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The Authoritative Resource on Safe Water®

NewsRelease

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AWWA and CDC team up to provide emergency water supply planning guide for hospitals

(DENVER, CO) – The American Water Works Association (AWWA), the world’s largest organization of water professionals, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have released a new guide to help hospitals and health care facilities operate during water supply emergencies.

The [*Emergency Water Supply Planning Guide for Hospitals and Health Care Facilities*](#) provides a roadmap to help medical facilities withstand water interruptions from natural disasters, construction damage, and even acts of terrorism. The 94-page guide covers the establishment of response teams, assessment of typical water usage, analysis of emergency water supply alternatives, and other critical considerations.

Recent severe weather and floods nationwide have underscored the need for emergency readiness at hospitals and health care facilities.

“Assuring that health care providers are prepared for disruptions in their water supply must be a priority,” said AWWA Executive Director David LaFrance. “AWWA and the CDC share a commitment to public health and safety. This guide puts forth a clear roadmap to help hospitals and health care facilities prepare themselves for water shortage emergencies. It will help health care providers be in a position to more confidently provide for the care and safety of their patients during and after an interruption in the water supply.”

The guide complements the recently released [*Planning for an Emergency Drinking Water Supply*](#), the product of a partnership between the EPA’s National Homeland Security Research Center and AWWA. *Planning for an Emergency Drinking Water Supply* outlines critical planning steps in the event of a drinking water disruption and reviews the roles and responsibilities among various levels of government. Because multiple government agencies and other entities are involved in emergency response, advanced planning is necessary for efficient collaboration.

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AWWA is the authoritative resource for knowledge, information, and advocacy to improve the quality and supply of water in North America and beyond. AWWA is the largest organization of water professionals in the world. AWWA advances public health, safety and welfare by uniting the efforts of the full spectrum of the entire water community. Through our collective strength we become better stewards of water for the greatest good of the people and the environment.