



Building Resilient Communities: How Public Works Mutual Aid Supports Emergency Operations

Thursday, June 11, 2026

- 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. ET
- 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. CT
- 9:00 a.m. -10:00 a.m. MT
- 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. PT


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Emergency Management Committee

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Program is
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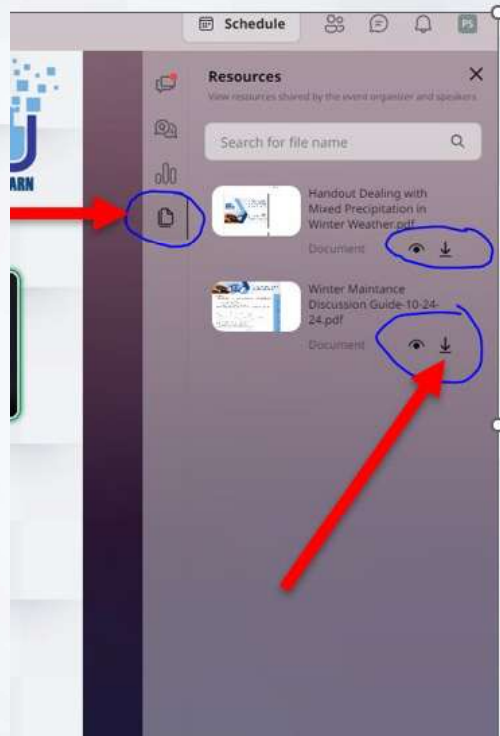
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Handout for Today's Program can be download from the right-hand chat panel.



Viewing the Presentation



Communication & Engagement Opportunities

Copy of Managing Public Art in the Right-of-Way

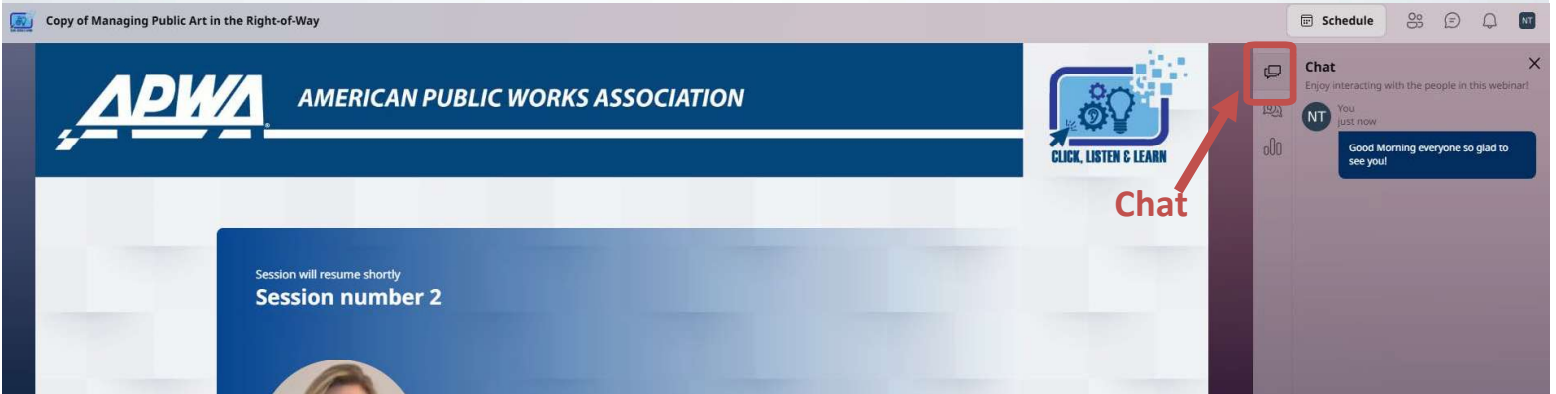
APWA AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION

CLICK, LISTEN & LEARN

Chat

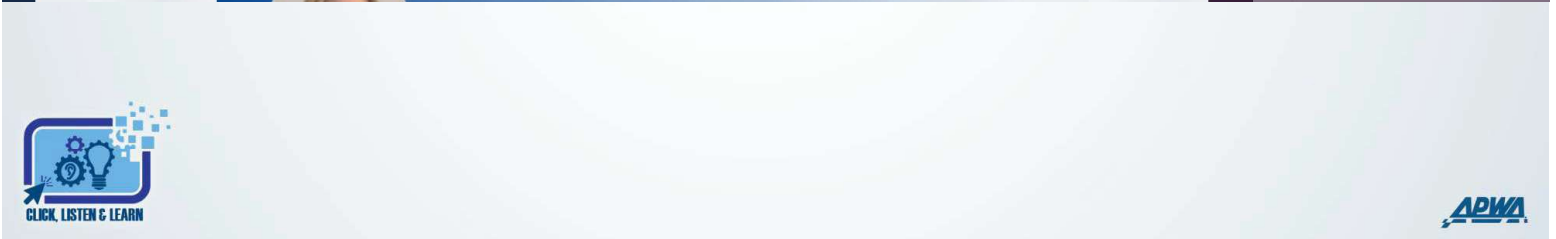
Session will resume shortly
Session number 2

Chat
Enjoy interacting with the people in this webinar!
NT You just now
Good Morning everyone so glad to see you!



CLICK, LISTEN & LEARN

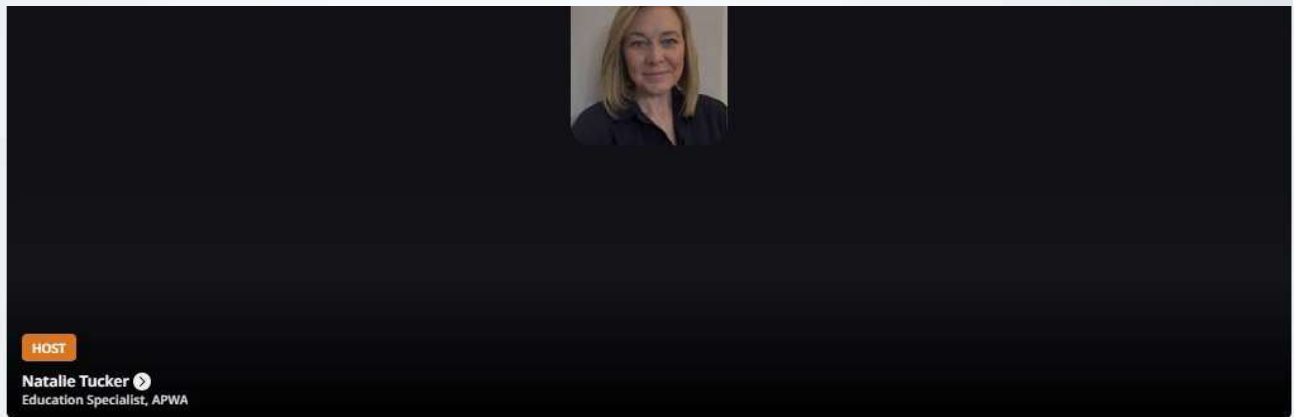
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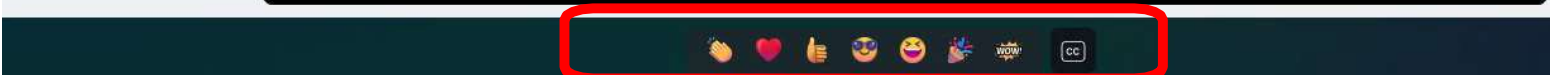
Reactions

HOST

Natalie Tucker ▶
Education Specialist, APWA



👏 ❤️ 👍 😎 😊 🎉 WOW! CC



CLICK, LISTEN & LEARN

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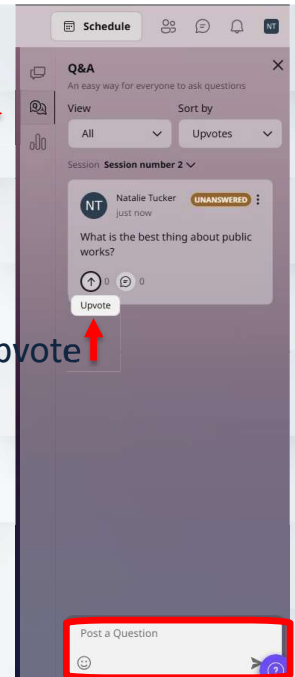
Program Questions

1. If you have questions for our speakers, you may ask them using the Q&A feature.

2. Choose to Upvote a question that is the same as your question.

Q & A →

Upvote ↑



Nominations to join an APWA knowledge team or subcommittee are considered year-round. Share your interest via the QR code below.



