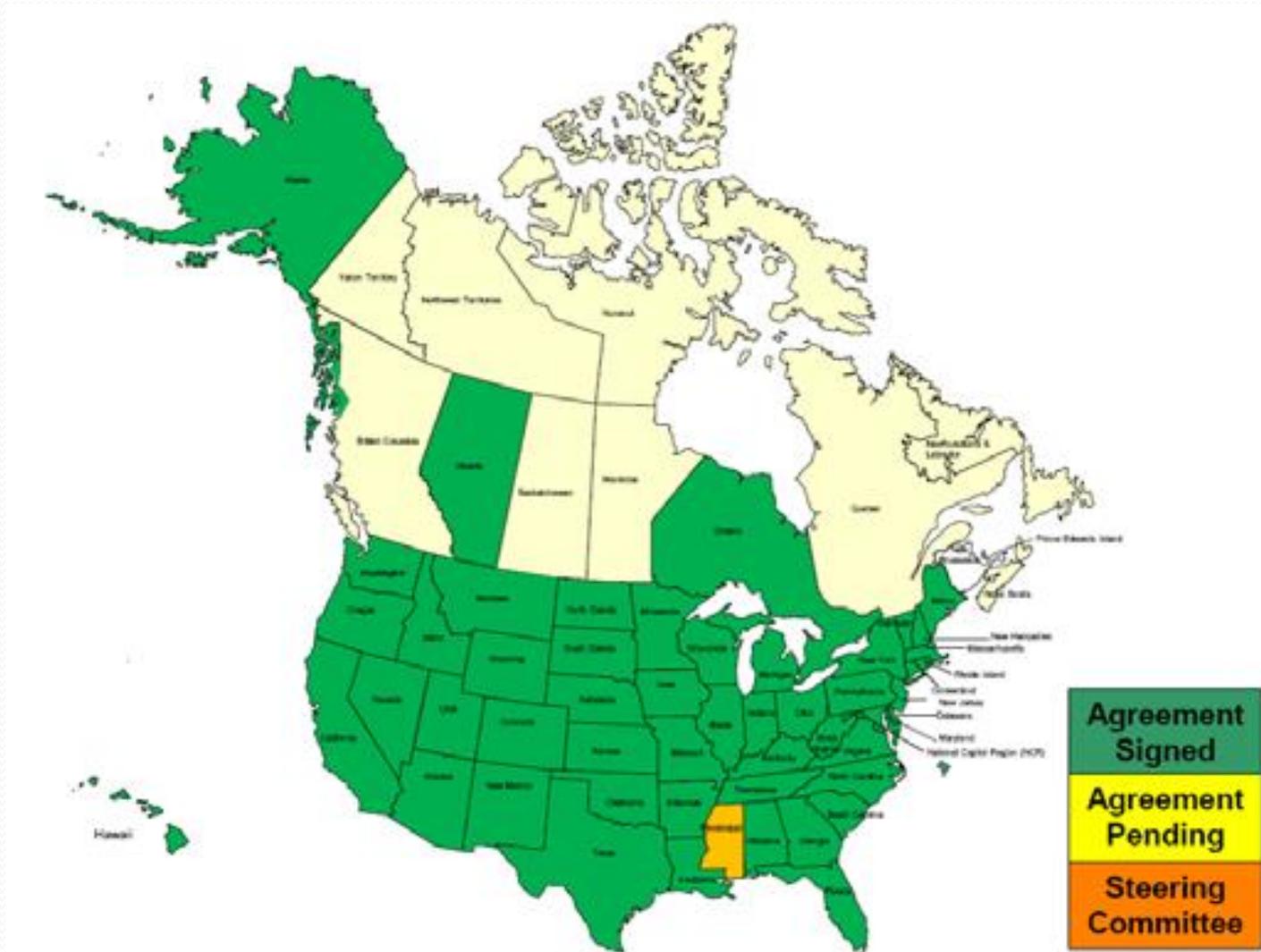
- Emergency Contact list of other Utilities
- Important part of the Utilities Emergency Operations Plan
- Provides Enhanced Access to Specialized Resources
- Single pre-executed agreement
 - Expedites arrival of assistance.
 - Reduced Administrative effort.
 - Similar to Fire and Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreements
- Assistance in maintaining Continuity of operations.

Membership Costs

- \$0.00
- No Obligation to Assist
 - Utilities decide if and when.



