

Water Supply News

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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November is Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Month

Join EPA's Water Infrastructure and Cyber Resilience Division (WICRD) in observing Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Month, which is held each November to promote the vital role of critical infrastructure and to encourage organizations to take steps to build resilience to natural disasters and malevolent acts. The WICRD resources referenced below can be used to help water and wastewater utilities build resilience.

Get Trained - Resilience Training and Exercises

Training and exercises are critical for water and wastewater utilities to build resilience. [Access WICRD's training and exercise resources](#) to improve your utility's emergency plans, policies, and procedures.

Prepare for Round 2 of AWIA

America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) section 2013 revised Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) section 1433. This law requires community drinking water systems (CWSs) serving over 3,300 people to prepare and regularly update a Risk and Resilience Assessment (RRA) and Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and to certify completion to EPA by [deadlines specified in the law](#).

RRA's and ERP's are tools to help CWSs protect their critical infrastructure. [Check out WICRD's resources](#) that can help CWSs develop or review [an RRA](#) and [an ERP](#).

Access WICRD's Incident Action Checklists

Drinking water and wastewater utilities can use these 12 "rip & run" style [Incident Action Checklists](#) to help with emergency preparedness and response and

recovery activities. These checklists cover incidents such as wildfires, flooding, power outages, and cybersecurity.

Additional Resources:

- WICRD's [Water and Wastewater Sector Supply Chain Resilience webpage](#)
 - WICRD's [Creating Resilient Water Utilities initiative](#) assists drinking water and wastewater utilities in building resilience to climate impacts
 - WICRD's [Resilient Strategies Guide](#) can be used to identify adaptive strategies that address a utility's climate priorities and critical assets.
 - Learn About [Mutual Aid and Assistance Opportunities](#)
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Operator Certification: Continuing Education Opportunities

Online and virtual training opportunities are being created and offered through community colleges, state industry associations, national industry associations, EPA, and other state industry partners. All operators should continue to monitor their emails and the Training Calendar on the [Iowa DNR Operator Certification Database](#). Look at the calendar often, as there are new opportunities posted throughout the week.

Please contact the Operator Certification Program at OpCertCustomerSupport@dnr.iowa.gov with any questions concerning operator certification training.