Get Involved with APWA

Today's Moderator:



Jason Stawski
General Manager
Evergreen
Metropolitan District



Learning Objectives

After completing this course, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the purpose and key components of formal public works mutual aid networks.
- Compare the structure, activation processes, and capabilities of CoWARN, IPWMAN, and the Massachusetts Highway Association.
- Describe how mutual aid networks support public works agencies during emergency response and recovery.



Today's Speakers



Christopher Bouchard
Co-Chair Mutual Aid Program
Massachusetts Highway
Association



Gregg Stoneciper
Water Production Director
City of Fort Collins Water One
Co-Chair Co-Warn



Today's Speakers



Mark Doerfler
Executive Director
Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network



Chris Drey
Public Works Director
Village of Romeoville, IL



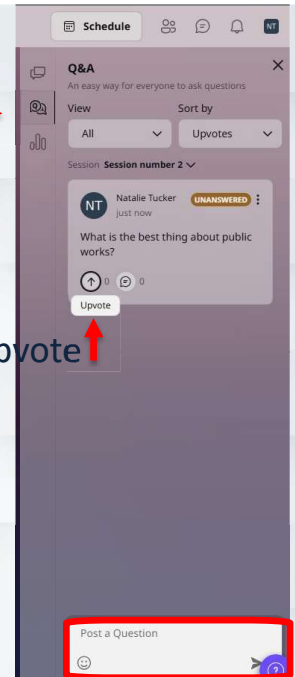
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Q & A →

Upvote ↑



Please join us in the virtual lounge for continued discussion





Massachusetts Highway Association

Christopher Bouchard
Co-Chair of Public Works Mutual Aid
Massachusetts Highway Association



Massachusetts Highway Association

Who we are and who we serve

- 351 Cities and Towns
- 6 Highway Associations
- Bordered by 5 States and the Atlantic Ocean
- MassDOT and the 6 Highway Districts
- Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency



Public Works Mutual Aid

- We received Statewide Public Works Mutual Aid Legislation in 2010
- We serve all 351 communities in Massachusetts
- Any community can request aid
- Providing aid is voluntary
- Opting in to mutual aid



How to Activate Mutual Aid

- Contacting us
- Request is started in our GIS Form
- What is the request and can we verify the emergency
- Requesting resources to assist with the emergency



Resources Deployed

- What resources are typically deployed
 - Dump trucks
 - Loaders
 - Chainsaw crews
 - Bucket trucks
 - Message boards



Things to Consider

- Why should you join
- Do you have specialty equipment
- Do you have specially trained staff
- Do you have capacity to help



Common Questions

- Who is insurance covers employees
- Who is responsible if our equipment is damaged
- Who is paying our employees
- How long will we send our help for
- Can we seek reimbursement
- What do we tell our residents



National Water Agency Response Network (WARN) System

Gregg D. Stonecipher
Co-Chair
CoWARN





Steering Committee

Bob Calley - CoChair
Genesee Water District



Kyra Gregory, CDPHE liaison
Colorado Department of Public
Health and Environment



Gregg Stonecipher - CoChair
City of Fort Collins



What is a WARN?

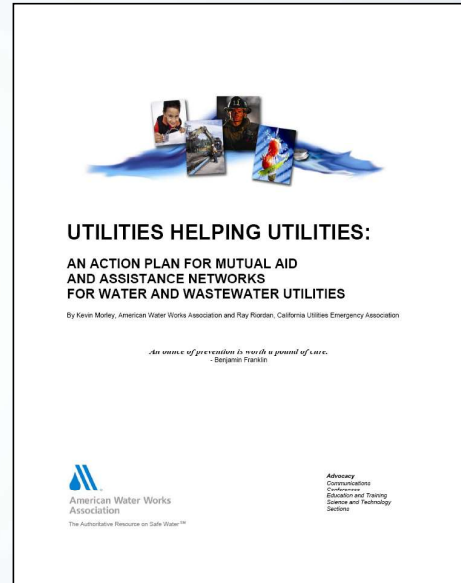
Why do we have WARN?

How does CoWARN work?



The WARN Action Plan - March 2006

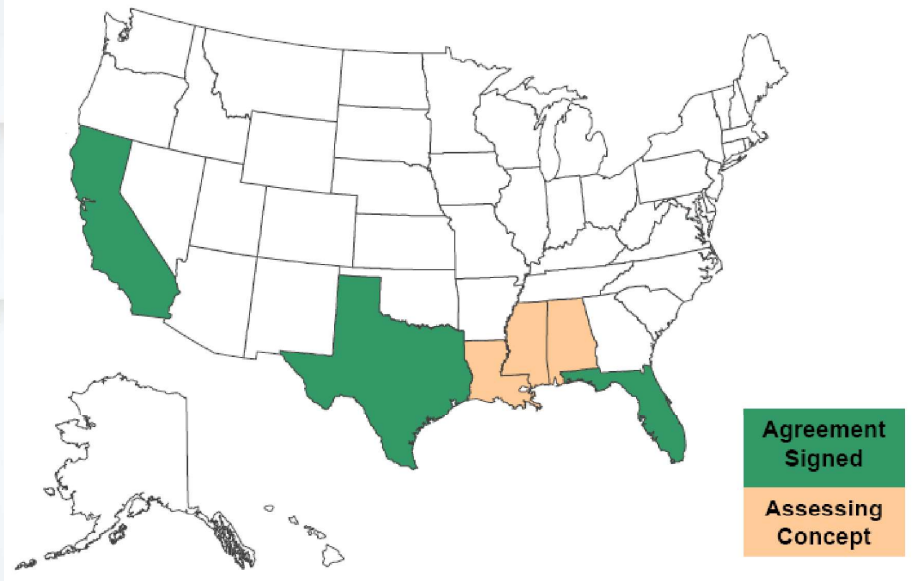
- **WARN Agreement**
 - Voluntary
 - No Obligation
 - No cost to join
 - Liability/Workman's Comp
 - Reimbursement process
 - Element of NIMS
 - All-Hazards



