

# OH WARN: What can it do for you?



*Presented at OWEA June 17, 2010*

# Agenda

- What is OH WARN?
- Why is OH WARN needed?
- Benefits of OH WARN
- Who belongs to OH WARN?
- How does OH WARN work?
- OH WARN in action
- How to join OH WARN?
- Where do we go from here?



# Water & Wastewater Utilities

## ➤ United by common enemies:

### • Natural disasters

- Hurricanes
- Flooding
- Earthquakes
- Tornadoes



#### **OHIO is a flood prone state**

Flood waters cause havoc for water & wastewater systems



#### **An intentional water contamination**

Could cause widespread illness and death

### • Human-caused disasters

- Terrorist Attacks

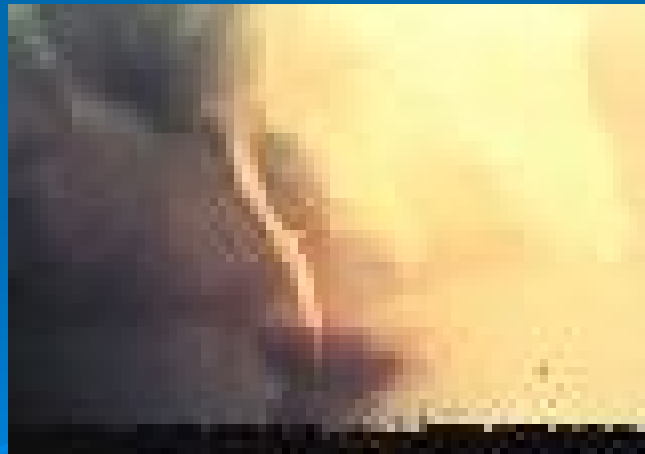
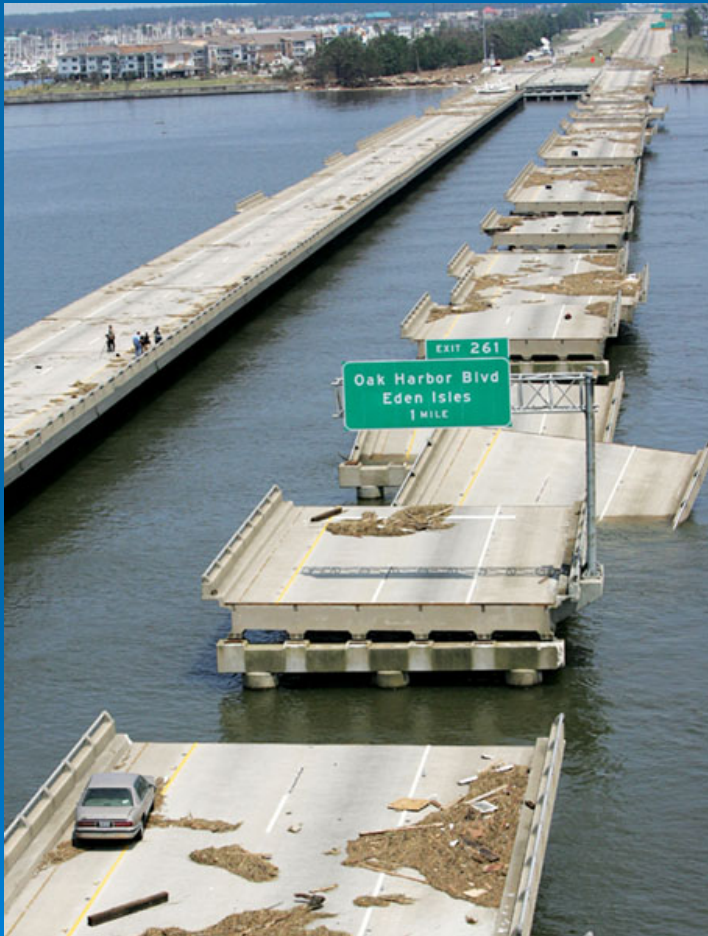
# What is OH WARN?

- A formalized network of “utilities helping utilities”
  - Emergency Preparedness
  - Mutual Aid Assistance During Emergencies
  - Sharing of Resources Statewide
    - Personnel
    - Equipment
    - Materials
    - Associated services
    - Water/Wastewater System Expertise



# Why OH WARN is needed

*Because things will happen...*



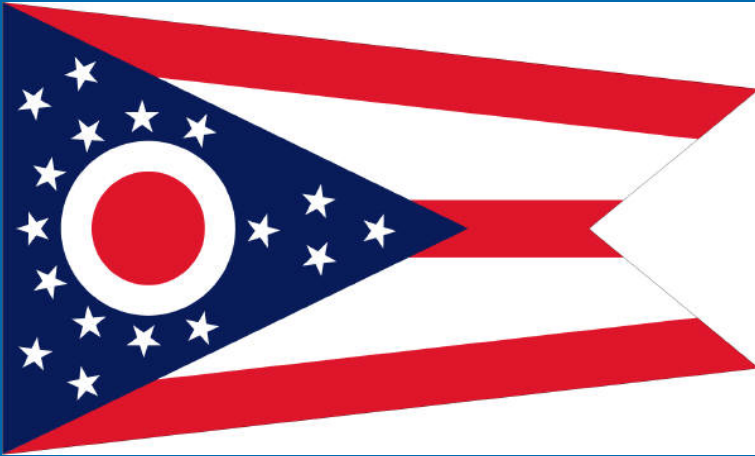
*...and utilities will need help*

# Why is OH WARN needed?

- Operations are specialized
- Must be self-sufficient
- Must fill the gap
- Government relies on water supplies
- Large events impact regional areas
- Restoration provides hope
- Disasters impact employees
- Resiliency



# Benefits of OH WARN?



- No Cost to Participate
- Strictly Voluntary
- Increased Planning & Coordination
- Emergency Contact List
- Enhanced Access to Specialized Resources
- Expedited Arrival of Aid
- A Single Agreement
- Reduced Administrative Conflict
- Avoid the Bureaucracy
- Continuity of Operations
- Increased Hope