Ohio 14th State with Agreement



64 Member Utilities April 14, 2014

Aqua Ohio, Inc.	City of Painesville	Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
Butler County	City of Pataskala	Preble County Sewer Districts
City of Akron	City of Perrysburg	Rural Lorain County Water Authority
City of Avon Lake	City of Piqua Utilities	Village of Anna
City of Cincinnati - GCWW	City of Ravenna	Village of Archbold
City of Cincinnati - Metropolitan SD	City of Stow	Village of Chagrin Falls
City of Cleveland	City of Struthers	Village of Delta
City of Columbus	City Of Sylvania	Village of Fayette
City of Dayton	City of Troy, Ohio	Village of Green Springs
City of Elyria Water	City of Wadsworth	Village of Hebron
City of Fairborn	City of Warren	Village of Jackson Center
City of Fremont	City of Wooster	Village of Jewett
City of Hamilton	Defiance County	Village of Leetonia
City of Hudson	Earnhart Hill Regional W & S District	Village of Lodi
City of Huron	Eastern Ohio Regional WW Authority	Village of McComb
City of Martins Ferry	Lucas County Sanitary Engineer	Village of Middleport
City of Middletown	Mahoning Valley Sanitary District	Village of Ottawa
City of Napoleon	Marion County HS & EMA	Village of Sebring
City of New Carlisle	Mendon Utility Department	Village of Wellington
City of Newark	Miami County	Village of Whitehouse
City of North Royalton	Montgomery County Envir. Services	Village of Yellow Springs
		Warren Community W & S Assoc. Inc.

The OH WARN Operational Plan is coordinated with local and state authorities.

- Coordinated response and access to restricted areas relies on communication between OH WARN and the following groups or organizations:
 - Utilities
 - Local emergency management agencies
 - State emergency management agency
 - State drinking water primacy agency
 - State wastewater permitting authority
 - Local and State law enforcement authorities
- The relationship between OH WARN, state and local agencies, and utilities, is defined by the OH WARN Agreement and documented in the OH WARN Operational Plan. Exercising with Utility Members, Associate Members, and other response agencies facilitates an increased level of preparedness to respond to an actual emergency.

Who Leads WARN Program

- State Steering Committee
 - Volunteers from Member Utilities.
 - Volunteers from stakeholders and support organizations.
- Nationally it is supported by paid staff at AWWA and EPA.

OHWarn Steering Committee

Position	Current Office Holder	Place of Employment
Chair	Randy Gilbert	Preble County Sanitary Engineer
Vice Chair	Daryl Key	NEORS
Secretary	Phil Van Atta	Dayton
NE District Coordinator	Mitch Reese	Wadsworth
NW District Coordinator	Jason Phillips	Ottawa
SE District Coordinator	Jim Tindle	Columbus Water
SW District Coordinator	Keith Baker	Montgomery County
Advisor 1	Tom Fishbaugh	Ohio RCAP
Advisor 2	Tim Ballard	Ohio Rural Water Association
Advisor 3	To Be Named	Ohio EPA
Advisor 4	Patrick Sheehan	Ohio EMA
Advisor 5		

How Does WARN Operate

- Utility with need sends blast e-mail from web site.
 - Or Calls District Coordinator who does it for them.
- Utilities with available resources to assist respond per instructions in e-mail.
- In a larger event these responses would be coordinated with the appropriate local or state EOC or EMAC.
 - Should scale of event warrant WARN may have presence in EOC
- WARN is designed to work in parallel with Emergency operations with coordination with EMA's as situations dictate.

County EMA Officers Can Join

- Every County EMA office is encouraged to join.
- Sign-up is simple
- Go to www.ohwarn.org and select new member registration.
- You will be granted privileges as a non-utility member.
- Will receive all requests for assistance posted to site.
- Will be able to post assistance requests for your member utilities.

Case Study

August 7th 2:57 PM

Good afternoon Randy,

The City of Cleveland Division of Water is in urgent need of two 24" Victaulics couplings. We have contacted Victaulic but have been informed it will take about a week before we can get them. We have had a failure on a 24" main coming out of one of our treatment plants that is affecting our entire First High pressure district.. We have implemented a workaround feed to temporarily supply the area but are not certain how well this will work – reverse flow, different pressures, etc.

Can the WARN network be contacted to see if anyone has two of these: 24" Victaulic cplg style 44 with E gasket, plated bolts and shop primer coated Part number C240044PE0. If someone does, we would need to talk with them on further details, as well as make arrangement to pick them up. They would get the new ones as soon as received. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. I can be reached at the below number until 4:30 pm, and at 216-??? anytime. You can also reach Kim Thompson, our Chief of Distribution at 216-348-7277 or by cell at 216-???-???. I have copied him as well as our WARN representative, Payton Hall.