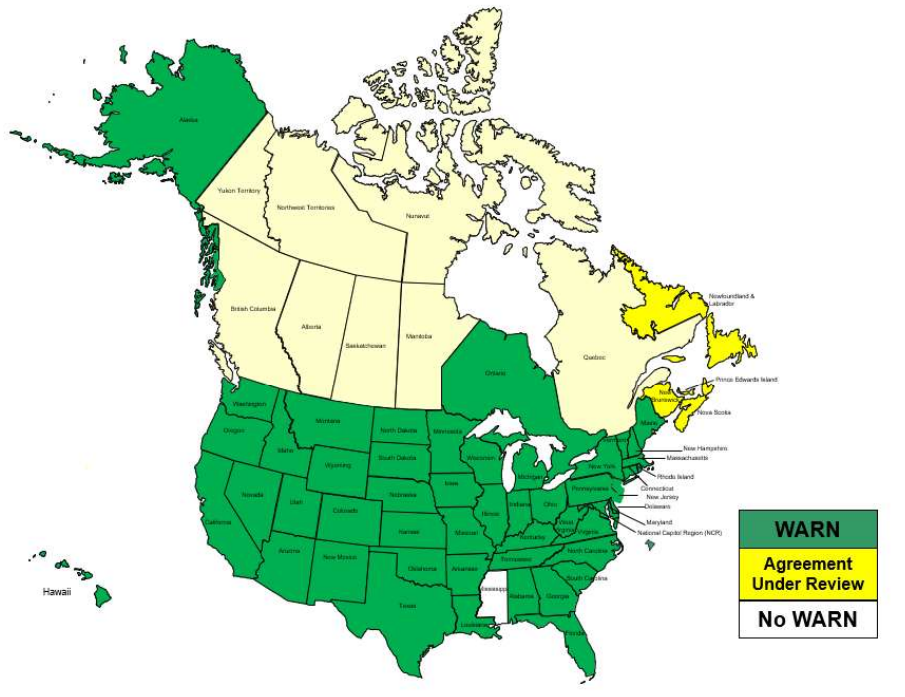
- **CalWARN (1992)** - Based on the 1991 East Bay Hills Firestorm, CalOES established the East Bay Hills Firestorm Blue Ribbon Panel whose report recommended establishment of a mutual aid program for water.
- **FlaWARN (2005)** – Established in response to impacts on multiple water system in 2004 hurricane season (Charlie, Frances, Jeanne, and Ivan) based on a CalWARN presentation at ACE24.
- Then in 2005 Katrina & Rita battered the Gulf Coast.



The Beginning (April 2006)

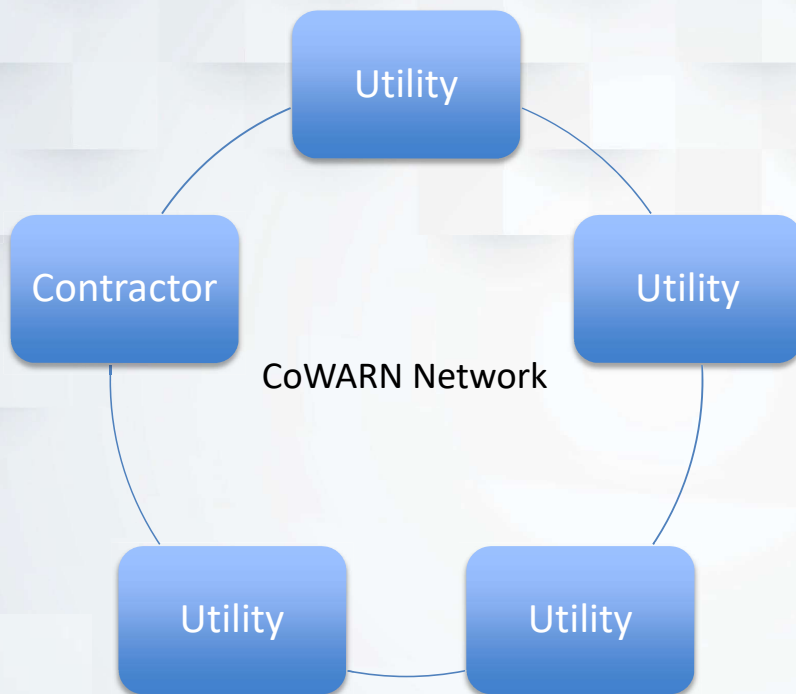
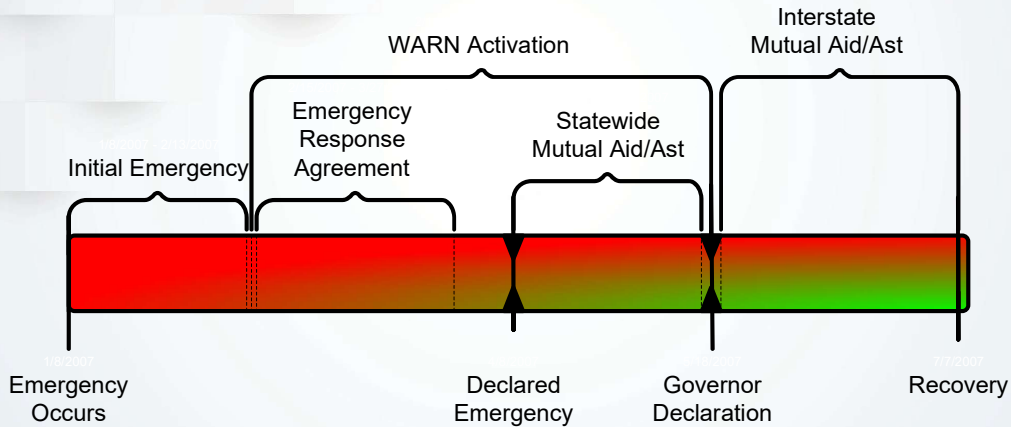