# Who supports OH WARN?



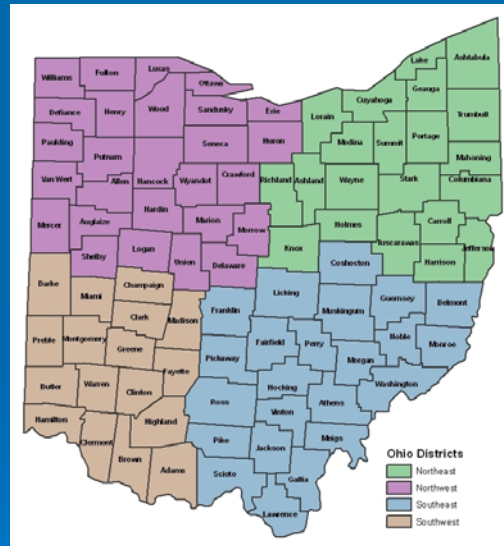
- EPA (Federal & Ohio)
- AWWA (National & Ohio)
- Ohio Emergency Management Association (EMA)
- Ohio Water Environment Association (OWEA)
- Ohio Rural Water Association
- Ohio Rural Community Assistance Program (OhioRCAP)





# Who belongs to OH WARN?

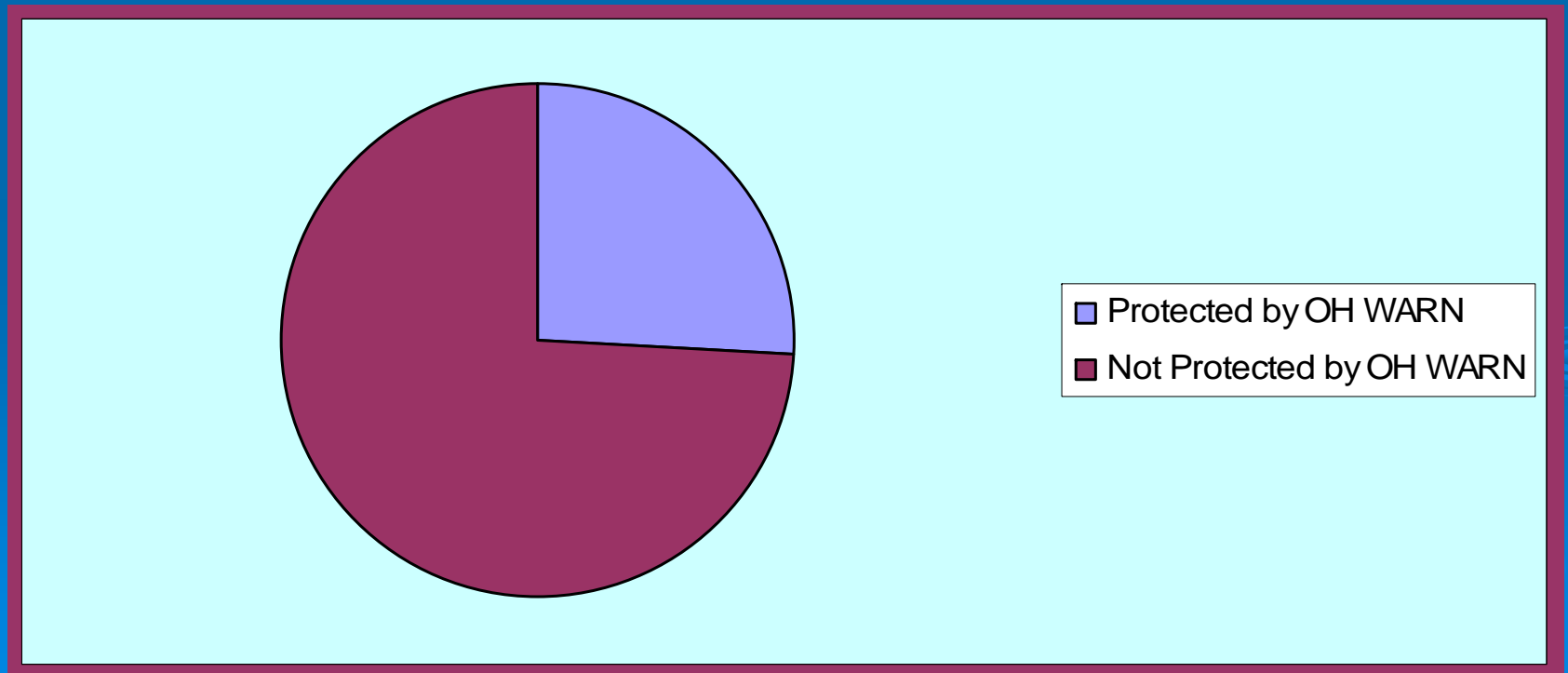
- Aqua Ohio, Inc.
- Avon Lake Municipal Utilities
- Butler County Department of Environmental Services
- City of Akron
- City of Chagrin Falls
- City of Cleveland
- City of Columbus
- City of Dayton
- City of Fairborn
- City of Fremont
- City of Hamilton
- City of Hudson
- City of Middletown
- City of Napoleon
- City of Newark
- City of New Carlisle
- City of Painesville
- City of Perrysburg



- City of Ravenna
- City of Stow
- City of Struthers
- City of Wadsworth
- Defiance County Wastewater Operations
- Eastern Ohio Regional Wastewater Authority
- Mahoning Valley Sanitary District
- Miami County Sanitary Engineering Department
- Montgomery County Water Services
- Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
- Village of Archbold
- Village of Green Springs
- Village of Jackson Center
- Village of Ottawa
- Village of Sebring

# Who is protected by OH WARN?

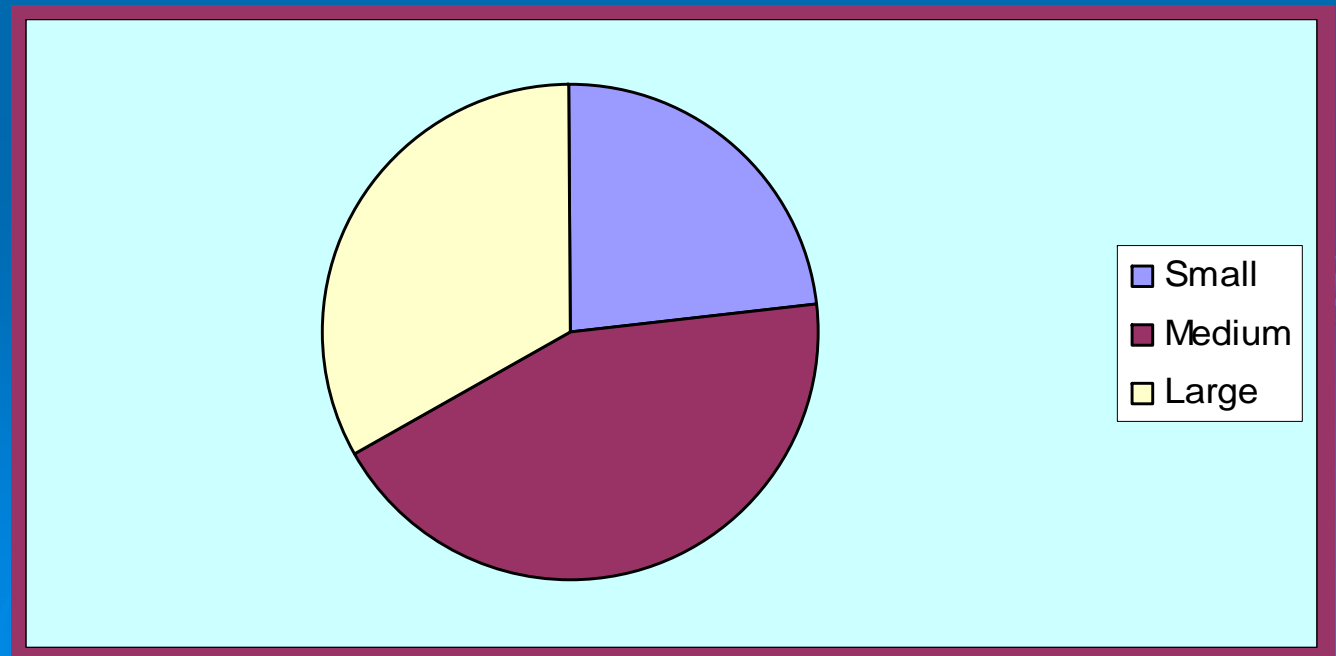
- 35 Utility Members
  - Over 35% of State Population
  - Over 4,000,000 residents



