



The Flow

Springfield Water & Sewer
Commission

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More Information

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NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

National Preparedness Month is observed every September in the United States. It's a nationwide campaign led by FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) to encourage individuals, families, and communities to prepare for emergencies and disasters, whether natural or manmade. The theme for 2025 is preparedness starts at home.

As you can imagine, utilities have many parts and pieces that go into making sure we deliver the best and safest water we can to our customers but in the face of disaster, this proves to be an even harder task. Utilities and other businesses should have Emergency Response Plans in place to combat disasters if they should ever arise. Some of the content covered in the Emergency Response Plan for a water utility includes but is not limited to:

- Internal Chain of Command
- Emergency notification listing (names and numbers of those in the community we need to contact in the event of an emergency)
- Basic System information (personnel, average and daily maximum demands, water and sewer plant information, chemicals used and locations of stored chemicals)
- General list of equipment needed for specific disasters
- Infrastructure that could be damaged and how to minimize potential damage
- How to recover from emergencies

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE - AT HOME

Not only should businesses have a plan in place but so should you, the members of our community. There are four key actions you can take to prepare for any disaster you may face:

Know Your Risk: Know what could happen where you and your family live. This helps you figure out what you need to do to stay safe. The most recent threats we have faced in this community are tornados and flooding. You can explore various disasters and emergencies on Ready.gov.

Make a Family Emergency Plan: Planning early helps you reduce stress and save time and money.

- Disasters are costly but preparing for them doesn't have to be. Taking time to prepare now can help save you thousands of dollars and give you peace of mind when the next disaster or emergency occurs.
- Come up with evacuation plans, have a designated meeting place, know who you will call if disaster strikes and make sure your kids know as well.

DID YOU KNOW?

FEMA's Ready Campaign has observed National Preparedness Month since 2004 to encourage Americans to prepare for emergencies. The month is a great time to take small steps to make a big difference in being prepared.

National Preparedness Month

Preparedness Starts At Home

Preparedness Starts at Home, the 2025 theme, focuses on getting back to the essentials of preparedness.

FOR MORE INFO:

<https://www.ready.gov/september>

<https://www.epa.gov/natural-disasters/september-preparedness-month>

<https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/resources/articles/national-preparedness-month>

EFFICIENT & HIGH QUALITY WATER SUPPLY



STEPS YOU CAN TAKE AT HOME (CONT.)

Build an Emergency Supply Kit: Having enough food, water and medicine can help you stay safe and comfortable until help arrives. Having what you need can also prevent injury and damage to your home.

- Build a go-bag with all the essentials you might need, so you don't need to scramble in an evacuation situation. Having supplies like water, canned food, flashlights, tools, and batteries can go a long way if stranded or waiting for help to arrive.

Get Involved in your Community by Taking Action to Prepare for Emergencies: Emergencies can happen fast, and emergency responders aren't always nearby. You may be able to save a life by taking simple actions immediately. You can learn these steps when you take a first aid class through many organizations in your community.

- Join a Community Emergency Response Team program and get trained on basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations.

KRWA'S 46TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

Nearly 1,000 water and wastewater professionals gathered in Louisville for KRWA's 46th Annual Conference & Exhibition! From networking and training to awards, there is so much to see at the conference. Several employees from Springfield Water and Sewer Commission attended the conference this year. We heard from speakers on various topics such as disaster recovery, rate studies, EPA laws and regulatory guidelines, and safety. Our team of dedicated employees take pride in the work they do in bringing our community the most valuable resource needed to survive- water. We strive to stay in the know on new products, updated technology, and regulatory statutes



WATER SAVING TIP OF THE MONTH

FIX YOUR LEAKS:

A simple but powerful water-saving habit is to fix leaks promptly.

A dripping faucet or a running toilet can waste anywhere from 20 to 100 gallons of water a day, driving up both your water bill and your environmental impact.



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