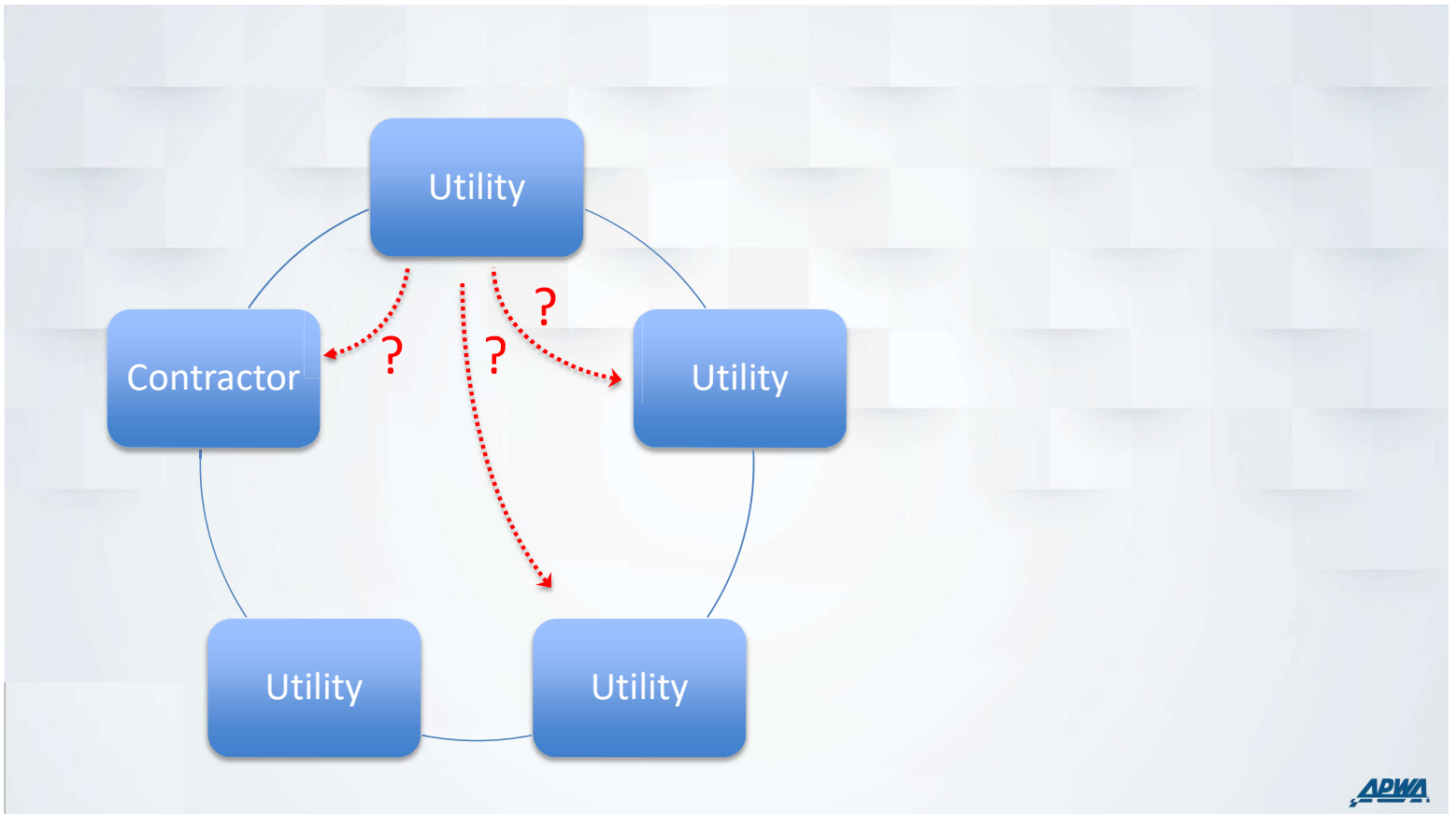
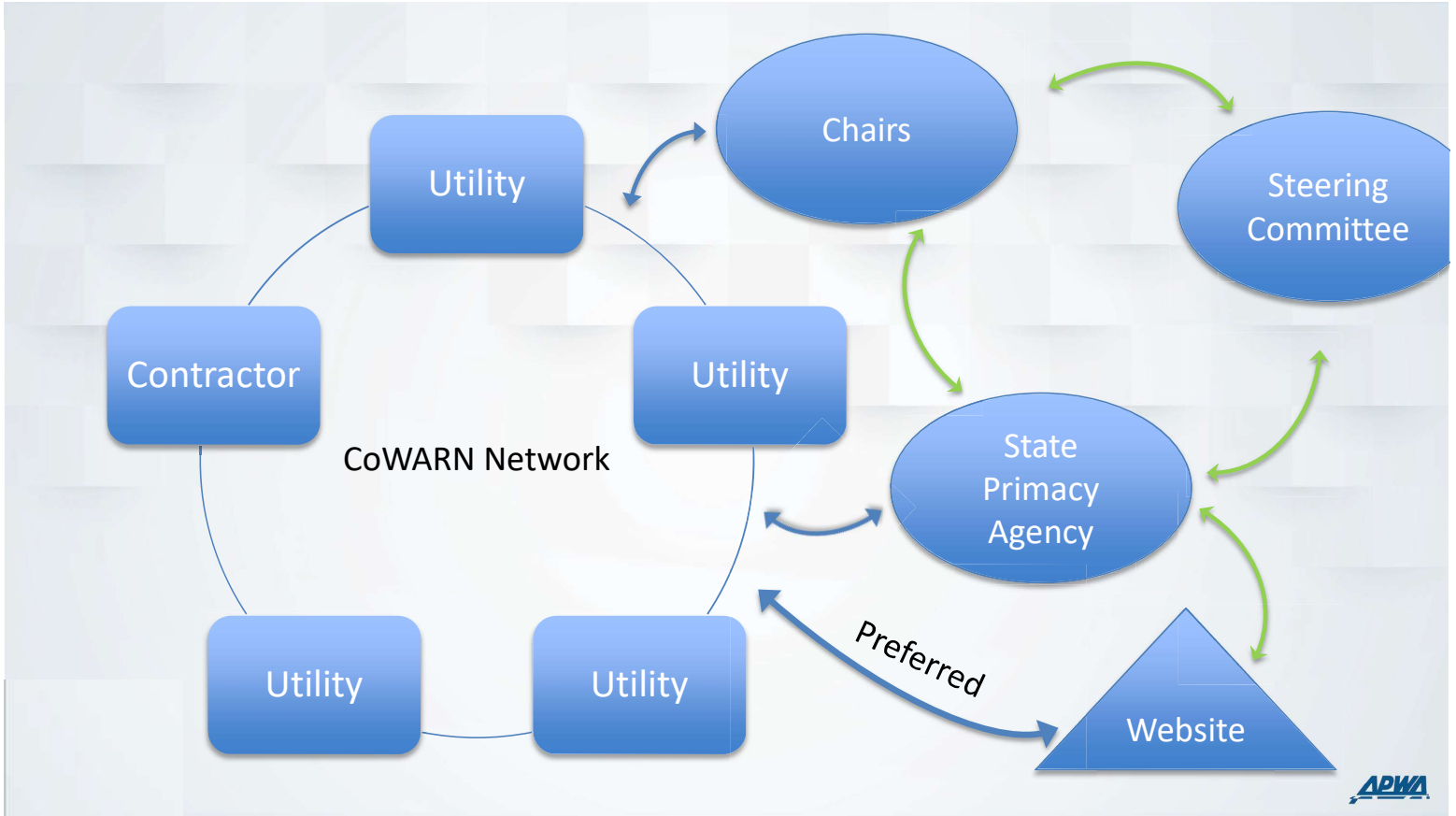
Today