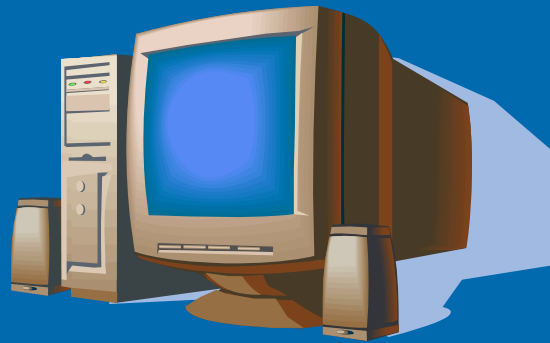
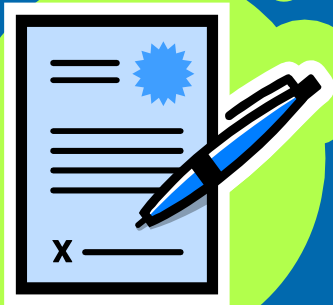
# Who is protected by OH WARN?

## ➤ Utility Size Breakdown

- 11 Large Utilities
- 14 Medium Utilities
- 8 Small Utilities



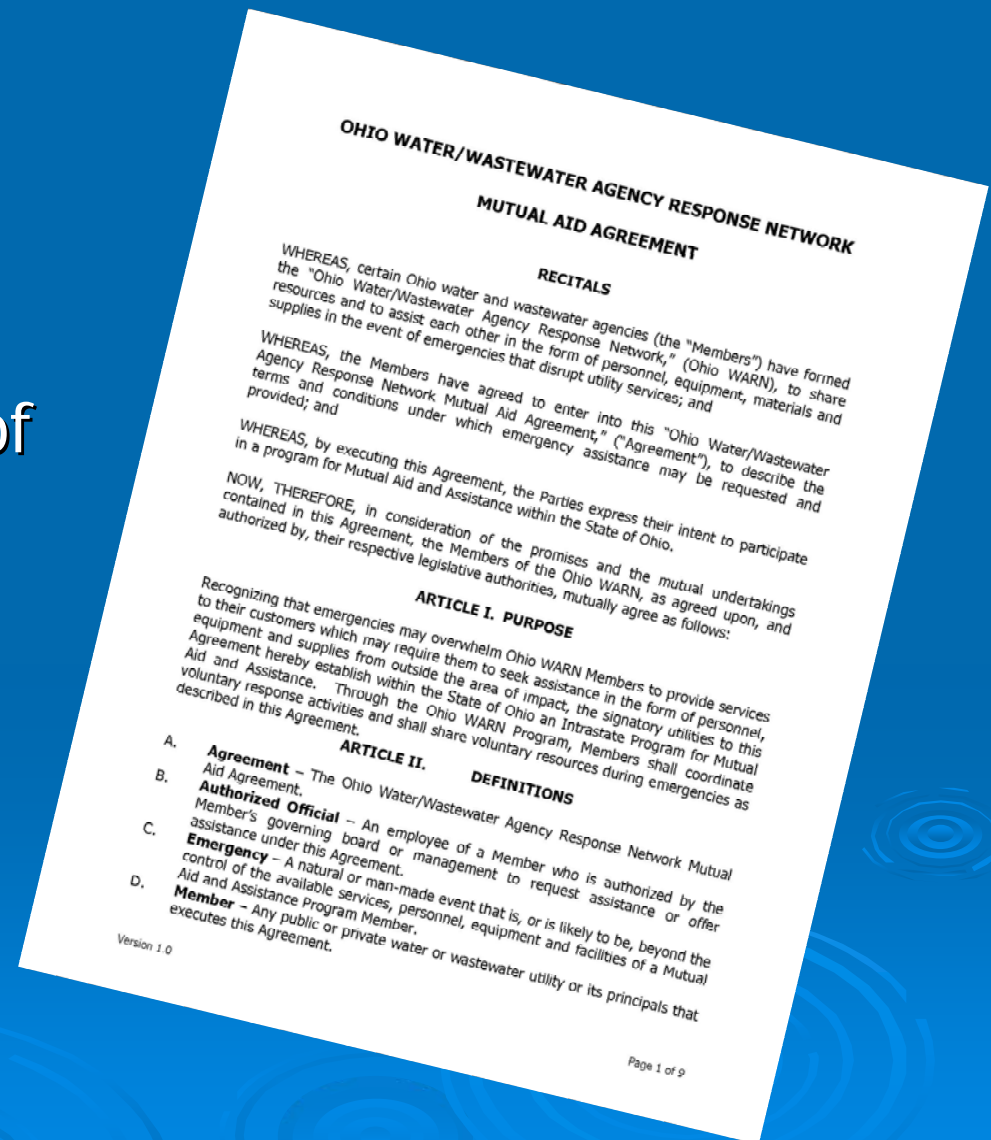
# How does OH WARN work?



