

NvWARN Partners

NvWARN is made up of Water and Wastewater Utilities across Nevada, assisted by regulatory and technical agencies. Currently, in addition to regional utilities, NvWARN collaborates with:



BIG BEND
Water District
Big Bend
Water District



Las Vegas Valley
Water District



Boulder City



Minden Gardnerville
Sanitation District



City of Henderson



Nevada Rural
Water Association



City of Las Vegas



Roundhill
General Improvement District



City of North Las Vegas



Southern Nevada
Water Authority



Clark County
Reclamation District



Truckee Meadows
Water Authority

Hawthorne Utilities



Kingsbury General
Improvement District



Nevada Division of
Environmental Protection

NvWARN.org
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Director of Operations
Las Vegas Valley Water District
1001 S. Valley View Blvd.
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The Nevada Water/Wastewater
Agency Response Network

What is NvWARN?

Nevada's Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (NvWARN) is a formal system of *"utilities helping utilities"* with mutual aid during emergency situations. The project's infrastructure consists of a secure web-based data bank of available resources and a practical mutual aid agreement designed to reduce bureaucratic red tape in times of emergency. The goal of NvWARN is to provide immediate relief for member utilities during times of emergencies.

The purpose is to get personnel with the necessary tools and equipment that can both assess and assist the impacted water or wastewater system as quickly as possible until such time that a permanent solution to the devastation may be implemented.

In responding to many natural disaster emergencies, WARN systems have demonstrated that a network of *"utilities helping utilities"* is the best method for responding to the immediate water and wastewater damage caused by natural disasters.

How did NvWARN get started?

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Presidential Directive identified WARN programs that are forming across the country as critical to the nation's infrastructure. In early 2007, a small group of Nevada water and wastewater utilities, with the support from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), joined together to create the NvWARN.

The group developed a secure Web site, adopted a set of administrative procedures, a memorandum of understanding, and suggested ordinances for local board approval for future members. Since that initial meeting, the organization has grown to include more than 15 utilities statewide.

How is NvWARN funded?

NvWARN was funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and administered by the NDEP. There are no membership fees.

How does NvWARN work during an emergency?

The system is designed to assist NvWARN members respond to a local emergency when they do not have the necessary resources. Member utilities are able to determine the availability of the needed resources through the NvWARN Web site. Once the availability of resources is determined, the requesting utility will then contact the member agency for the resources needed either by e-mail or by telephone. This innovative process allows member utilities to match the available resources to the requests for assistance.

Another emerging use of the NvWARN is support for the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC). This organization, formed in 1996, allows individual states to request aid and assistance from other states. Most recently this system was used when Hurricanes Gustav and Ike passed through the southeast. Various coastal states activated their state agencies to include the WARN groups.

Member agencies are encouraged to update their list of resources periodically so the membership will have available updated comprehensive list of equipment and personnel when needed.



What is the status of NvWARN?

After one full year of operation, NvWARN is well on its way to developing the resources and personnel lists by the member agencies. Current plans are to have the nearly 200 public water and wastewater agencies in Nevada as members in the next year.

NvWARN Benefits

The goal of NvWARN is to provide services to member utilities and encourage more participation from utilities across the state.

The advantages to belonging to the organization are many:

- ◆ Increased planning and coordination
- ◆ Enhanced access to specialized resources
- ◆ Information exchange
- ◆ Expedited arrival of aid and personnel in an emergency
- ◆ Reduced administrative conflicts
- ◆ Resource inventory and availability status
- ◆ Identification of AWWA professional crew listings
- ◆ Access to water and waste water professionals with training and experience to help solve emergency situations

What does it take to become a member?

To become a NvWARN member, visit the NvWARN Web site and complete the Membership Interest Form. Ultimately, the local governing board for each agency must adopt the Mutual Aid Agreement and the NvWARN bylaws. General information about the program is available at www.NvWARN.org, or contact one of the individuals below.

For Additional Information Contact:

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<http://www.nvwarn.org/html/>