Thank you for your assistance

Melinda L. Raimann
Administrative Manager
Distribution & Maintenance
Cleveland Division of Water
216-664-2444 x 5638
216-348-7292 (fax)
melinda_raimann@clevelandwater.com

Response

- August 7th
 - 3:13 PM Copy of Request for assistance sent to all OHWARN members
- August 8th
 - 8:22 AM inquired if any assistance had been received, only offer of gaskets.
 - 9:32 AM Forwarded request to Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Illinois, and Kevin Morley.
 - 9:42 AM Kevin Morley forwarded to all WARNS in Regions 1-7

Response Cont'd

- August 9th
 - 3:01 PM notified by City of Cleveland that parts had been located at a Hanson Pipe facility in Canada and were on a plane to them.
 - 3:12 PM All WARNS notified that request had been met.
 - 3:17 PM Kevin Morley also sent request to close all open requests for assistance on this matter.

Excerpt From Sandy After Action Report

- **Intrastate Mutual Aid & Assistance**
- **Success:** Multiple WARNs activated to provide resources to impacted utilities as Sandy approached and passed through the eastern United States. The WARNs had already been working to increase membership and improve operational efficiency and effectiveness in sharing resources to restore systems to normal operating conditions.
- **Improvement:** Increasing WARN membership further will allow a greater number of utilities to access resources from other utilities. Increasing WARN connectivity to local and state Emergency Operation Centers (EOCs) will ensure a more efficient and effective deployment of resources to support affected systems and reduce the burden on emergency management agencies.
- **Key Action: Increase participation in WARN and representation in local and state EOCs.**

Excerpt From Sandy After Action Report

- **Energy and Water Nexus in Disasters**
- **Success:** Many utilities have taken steps to identify their vulnerabilities to power loss and have taken preventive action, such as increasing storage capacity and utilizing backup power strategies to ensure continued operations.
- **Improvement:** Despite these preparations, loss of power was the single greatest factor affecting water sector operations, even at utilities with backup generators. **Many requests for generator and/or fuel support were either denied or not rated high priority, thus creating significant risk of cascading consequence that would impact larger community recovery efforts.** The ownership status of a water system should not alter priority for response and recovery needs.
- **Key Action:** Water sector requests for generator and fuel support must be shared with the WARN and the Emergency Support Function 3 – Public Works (ESF 3) 3 desk in the EOC. In addition, the Department of Energy (DOE) must make restoration of power to water sector assets a top priority for all power distribution providers. Utilities should continue to assess their energy management strategies to continue normal operations after a power failure. A diverse set of strategies exists for utilities that should be customized for their specific conditions.

Excerpt From Sandy After Action Report

- **Elevating the Priority Status of Water Infrastructure**
- **Success:** Many utilities have worked with their response partners at the local, state and federal level as well as critical customers and response partners to ensure awareness exists related to the critical nature of drinking water and wastewater services, particularly public health and safety activities such as firefighting and providing safe drinking water. The recognition of this criticality, and associated response activities to support the water sector, can mitigate the impacts of cascading failures in other sectors and therefore the overall economic impact on the community.
- **Improvement:** In some cases, there was limited recognition that drinking water and wastewater utilities represent a critical lifeline sector essential to community continuity and recovery. The cascading economic and environmental impacts of an operational issue are not well recognized, so preventive actions to mitigate risk of failure were not consistently rated high priority. This resulted in the following challenges for utilities: lack of support for backup power and fuel requests, difficulties for utility personnel trying to access their facilities to assess and/or repair damage, and a lack of coordination among response partners.
- **Key Action:** Federal/state/local policy for emergency management must clearly elevate the water sector to top-level priority for response and recovery as recommended by the NIAC. 2 Water utilities should continue to work with their critical response partners and customers to ensure that water sector response activities are coordinated, awareness exists with regard to backup power and fuel needs, and coordination of credentialing and site access controls is done in advance.

Excerpt From Sandy After Action Report

- **Elevating the Priority Status of Water Infrastructure**
- Historically, recognition of water and wastewater utilities' role as a critical lifeline sector essential to community continuity and recovery has been limited. This theme, repeated following multiple large-scale events, was finally a major stimulus for the WARN initiative following Hurricane Katrina.
- While improvements have been made, understanding is limited within the emergency management community of the cascading economic and environmental impacts that can result from service disruptions in the water sector. The absence of clear prioritization criteria is then manifested in issues related to power restoration and fuel support for emergency generators, utility access to key facilities and overall coordination of community restoration efforts.
- **In several instances**, the scale of the impact garnered significant federal support from the USACE and USEPA for several wastewater systems (Passaic Valley and Middlesex, NJ) that had sustained severe damage, resulting in a significant sewage release. The resources and the type of support provided to these systems were beyond the scope that could be reasonable sustained via EMAC or WARN, in addition to the complex regulatory issues.

Oh-WARN

Water and Wastewater Response Network



Ohwarn.org

Questions



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Ohwarn.org