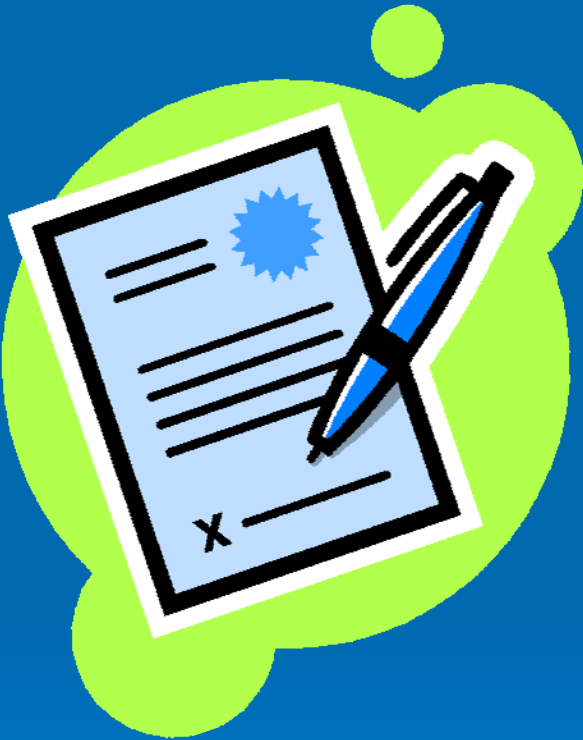
- Mutual Aid Agreement
  - A single Agreement
- Website
  - [www.ohwarn.org](http://www.ohwarn.org)
- Operational Plan
  - Detailed procedures for matching emergency resources to needs
- Steering Committee
  - Organize & Coordinate OH WARN Activities

# OH WARN Agreement

- Establishes OH WARN
- Program Administration
- Provision for Development of Operational Procedures
- Requests for Assistance
- Responding Member Personnel
- Reimbursement Provisions

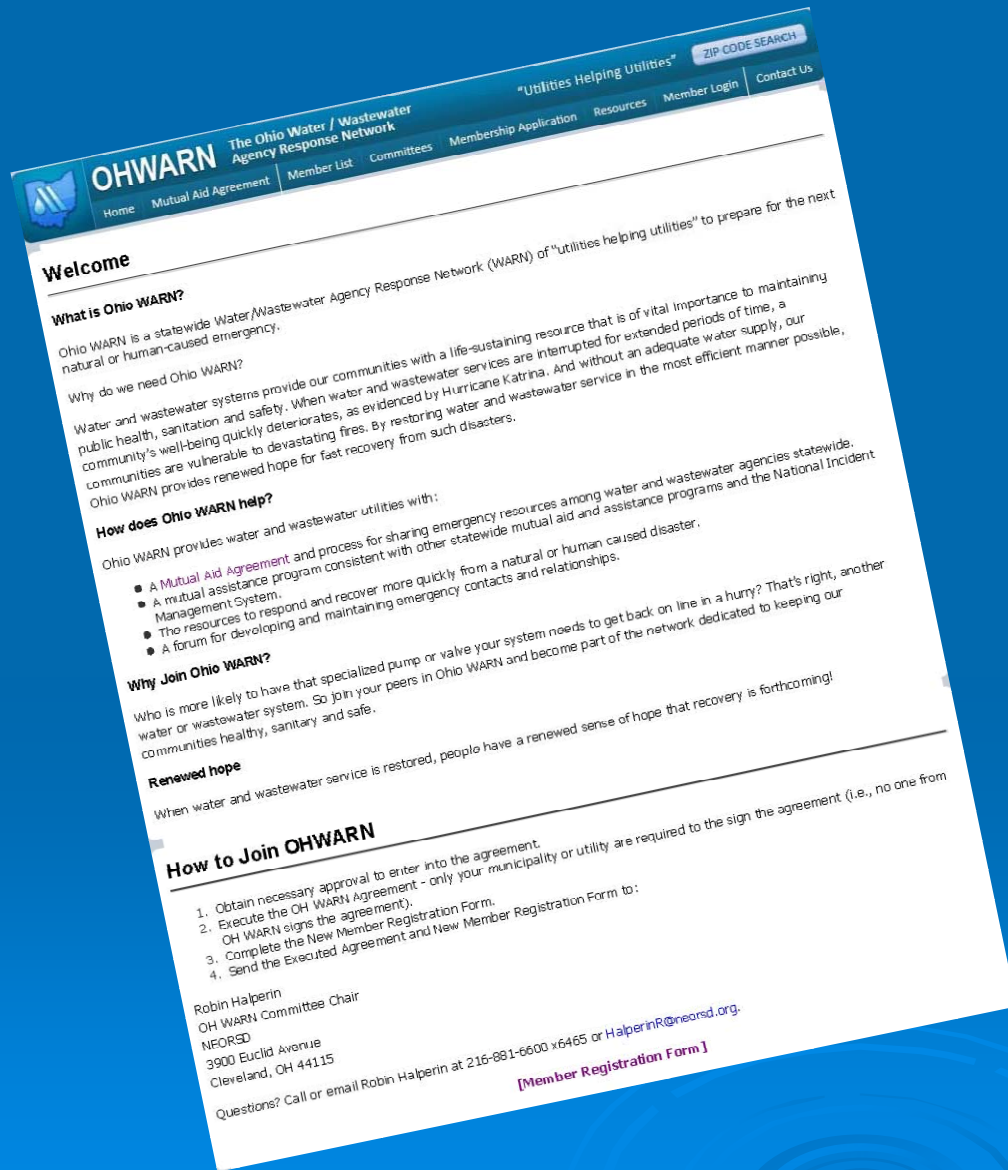


# OH WARN Agreement



- Dispute Resolution
- Liability Provisions
- Indemnity & Immunity
- Withdrawal Provisions
- Agreement Modification Provisions
- Security Provisions