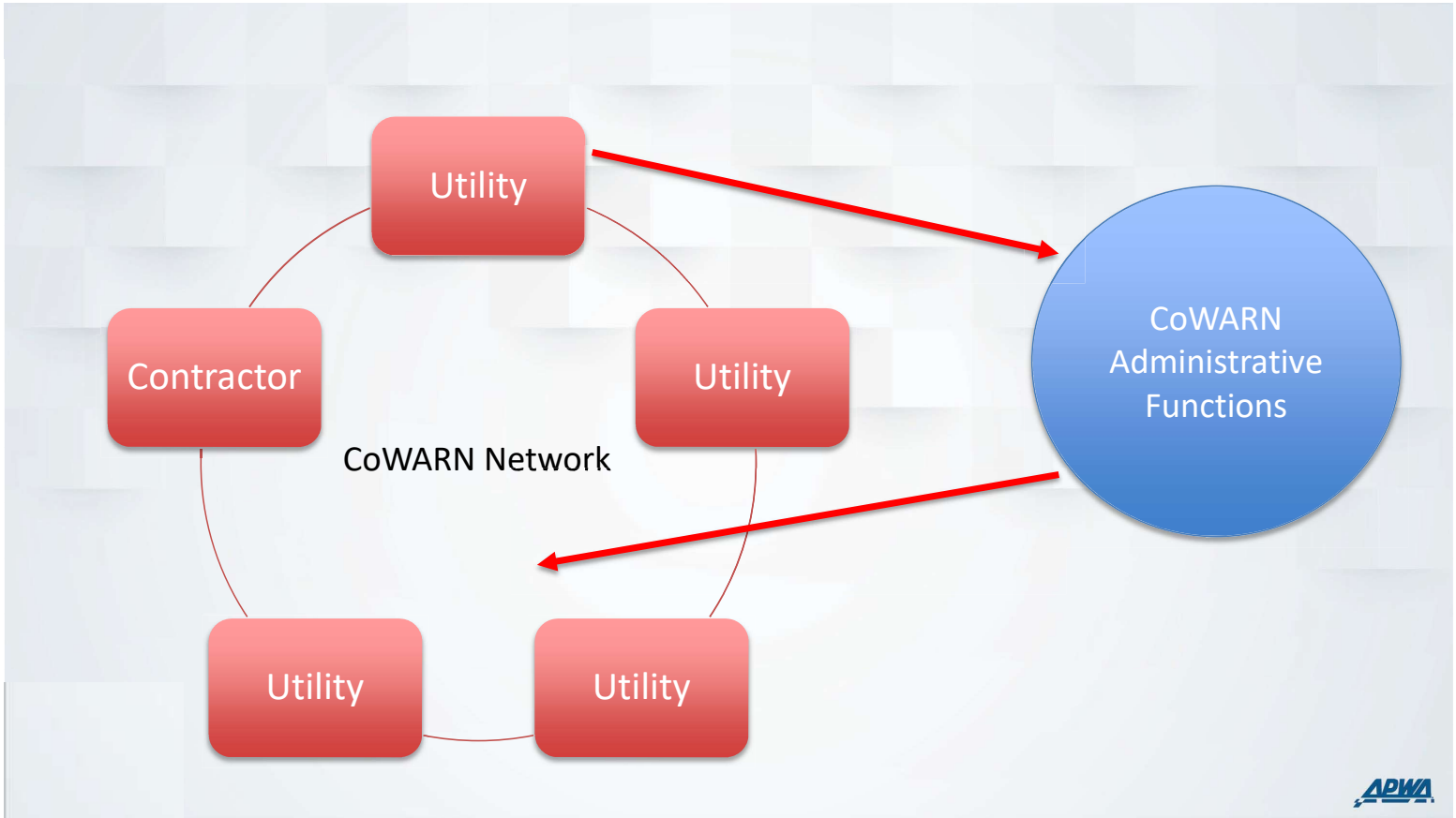
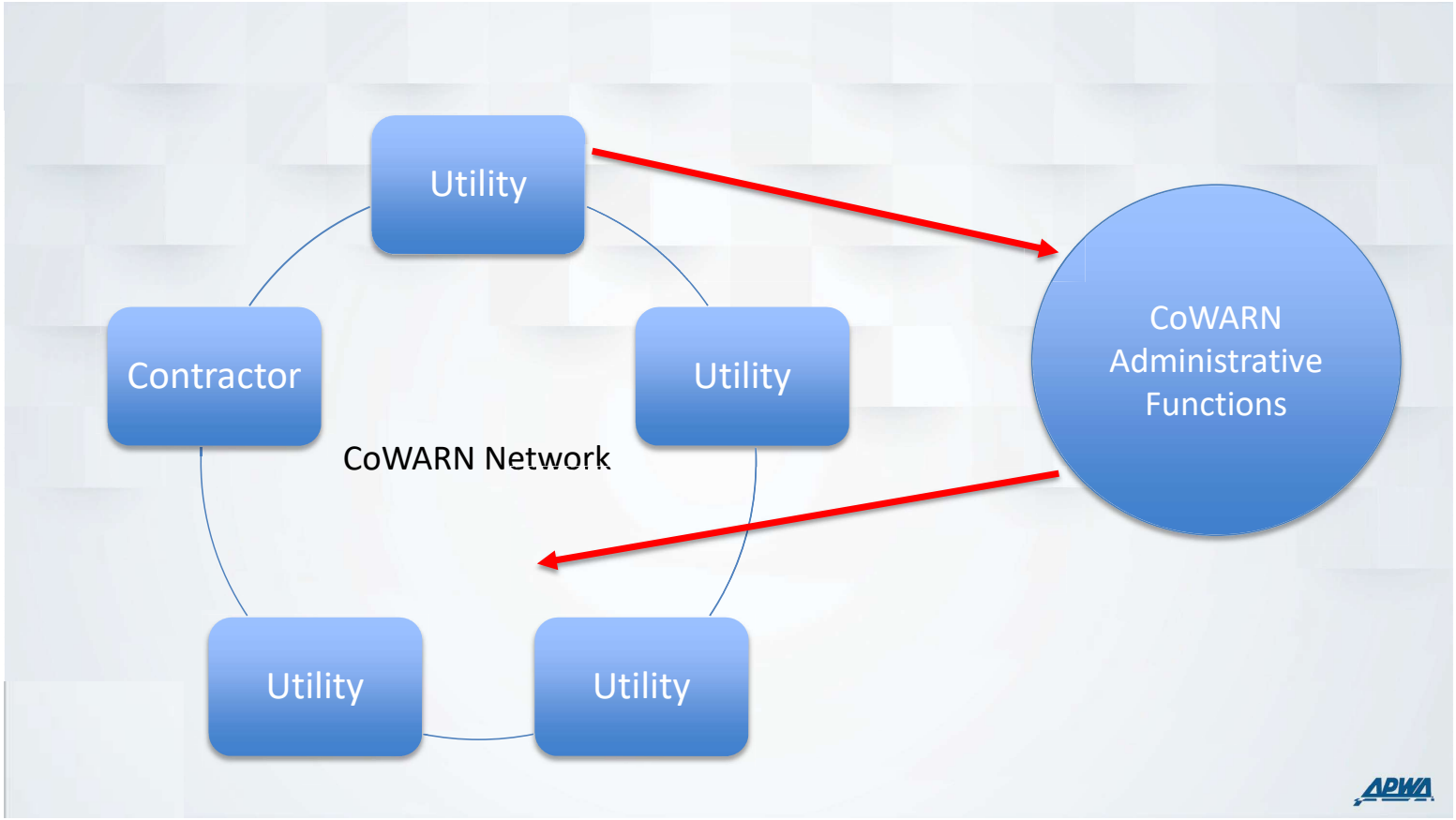


