



MEMORANDUM

TO: NCRWARN Members
FROM: Steve Bieber, Water Resources Director
DATE: September 6, 2024
RE: FY'2024 Annual Update

To whom it may concern,

Established in 2008, NCRWARN is a mutual aid network comprised of water and wastewater utilities that help other utilities respond to and recover from emergencies. Like other mutual aid agreements in the National Capital Region, the purpose of NCRWARN is to provide a method for water and wastewater utilities to provide and receive emergency assistance in the form of personnel, equipment, materials and other associated services as necessary from other WARN members based on damages or anticipated damages from natural or human-caused incidents. NCRWARN is the only regional WARN in the United States and includes members from the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia.

The NCRWARN Agreement identifies the administration of the program, describes how to access mutual aid/assistance, specifies reimbursement procedures for the use of resources, and authorizes the creation of an NCRWARN Operational Plan. The Agreement is based on the umbrella National Capital Region Mutual Aid Agreement that was adopted in 2005 and has not been updated since.

While the NCRWARN Agreement is the legal instrument authorizing the exchange of resources, the NCRWARN Operational Plan is the operational extension of the NCRWARN Agreement and outlines the procedures that need to be in place to make the NCRWARN Agreement work. The NCRWARN Operational Plan describes how to implement the NCRWARN Agreement. The Operational Plan is reviewed annually by COG staff to assess the need for any changes. No changes have been recommended since 2011. An FY'25 overview of the NCRWARN Operational Plan and recommended changes, if any, will be presented to the regional Water Security Work Group at their first meeting in calendar year 2025.

A summary of NCRWARN activity since its inception is provided in the attached WARN snapshot. Activations and other activity are summarized annually as part of a larger EPA national summary. As you can see from the snapshot, there were no activations of the NCRWARN mutual aid network in FY'24. NCRWARN has been activated numerous times in the past, as outlined in the snapshot.

I hope this information is helpful. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions. Thank you.