

# Foreword

Water utilities are charged with providing potable water for their customers, even when disaster strikes. The utility that has prepared will be more effective at responding to and recovering from disasters.

Preparing for disasters can be a daunting task because of the seemingly infinite types of disaster hazards and dangers that can occur. To ease this task, AWWA Manual M19 provides guidelines and procedures that can be used by utilities of any size and complexity.

This edition of AWWA Manual M19, *Emergency Planning for Water Utility Management*, has been substantially rewritten. Revisions include a change in terminology to be more consistent with emergency preparedness practices. The revisions are partly based on experiences from recent disasters and recent studies of water system component performance in disasters. Also, the bibliography has been updated.

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