# OH WARN Website

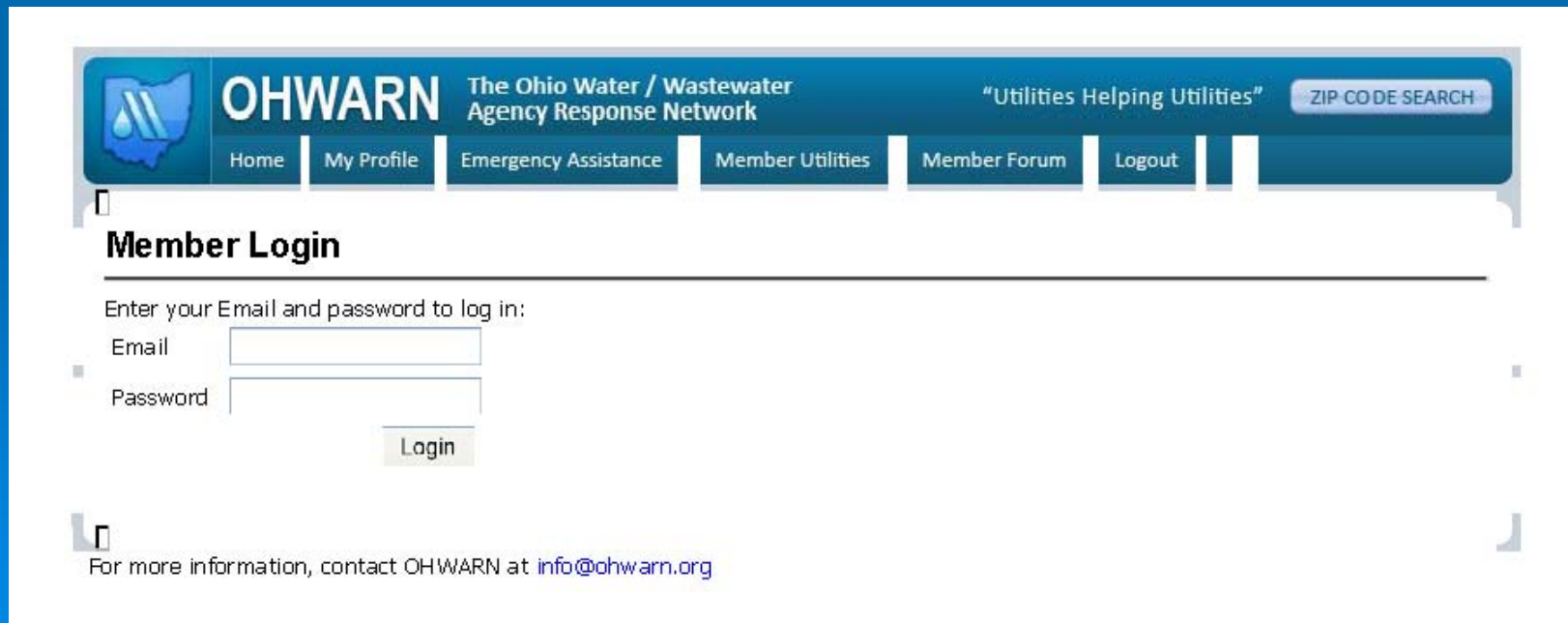


- OH WARN Agreement
- New Member Registration Form
- Mutual Aid Resources
- News/Events
- Member List (abbreviated)

# OH WARN Website

## ➤ Members Only Area

- Member List (full)
- Member Profiles
- Emergency Assistance
- Member Forum
- Zip Code Search



The screenshot shows the OHWARN website interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the OHWARN logo (a blue outline of Ohio with a water drop) and the text "OHWARN The Ohio Water / Wastewater Agency Response Network". To the right of the header, it says "Utilities Helping Utilities" and has a "ZIP CODE SEARCH" button. Below the header is a navigation menu with buttons for "Home", "My Profile", "Emergency Assistance", "Member Utilities", "Member Forum", and "Logout".

The main content area is titled "Member Login". Below the title, it says "Enter your Email and password to log in:". There are two input fields: "Email" and "Password". Below the "Password" field is a "Login" button.

At the bottom of the page, there is a footer that says "For more information, contact OHWARN at [info@ohwarn.org](mailto:info@ohwarn.org)".



# OH WARN Website

## ➤ Emergency Assistance & Other Notices



**OHWARN** The Ohio Water / Wastewater Agency Response Network

"Utilities Helping Utilities" [ZIP CODE SEARCH](#)

[Home](#) | [My Profile](#) | [Emergency Assistance](#) | [Member Utilities](#) | [Member Forum](#) | [Logout](#)

### Active Notices

You may choose to opt out of email notices for 10 days. After 10 days, you will begin receiving notices again.

**Status:** You are currently receiving notices. [Opt Out Now](#)

[Add a New Request](#)

Display:  Active Notices  Closed Notices  All Notices

#### Submitted

#### Post

#### Utility

#### County

#### Region

Jan 14 2010, 12:41 PM

New Member - Village of Sebring

NEORS D

Cuyahoga

Northeast

Oct 29 2009, 12:26 PM

test emergency

NEORS D

Cuyahoga

Northeast

Total Notices: 2

For more information, contact OHWARN at [info@ohwarn.org](mailto:info@ohwarn.org)

# OH WARN Website

## ➤ Zip Code Search Tool

### Zip Code Search

Search by City/State

OR

Search by Zip Code

Distance (Miles)

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City of Ravenna  
210 Park Way  
P.O. Box 1215  
Ravenna, OH 44266  
330 297-2168  
17.8738 miles

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NEORS  
3900 Euclid Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44115  
216 881-6600  
30.7095 miles

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Fremont WPCC  
1019 Sand Road  
Fremont, OH 43420  
419 334-3876  
85.8533 miles

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Painesville City of  
7 Richmond Street  
P.O. Box 601  
Painesville, OH 44077  
440 392-2975  
47.0844 miles

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City of Fremont Water Treatment Plant  
1113 Tiffin Street  
Fremont, OH 43420  
419 332-3581  
85.8533 miles

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City of Newark, Division of Water and Wastewater  
34 South 5th Street  
P.O. Box 1400

# OH WARN Operational Plan



**Ohio Water/Wastewater  
Agency Response Network  
(OH WARN) Operational Plan**

February 2010  
Version 1.0

- Purpose
- Roles & Responsibilities
- Training, Exercises & Updates
- Concept of Operations
- WARN Activation
- Adopted February 2010

# OH WARN Operational Plan

- Response Considerations
- Response Team Coordination
- Communication Tools
- After Action Reports
- Checklists, checklists & more checklists



# OH WARN Operational Checklists

- Requesting Utility Checklist
- WARN Emergency Notification Form
- WARN Request & Authorization Form
- Cost Estimator Worksheet
- Mutual Aid/Assistance Coordinator Checklist

OH WARN Operational Plan

Version 1.0

### ATTACHMENT B: OH WARN EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION FORM

**Purpose:** The Authorized Representative of the Requesting Utility needs to provide written information regarding the emergency, level of impact, and conditions. This form does not replace damage assessment forms required by other organizations.