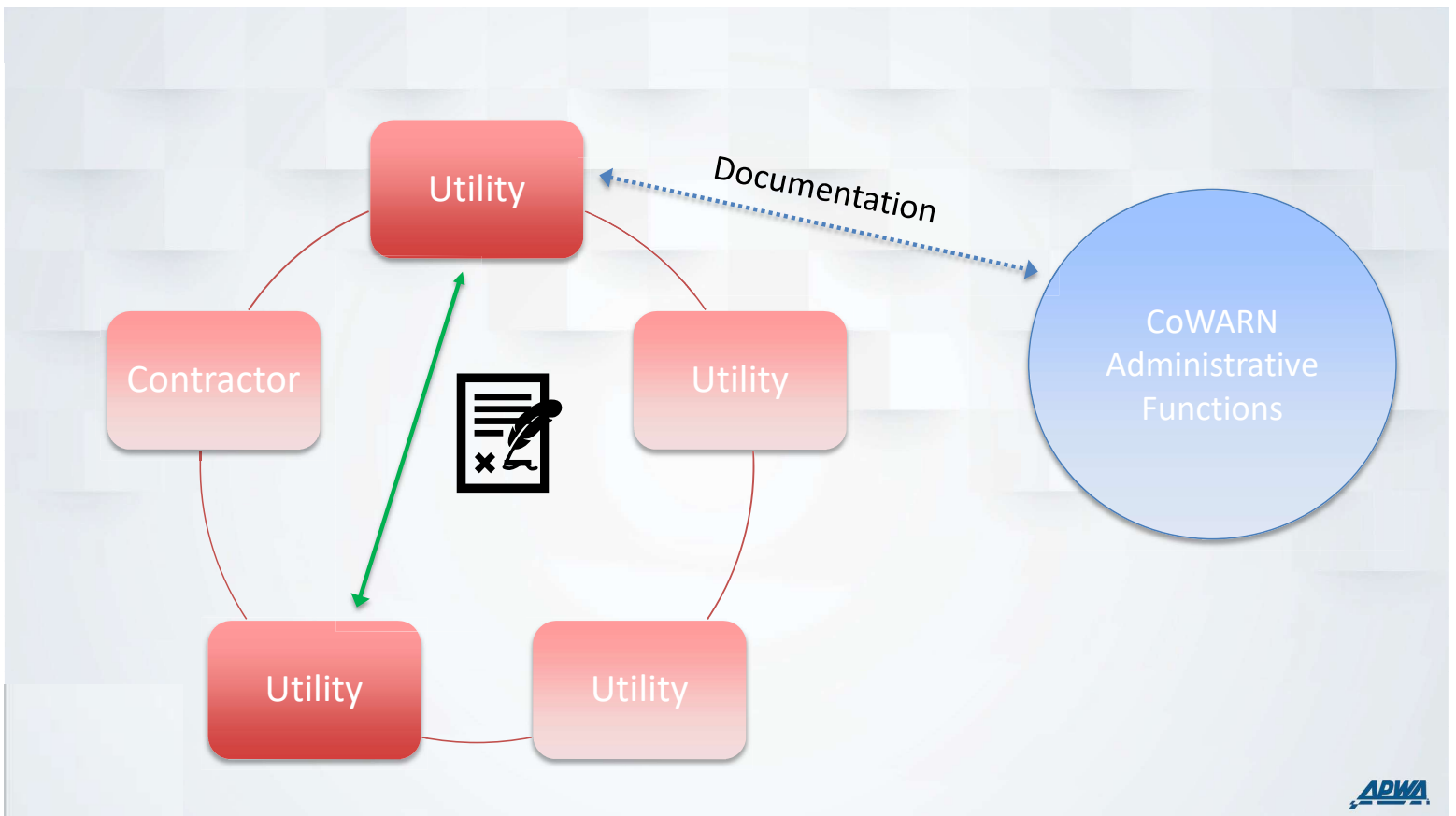
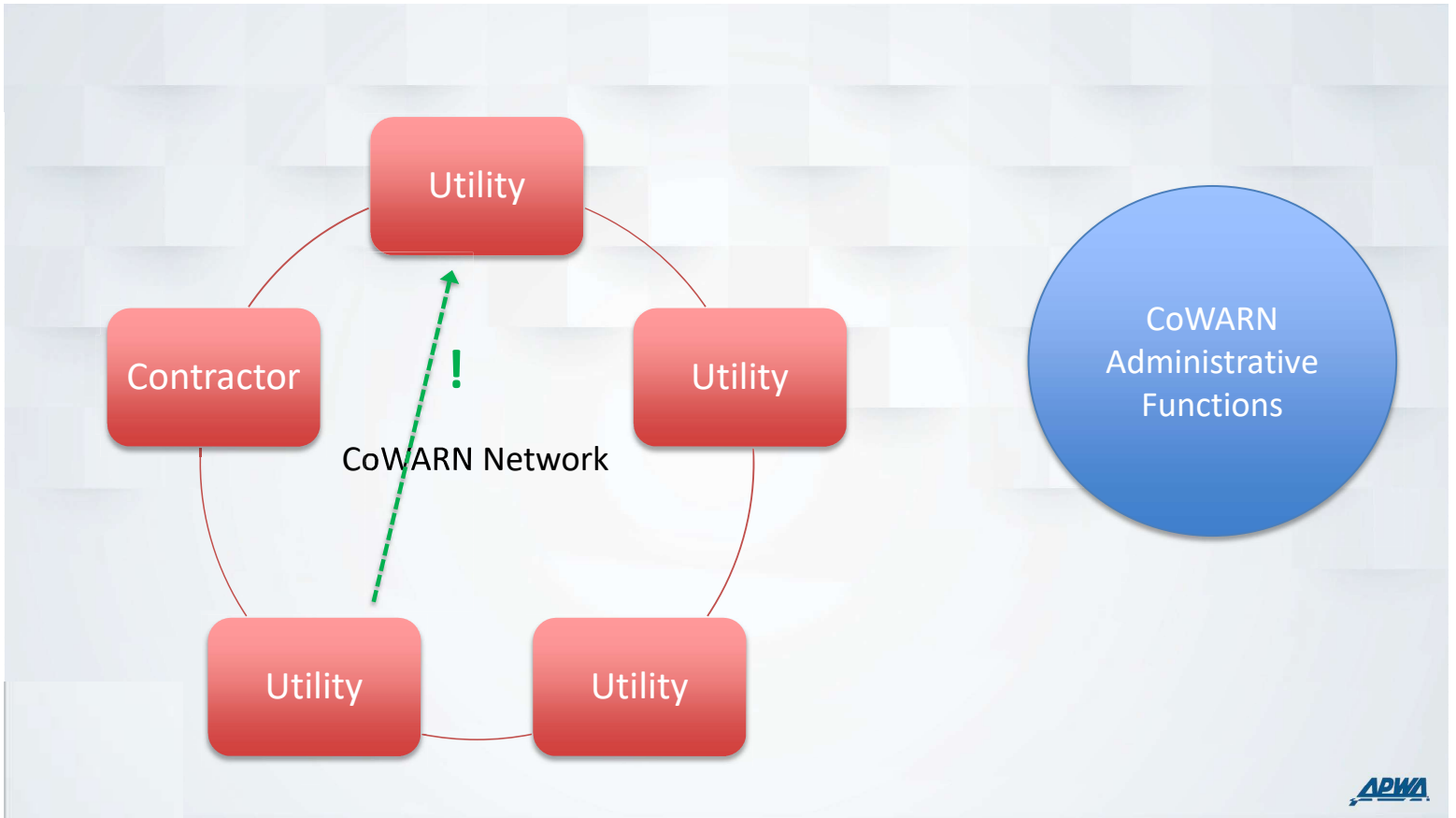
WARN Bridges the Gap

- **WARN does not require state or federal declaration AND includes private utility resources.**

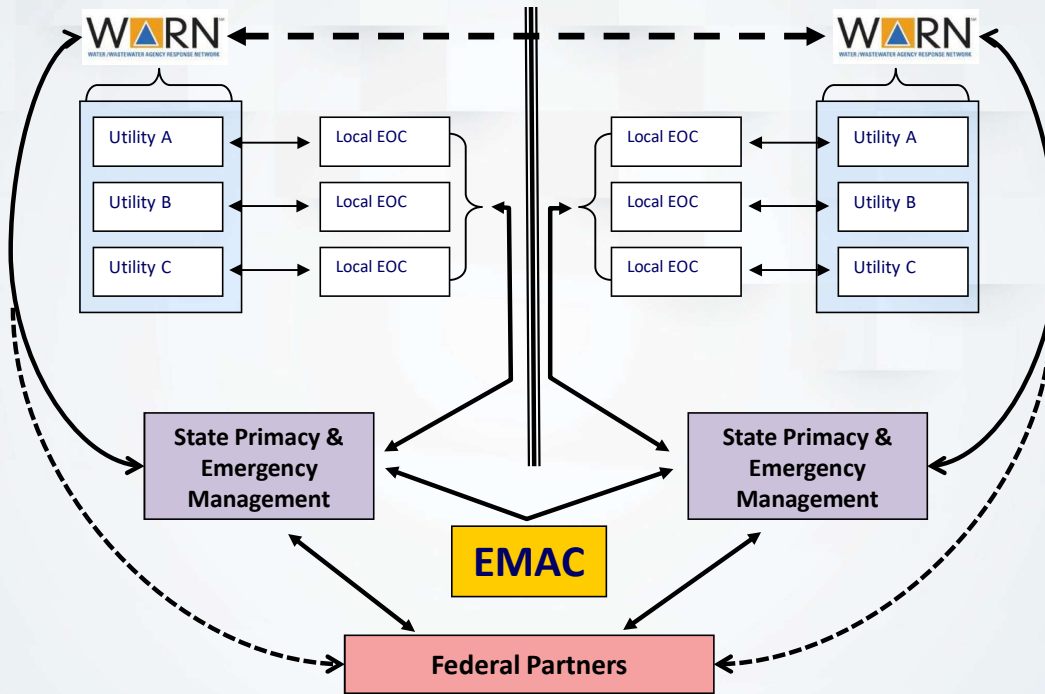








COORDINATION & COMMUNICATIONS... IN ALL DIRECTIONS AS PARTNERS



Kentucky 2022 Flood Example

Who Deployed?

