

Georgia WARN

Water/Wastewater Agencies Response Network

Mission

The mission of the Georgia WARN is to support and promote statewide emergency preparedness, disaster response, and mutual aid assistance for both public and private water and wastewater utilities during natural and man-made events.

The goals of the Georgia WARN are to provide:

- A mutual assistance agreement and process for sharing emergency resources among water and wastewater agencies statewide.
- A mutual assistance program consistent with other statewide mutual aid and assistance programs and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- The resources to respond and recover quickly from a natural or man-made disaster.
- A forum for developing and maintaining emergency contacts and relationships.



What is a WARN?

Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (WARN) is a network of utilities helping utilities to:

- Prepare for the next natural or man-made caused emergency
- Organize response according to established requirements
- Share personnel and other resources statewide by agreement



Past disaster response tells us that:

- Utility operations are specialized
- Utilities must be self-sufficient and fill the gap between disaster onset and arrival of other government aid
- Customers can live without power and phone interruptions, not without water

Water restoration provides hope!!

What can a WARN do for you?

In order to be eligible for federal grants and reimbursements before, during, and after an emergency currently, all local, state and tribal governments, associations and non-governmental and private organizations are to

- Operate under the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- Support the development of interstate mutual aid programs.
- Integrate response at the field, local and state levels of government.

A WARN program will help facilitate meeting these requirements.

Participation

The GA WARN Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement is available to all public and private water and wastewater utilities in the state at www.gawarn.org.



Georgia WARN Benefits

- › No cost to participate.
- › Increased planning and coordination.
- › Enhance access to specialized resources.
- › A single agreement provides access to all member utilities statewide.
- › Provides insurance for access to resources during an emergency without pre-contractual limitations or retainer fees.
- › Expedites arrival of aid.
- › Members have a pre-established relationship under which they are able to share resources during an emergency at the discretion of each participating agency.
- › Is consistent with the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- › Provides a list of emergency contacts and phone numbers.
- › Reduces administrative conflicts.
- › Agreement contains indemnification and workers' compensation provisions to protect participating utilities, and provides for reimbursement of costs, as needed.
- › Avoid federal bureaucracy.
- › Increases hope that recovery comes quickly.

Who is involved?

- Georgia municipality owners/operators
- Georgia Association of Water Professionals, Georgia Rural Water Association, Georgia Section - American Water Works Association, Georgia Section - Water Environment Federation, American Water Works Association, National Rural Water Association.
- Georgia Environmental Protection Division, Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4
- Georgia Department of Homeland Security, Georgia Emergency Management Agency, Georgia Municipal Association, Georgia Environmental Facilities Agency

For more information call:

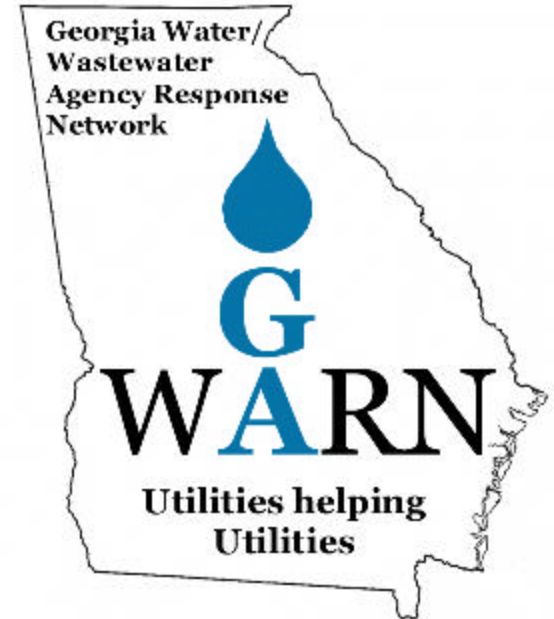
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Website - GaWARN.org