

ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Request

Request Receipt Date (by ASPR TRACIE): 8 September 2017

Response Date: 13 September 2017; updated 16 June 2021

Type of TA Request: Standard

Request:

The requestor asked if ASPR TRACIE had any resources on supplemental bulk water supply methods for hospitals in the event that their primary water supply was disrupted.

Response:

The ASPR TRACIE Team conducted a search for resources on hospital supplemental bulk water supply methods. We also reviewed the [ASPR TRACIE Utility Failures Topic Collection](#). The following resources were collected.

In particular, we would like to highlight the following resource as this was the primary guidance document that was referenced several times on other websites.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and American Water Works Association. (2019). [Emergency Water Supply Planning Guide for Hospitals and Health Care Facilities](#).

This document provides a four step process for the development of a hospital emergency water supply plan and includes tips for assembling the right planning team, performing a water use audit, analyzing alternatives, and developing and exercising the plan.

I. Emergency Water Supply Resources

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and American Water Works Association. (2019). [Emergency Water Supply Planning Guide for Hospitals and Health Care Facilities](#).

This document provides a four step process for the development of a hospital emergency water supply plan and includes tips for assembling the right planning team, performing a water use audit, analyzing alternatives, and developing and exercising the plan.

Roberson, A.J., Hildebrand, D. (2010). [Emergency Water Supply Planning, Part 1: Hospitals and Health Care Facilities](#). (Note: click on the Full Text PDF for access). Journal - American Water Works Association. Volume 102, Number 5. Pages 36, 38, 40.

The authors of this article discuss the impact of water supply loss on hospitals and other health care facilities. They also address the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and American Water Works Association's "Emergency Water Supply Planning Guide for Hospitals and Health Care Facilities" document (provided above) and note the goal of this project was to provide guidance for health care facilities in evaluating their water use

and determining how it might be curtailed in an emergency, and in developing an emergency water supply plan for the facility.

Salfarlie, W. (2012). [‘Code Blue.’ Planning and Managing Emergency Water Systems.](#) Health Facilities Management.

The author of this article addresses the planning process for hospital’s emergency water supply, and further breaks it into planning for existing hospitals and for new construction.

Stymiest, D. (2015). [How to Plan for Water Outages.](#) Health Facilities Management.

The author lists best practices for healthcare facility planners to consider regarding preventing, preparing for, and responding to water outages.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Healthcare and Public Health Sector. (n.d.). [Planning for Water Supply Interruptions: A Guide for Hospitals & Healthcare Facilities.](#) (Accessed 9/12/2017.)

This information sheet highlights some of the impacts of a water interruption and poses questions to ask to help facilities prepare for an interruption. Additionally, it provides information on existing resources that can help facilities develop and implement their preparedness strategy, including information related to the Joint Commission Emergency Management Standards for hospitals to have a plan to respond to a 96-hour denial of service for all utilities, including water and wastewater services.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. (2011). [Planning for an Emergency Drinking Water Supply.](#)

This document addresses the supply of drinking water after a disaster. Five workshops were convened with approximately sixty technical experts who reviewed alternative means of providing drinking water in the event of destruction, impairment, or contamination of the public water supply.