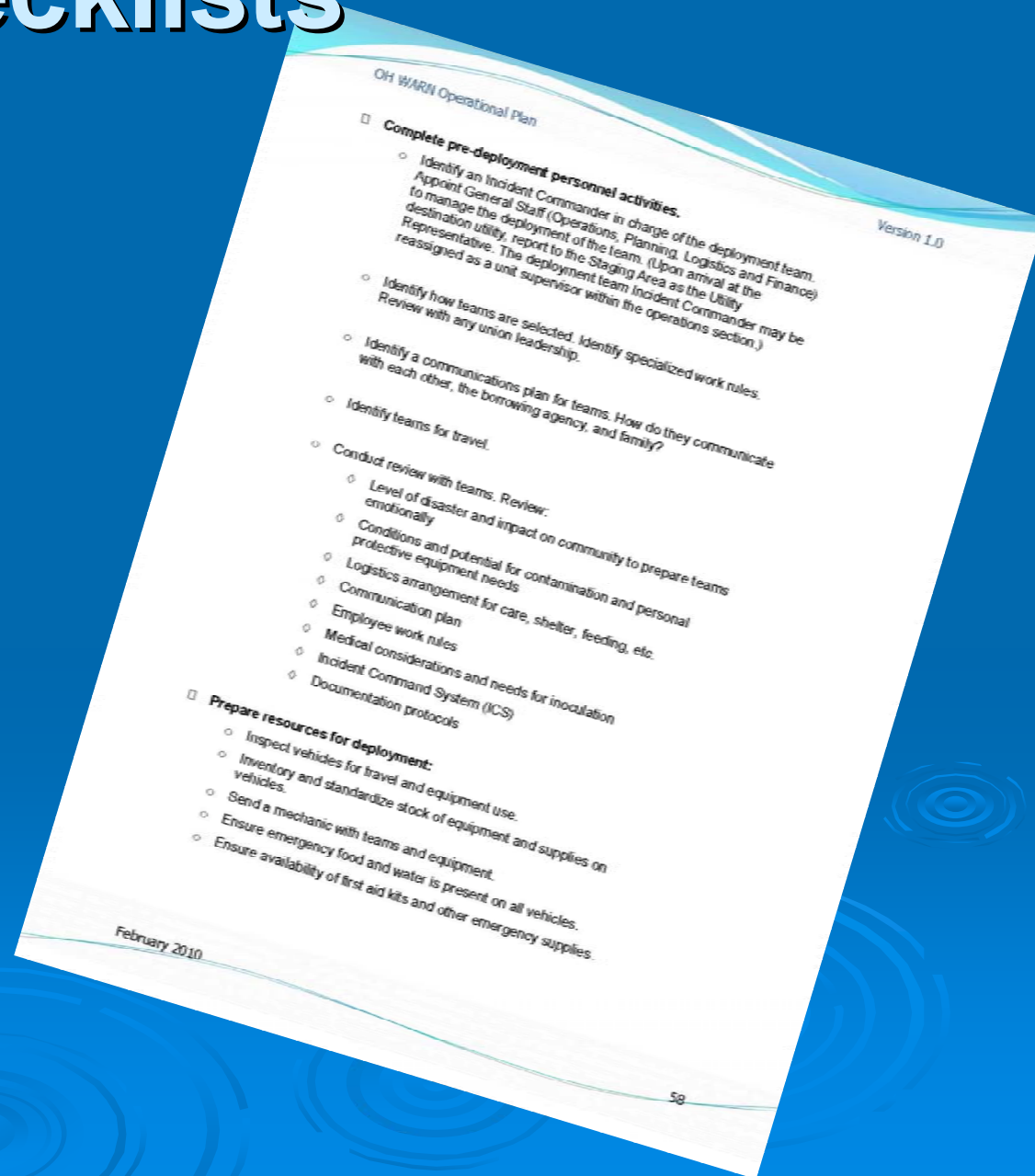
**Instructions:** Complete form by checking boxes or circling where appropriate. Provide level of detail available. Complete Section 1 of Attachment C and forward both Attachment B and C to city/county and/or OH WARN Utility Member.

INCIDENT	
Date/Time	General Phone Number
Utility Name	Cell Number
City and County	Fac
Contact	
E-mail	
General Location of Emergency	Yes No Unsure
Has Utility EOC been activated	Yes No Unsure
Declaration of Local Emergency	Yes No Unsure
Critical Issues (and actions taken)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pipes <input type="checkbox"/> Pump Stations <input type="checkbox"/> Reservoir/Tanks <input type="checkbox"/> Wells <input type="checkbox"/> Connection(s) (Status/Flow change request(s)) <input type="checkbox"/> Power/Communications <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical
Note if untreated water is affected	
Water Quality	Confirmation: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined Water Quality Order: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Order Order Issued by: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Use Remarks/Comments
Status Detail	
Percentage of potable water	
System Inoperable	
Anticipated duration of outage (hours/days)	#
Number of jurisdictions affected	#
Number of people affected	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Mutual aid received in last 24 hours	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Mutual aid needed in next 24 hours	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Actions taken by Utility	
Actions taken by Coordinating Partners	
Form Completed By	Cell Phone
Name	
Signature	
Phone Number	
Additional Notes	

February 2010

# OH WARN Operational Checklists

- Staging Area Manager Checklist
- Daily Briefing Checklist
- Responding Utility Checklist
- Response Team Member Checklist
- WARN Request Summary Sheet
- Activity Log



# OH WARN Steering Committee

Committee Position	Name	Organization	Mailing Address	Telephone	Email
Chair	Robin Halperin	NEORS	3900 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland Ohio 44115	216-881-6600	HalperinR@neorsd.org
Vice Chair	Randy Gilbert	Montgomery County	1850 Spaulding Road, Kettering, Ohio 45432	937-781-2625	gilbertr@mcoho.org
Secretary	Vacant				
NE District Coordinator	Brian Bisson	Aqua Ohio	6650 South Avenue, Boardman, Ohio 44512	330-397-0788	btbisson@aquaamerica.com
NW District Coordinator	Rick Schantz	Village of Archbold	700 North Street, Archbold, Ohio 43502	419-445-2506	rlschantz@rtceexpress.net
SE District Coordinator	Craig Charleston	Columbus Water	910 Dublin Rd Columbus, OH 43215	614-645-7020	cwcharleston@columbus.gov
SW District Coordinator	Karen Hawkins	City of Fairborn	44 W. Hebble Avenue Fairborn, Ohio 45327	937-754-3097	Karen.hawkins@ci.fairborn.oh.us
Advisor 1	Tom Fishbaugh	RCAP	2299 E County Rd 181 Green Springs, Ohio 44836	419-332-2032	tafishbaugh@wsos.org
Advisor 2	Tim Ballard	Ohio RWA			
Advisor 3	Dave Bornino	Ohio EPA	PO Box 1049 Columbus, Ohio 43216	614-752-9725	dave.bornino@epa.state.oh.us
Advisor 4	Denny Tomcik	Ohio EMA		614-889-7159	dtomcik@dps.state.oh.us
Advisor 5	Vacant				

