RESILIENCE PLANNING WORKSHOP FOR WATER UTILITIES
U.S. EPA REGION 6

Sponsored by U.S. EPA’s Creating Resilient Water Utilities Initiative

Date & Time:       June 6, 2017, 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm
                    June 7, 2017, 8:30 am – 2:30 pm

Location:          U.S EPA Region 6 Office
                    Fountain Place
                    1445 Ross Ave.
                    Dallas, TX 75202-2750

Workshop Objectives

• Share information about how flooding, drought and extreme heat events in the South Central U.S. could impact drinking water and wastewater utilities;
• Explore adaptation and resilience building strategies that reduce long-term risk to water infrastructure and resources from extreme events and improve overall utility management;
• Help participants identify key questions about water infrastructure vulnerabilities to address within their respective utilities or communities;
• Discuss strategies for making the business case for investing in resilience; and
• Introduce EPA’s Creating Resilient Water Utilities (CRWU) resources and tools.

Agenda – June 6, 2017

12:30 pm  Registration

1:00 pm  Welcome, Agenda Review and Participant Introductions
Jim Brown, Safe Drinking Water Branch Chief, U.S. EPA Region 6
Brad Spangler, Facilitator, Meridian Institute
Overview of the workshop objectives and agenda, and participant introductions.

1:30 pm  Presentation: Potential Water Sector Impacts of Extreme Weather Conditions in the South Central U.S.
Dr. John Nielsen-Gammon, Texas State Climatologist, Texas A&M University
Presentation on observed and projected regional extreme weather conditions and the potential impacts on drinking water and wastewater utilities in EPA Region 6.
2:00 pm  Adaptation and Resilience: Making the Business Case  
Ashley Greene, Environmental Scientist, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, U.S. EPA  
Presentation on the concepts of adaptation and resilience in the water utility context. This presentation will be based on content from the CRWU Resilient Strategies Guide with a focus on risk management, effective utility management and return on investment.

2:45 pm  Break

3:00 pm  Introduction to CREAT  
Ashley Arayas, Senior Analyst, The Cadmus Group  
Overview of EPA’s CREAT 3.0 risk assessment and decision support tool for water utilities. The presentation will provide an overview of the five modules of CREAT highlighting how utilities can use the tool to explore adaptation options with staff, as well as how the monetary risk assessment results CREAT produces may be used to inform utility resilience planning and build a case for action.

4:25 pm  Day 1 Wrap-Up

4:30 pm  Adjourn

**Agenda – June 7, 2017**

8:30 am  Day 2 Agenda Review  
Brad Spangler, Meridian Institute

8:45 am  Utility Resilience Planning Case Study 1: Austin, TX  
Joe Smith, Supervising Engineer and Shannon Halley, Environmental Programs Coordinator, Austin Water Utility  
Representatives from Austin Water will describe the activities they have undertaken to reduce vulnerability and enhance resilience to extreme events and share relevant lessons learned. Time for questions and discussion.

9:30 am  Small Group Discussion: Advancing Resilience Planning at Your Utility  
Brad Spangler, Meridian Institute  
Small group discussions focused on developing questions about the vulnerability of critical utility assets and exchanging ideas about how to gain stakeholder support for and advance action on water utility resilience planning.
10:30 am Break
10:45 pm Small Group Reports and Plenary Discussion
Small group reports and facilitated discussion about outcomes.
11:45 am Lunch (provided on-site with cash payment)
12:30 pm Utility Resilience Planning Case Study 2: Wichita Falls, TX
Daniel Nix, Utility Operations Manager, City of Wichita Falls
A representative from the City of Wichita Falls will describe the activities they have undertaken to reduce vulnerability and enhance resilience to extreme events and share relevant lessons learned. Time for questions and discussion.
1:15 pm Funding Resources for Resilience Planning
Dave Reazin, Scientist, U.S. EPA Region 6 and Sal Gandara, Project Officer, U.S. EPA Region 6
Presentation and discussion about funding resources available to support the resilience planning efforts of utilities in Region 6.
2:15 pm Workshop Wrap-Up
2:30 pm Adjourn