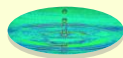


Adaptation Strategies and Information Needs in Response to Extreme Weather Events

A series of workshops focusing on water resources, led by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), Water Environment Research Foundation (WERF), Water Research Foundation (Water RF), Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC), and Noblis, with Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MW COG) and DC Water.



NOAA • EPA • WERF • WaterRF • CTC • Noblis • MWCOG • DCWater

Participant Discussion Points

National Capital Area Case Study Workshop – Monday, December 17, 2012

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

http://www.mwcog.org/environment/water/water_workshops.asp

To help participants get the most out of this workshop, please read through this information sheet to prompt your thinking about: 1) emergency response planning and preparedness, 2) emergency response execution, 3) recovery, 4) long-term adaptation planning and implementation, and 5) lessons learned from recent storm events.

Contact Information:

Name of your organization:

Your name/title:

Your email:

If a utility, population it serves (size, geographic area):

A. Hurricane Sandy and the Derecho windstorm:

Keeping these storms in mind, and the differences between them, address the following topics (please provide specific examples and identify the event).

1. What were the key **challenges** you experienced in **planning for** these events? How did you address them?
2. What were key **impacts to your organization and community**? Please consider financial, social, economic, ecological, and water resources and services impacts.
3. What were the key **challenges** you experienced in **responding to** these events? How did you address them?
4. Describe with examples what was **most and least helpful** in planning for / responding to these storms in the following areas (also capture what exists now):
 - **Partnerships / collaborations**
 - **Technologies**
 - **Knowledge, information, data, training programs**
 - **Government (executive and legislative) support**
 - **Other tools and approaches**
5. What **gaps** in the above areas could be filled to improve your ability to prepare for and/or respond to such events?
6. What **were your organization's costs** in preparation, damages, and response to the above storms?
7. What key **lessons** have you learned as a result of responding to these storms?
8. What key **differences** did you notice in planning for and responding to these two events?
9. **What changed** as a result of these events? Please consider planning, procedures, implementation, capital projects, collaboration, communication, technology, information and tools, training, and decision making.
10. Who do you consider **your water utility / organization's stakeholders** to be?

B. Looking Forward: What are your plans related to preparing for future extreme weather events?

Consider planning, procedures, capital projects, collaboration, communication, government help, and decision-making.

Short-term plans versus **Long-term plans**

C. For climatologists and government agencies:

COG Climate Change References: <http://www.mwcog.org/environment/climate/adaptation.asp>

1. What are the key hydroclimatological / water trends in the national capital area? (E.g., potential for and characteristics of future storm/flood/drought events, availability of reliable potable water supplies, rising/falling water levels, tidal surges, temperature and evapotranspiration changes and their effects, etc.)
2. What tools – data sets, monitoring mechanisms, information sources, federal/local collaboration groups, training opportunities – are available to help national capital area utilities plan for extreme weather events?
3. What are predicted changes in the region that could affect water and wastewater services? (E.g., population growth, industrial / agricultural / residential changes, government land use, infrastructure.)