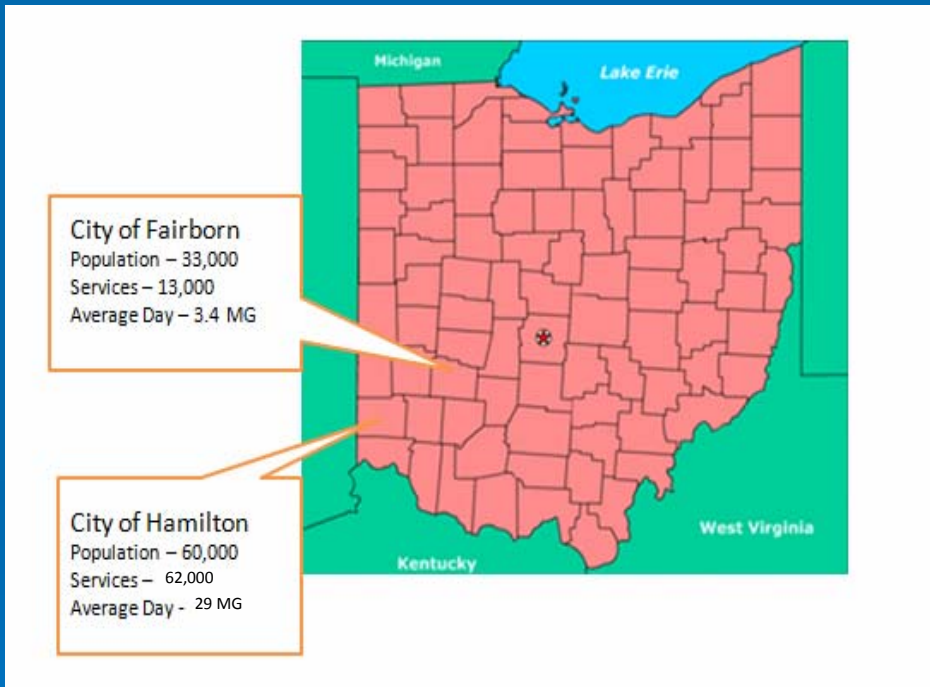
# OH WARN in Action

- “Hurricanes don’t hit Ohio.”
- Hurricane Ike – 9/14/08
- Cincinnati, Columbus and Dayton metro areas were all strongly impacted
  - Widespread power outages
  - >1 Million Residents affected
  - Roads and highways blocked
  - Likely to last > 1 week





# Hurricane Ike



- City of Fairborn
  - Population 33,000
  - Initially lost power
  - Power restored w/in 6 hours
- City of Hamilton
  - Population 60,000
  - Sustained power outage
  - Local contacts proved fruitless
  - Turned to OH WARN
  - City of Fairborn responds
    - Portable generator
    - 4 Days
    - 350 Residents

# Lesson Learned?

The WARN system works no matter how small or large or distant your system!

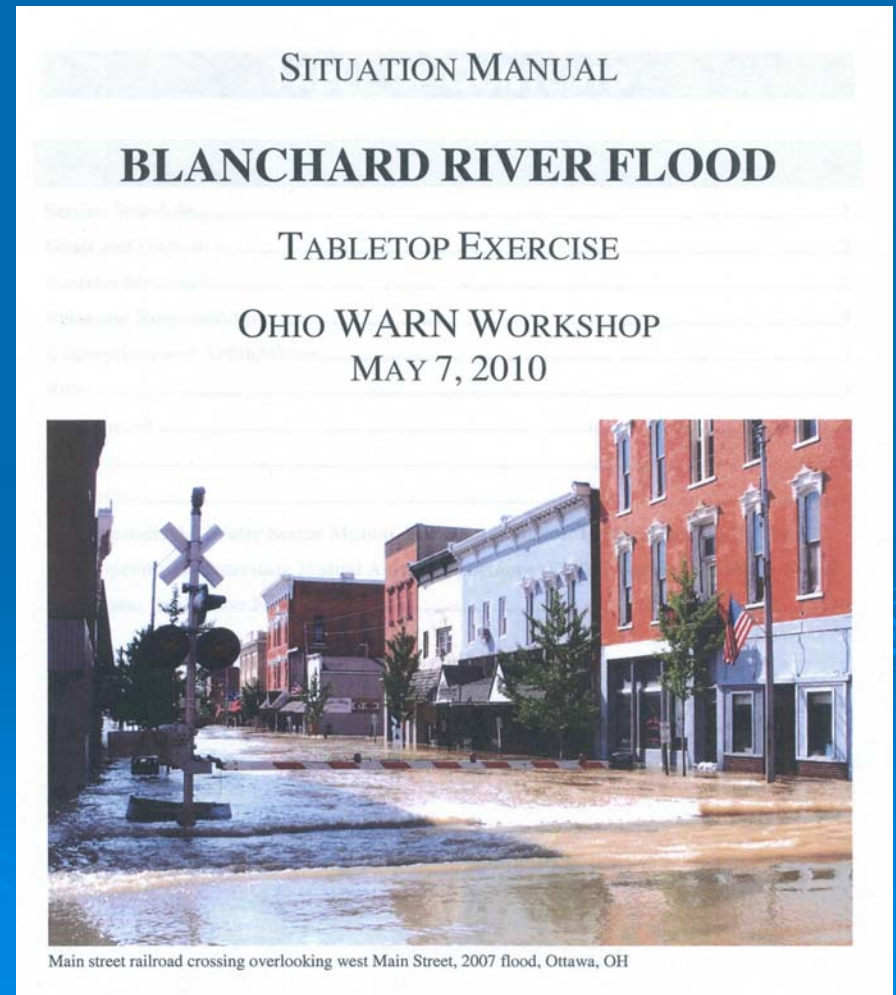
# OH WARN Table Top Exercise



- May 7, 2010
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Table Top
  - Ohio EMA
  
- 20 Organizations
  - 35 Participants
  - Water Utilities
  - Wastewater Utilities
  - Regulatory Agencies
  
- Facilitated by USEPA

# OH WARN Table Top Exercise

- **Purpose** –  
Review and test OH WARN  
Operations Manual
- **Scenario** –  
Blanchard River Flood  
Hands-on exercise