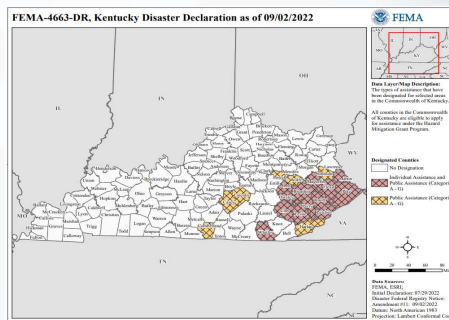
1. Ashland Water Works
2. Barbourville Water and Electric
3. Bowling Green Municipal Utilities
4. Cannonsburg Water District
5. City of Madisonville
6. City of Nicholasville
7. Corbin City Utilities Commission
8. Danville City Water Works
9. Frankfort Plant Board
10. Georgetown Municipal Water & Sewer
11. Hardin County Water District No. 2
12. Hyden-Leslie Co. Water District
13. Jackson County Water Association
14. LaGrange Utilities Commission
15. Laurel County Water District #2
16. London Utility Commission
17. Louisville Water Company
18. McCreary County Water District
19. Morehead Utility Plant Board
20. Morgan Co. Water District
21. Oldham Co. Water District
22. Owensboro Municipal Utilities
23. Owensboro Regional Water Resource Agency
24. Paintsville City Utilities
25. Prestonsburg City Utilities Commission

Who Got Help?

1. Letcher Co. WD
2. Knott Co WSD
3. Hindman
4. Hazard
5. Fleming-Neon
6. Breathitt Co. WD

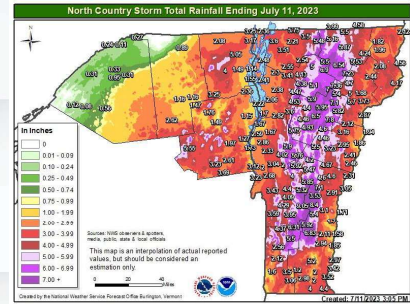
What was Done?

- a. Damage Assessment
- b. Cover Exposed Line
- c. Repair / Replace Water Main
- d. Repressurize Distribution System
- e. Repair / Replace Customer Service
- f. Sewer Line Jetting
- g. Sewer Hydrovac
- h. Provided Pipe & Repair Material
- i. Provided Equipment



VTWARN in Action - July 2023

- VRWA staff supports VTWARN activations
- Over 20 systems on BWA
- Dewatering pumps, generators and pipe repairs
- VRWA Trailer deployed to several sites to assist with response/recovery with circuit riders providing support



Images Courtesy of Liz Royer, Vermont RWA



NVWARN in Action – Sept 2023

- TS Hilary flooding in Kyle Canyon
- Over 6 feet of soil displacement

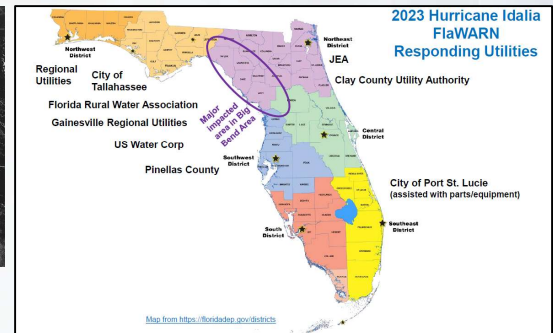
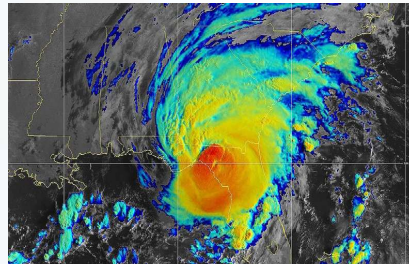


Images Courtesy of Corey Ross, NVWARN Chair (LVVWD)



FlaWARN in Action - August 2023

- Hurricane Idalia
- Big Bend area most heavily impacted
- Generators, distribution repair teams



Images Courtesy of Kevin Carter, FlaWARN Chair (Broward County)



FlaWARN & Helene

- During Helene 80-90 personnel deployed, most response actions completed by 10/8
- Focused on 3 Big Bend coastal towns (Steinhatchee, Keating Beach, and Suwannee) that had an estimated 20 ft storm surge in Taylor County (photo)
- Support was also provided in Pinellas County (St. Petersburg/Clearwater) and Longboat Key (Sarasota and Manatee Counties south of Tampa Bay region)



NCWaterWARN Helene Response

- **Crews from 16 utilities & NCRWA supporting 17 systems**
 - 57 missions completed
- Coordinated with FEMA, USEPA, USACE and State ongoing
- DC Water deployed Incident Management Team via EMAC
- September 30 to November 2 amount to **1,824 hours**

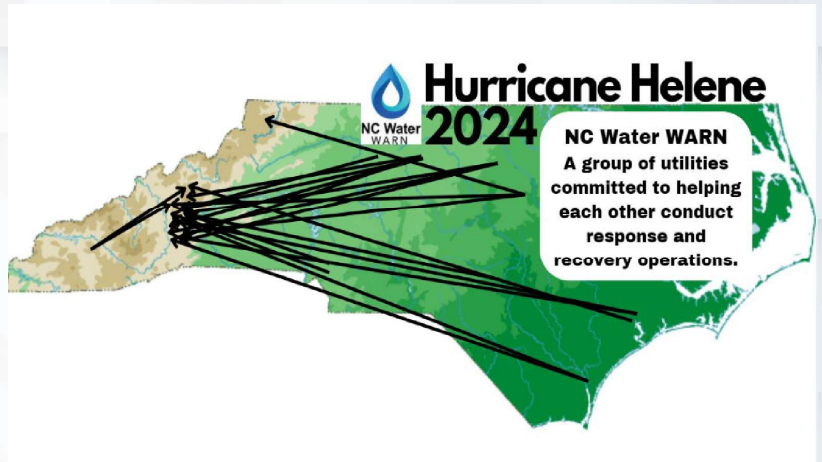


Image courtesy of Tara Arnette, CFPWA



CoWARN Success stories

- 2022 Lake Durango - needed pump
 - helped by nearby provider
- 2023 several small systems with leak detection issues
 - Several larger utilities and CRWA assist with subject matter expertise and equipment
- 2023 spring flooding on western slope
 - No CoWARN member could assist
 - CoWARN coordinated with DHSEM
- 2026
 - 2 week outage/boil in 3k community
 - CoWARN coordinated with community - metro system on-site for leak detection and system repressurization efforts (avoiding water hammer and adjusting RPV)



- CoWARN is run by a volunteer steering committee
- We need representation from:
 - Small/medium/large utilities
 - Water and wastewater
 - Contract operators
 - Rural Colorado
- No experience required
- Great resume builder

WE NEED YOU!