# OH WARN Table Top Exercise

## ➤ Results

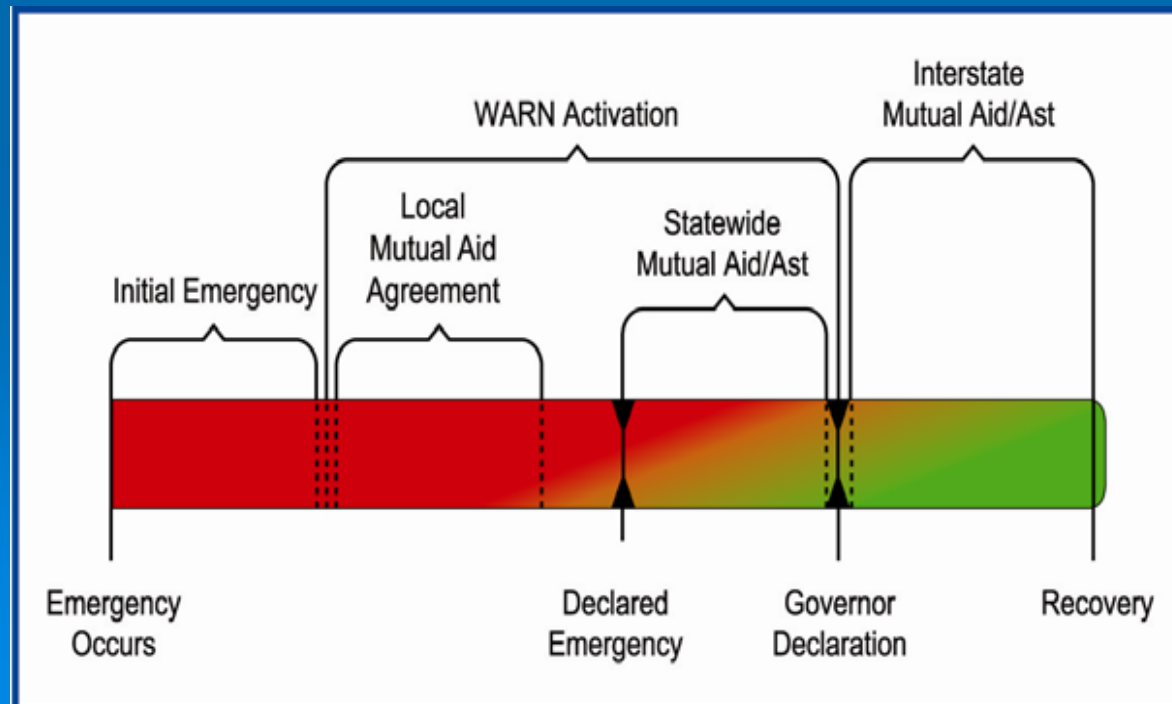
- Increased communication and networking between OH WARN members
- Interaction/coordination with Ohio EMA and Ohio EPA for emergency response
- Increased understanding of how OH WARN works.

## ➤ A Success

# Conclusions

## ➤ OH WARN:

- Bridges the gap between local agreements and activation of statewide agreements
- Quickly and efficiently provides expedited access to specialized resources to utilities within Ohio in a time of need
- Helps utilities better understand sister utilities within Ohio



# How to Join OH WARN



- Review & Sign Agreement
- Send Executed Agreement to OH WARN Chair
- Complete New Member Registration Form on Website
- Create Member Profile

# Where do we go from here?

## ➤ OH WARN

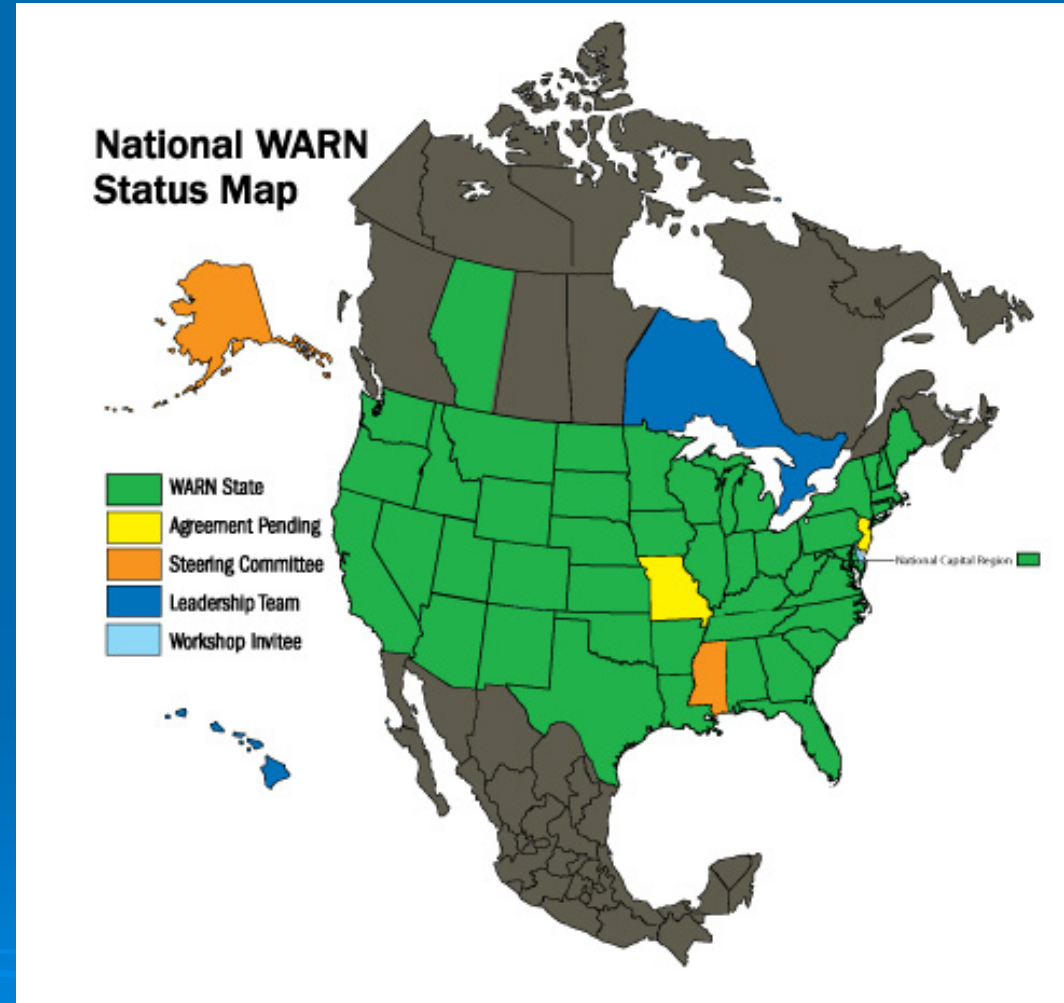
- Spread the Word!
- Login to the Website
- Download Operational Plan
- Develop Resource List
  - Internal to your utility
  - Ultimately will be included in website





# National WARN

- Create National WARN
- 46 States have WARN Programs
- Ohio was the 14<sup>th</sup> State
- Improved communication and coordination between states
- [www.nationalwarn.org](http://www.nationalwarn.org)



# Questions