CoWARN Contacts



Gregg D. Stonecipher, Co-Chair
gstonecipher@fortcollins.gov

Bob Calley, Co-Chair
bcalley@geneseewater.com

Kyra Gregory
CDPHE (State) CoWARN Administrator
kyra.gregory@state.co.us





IPWMAN

Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network

Chris Drey
Director of Public Works, Romeoville,
Illinois & Vice President, IPWMAN

Mark Doerfler
Executive Director
Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network

IPWMAN Mission Statement

“It is the mission of the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network (IPWMAN), in the spirit of intergovernmental cooperation, to develop and maintain a statewide network of public works related agencies whose principal purpose is to provide mutual aid response and recovery assistance to each other during day-to-day operations or when confronted with natural or man-made emergencies and disasters.”



General IPWMAN Information

- Since 2009, IPWMAN's membership has grown steadily to over 525 agencies.
- IPWMAN represents the public works community
 - In the State Emergency Operations Center
 - With other mutual aid organizations in response to emergency and disaster mitigation
 - Member of the Homeland Security Advisory Council
- IPWMAN responds to requests for assistance several times a year.



IPWMAN Members Can Be:

- County highway departments
- Municipal public works departments
- Townships/unit road districts
- Water and wastewater agencies/districts
- Park districts
- Forest Preserve Districts
- School Districts
- Colleges and Junior Colleges
- National Laboratories
- Any public agency performing a public works function



Benefits of IPWMAN

- First 5 days of support provided at no cost
- Access to assets from all of Illinois
- All public works agencies can be members
- IPWMAN maintains a current and readily accessible listing of available resources
- Quick and direct access to assets
- Standardized operating procedures for disaster response
- Membership sets priorities and controls IPWMAN
- Recognized by IEMA and other statewide mutual aid organizations
- Have a seat in the State Emergency Operations Center
- Comprehensive, public works driven and led training



Mutual Aid Agreement Highlights

- No obligation to respond
- 12-hour minimum response guarantee
- Can recall resources at any time after the first 12 hours
- One standard agreement signed by each member agency
- Self-renewing after the first year with payment of dues
- Authority is provided under Illinois law
- Reimbursement may be available after 5 days



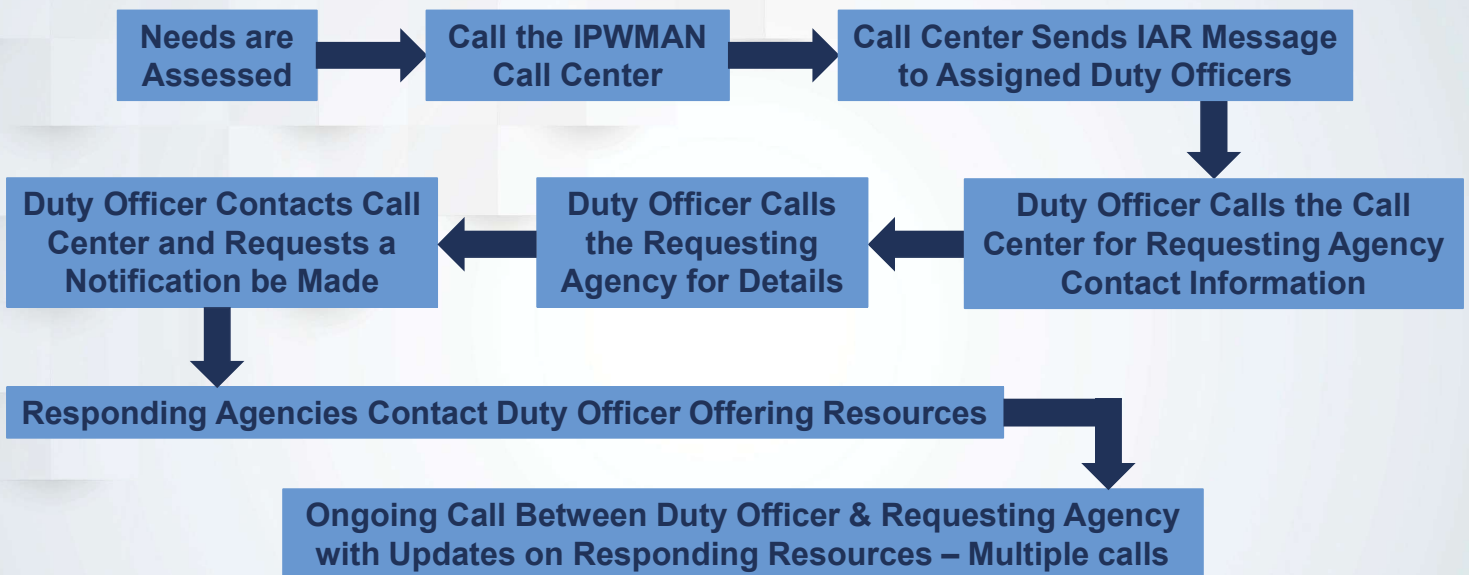
How much does it cost?

Fees are based on the population served:

- Under 15,000 -- \$100 per year
- 15,001 to 75,000 -- \$250 per year
- Over 75,000 -- \$500 per year



How Does IPWMAN Work



IPWMAN Response Teams Available

- General Labor – road closures, site security, sandbagging
- Debris Loading – grapple-type equipment to load debris into trucks
- Forestry Bucket Truck – minimum 35' reach
- Forestry Brush Chipper – towable “auto feed chipper with 12” capacity
- Forestry Labor Crew – equipment for cutting brush/limbs/trees and able to assist with feeding a brush chipper.
- Engineer/Technician Group – assist with engineering-related functions
- Pumping Operations
 - Portable – 2-2” portable trash pumps with hoses
 - Towable – 4” or larger towable pump with hoses



IPWMAN

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IPWMAN Response Teams Available

- Hauling
 - Light Hauling – 1-Ton Dump Truck
 - Medium Hauling – Single Axle Dump Truck
 - Heavy Hauling – Tandem Axle Dump Truck
 - Heavy Hauling/Semi – Semi Tractor w/ Dump Trailer
- Equipment Transport
 - Light Duty – 8-Ton Flatbed and Truck
 - Medium Duty – 20-Ton Tag Trailer and Truck
 - Heavy Duty – 40-ton (or greater) low-boy with Semi Tractor
- Excavation – able to dig a minimum of 15'
- Material Loading (not debris) – able to load materials such as sand and stone



IPWMAN

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IPWMAN Response Teams Available

- Sign Fabrication – Fabricate signs and deliver to affected areas
- Task Force Leader – Supervisors (foremen)
- Command Staff – Assists with response and recovery operations
- Generators
 - Light Duty – 30 KV minimum
 - Medium Duty – 60 KV minimum
 - Heavy Duty – 100 KV minimum
- Street Sweeper
- Fuel Transport – minimum of 50 gallons of diesel fuel



IPWMAN

ILLINOIS PUBLIC WORKS MUTUAL AID NETWORK



IPWMAN Response Teams Available

- Vehicle Maintenance – Service truck capable of roadside repairs
- Vac Truck – 12 cu. yd. capable of 10' of depth
- Traffic Control
 - Barricades – 50 or less cones or barricades
 - Barricades – 50 or more cones or barricades
 - Arrow Board
 - Message Board



IPWMAN

ILLINOIS PUBLIC WORKS MUTUAL AID NETWORK



Questions?

- **Chris Drey** – Director of Public Works, Romeoville, Illinois & Vice President, IPWMAN
 - Email – cdrey@romeoville.org
 - Phone – 1-844-479-6269 x708
- **Mark Doerfler** – Executive Director, IPWMAN
 - Email – mark.doerfler@ipwman.org
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For Additional Information or Membership
Application

Visit – www.ipwman.org

E-mail – info@ipwman.org

