

Emergency Preparedness and Restoration Conference

February 17–18, 2026



Holiday Inn & Suites
St. Cloud, MN

2026 Emergency Preparedness and Restoration Conference

Join other municipal professionals at this interactive conference.

Topics to be covered:

• Mutual Aid 2025 Review: Powering through together

In 2025, Minnesota's municipal utilities once again proved that resilience is built on relationships—and no partnership exemplified this better than the one between Owatonna Public Utilities (OPU) and MMUA. When severe weather and unexpected outages struck, OPU and the MMUA membership stepped up with speed, skill, and a spirit of service, deploying crews and resources to support the residents of Owatonna. MMUA's leadership in mutual aid coordination, logistics, and communication ensured that lights came back on faster and safer for the Owatonna utilities staff and residents.

• Emergency Preparedness Tabletop Exercise

An interactive, scenario-driven activity designed to sharpen response strategies and reinforce team coordination. By simulating a real-world crisis, this exercise will empower participants and test decision-making under pressure in order to restore service with confidence.

• APPA Emergency Action Plan

Be the first to explore American Public Power Association's (APPA) new Emergency Action Plan (EAP). APPA's newly developed EAP isn't just a vague guidance document—it's a strategic blueprint for resilience. Designed to help public power utilities anticipate, respond to, and recover from emergencies with precision, the EAP integrates industry best practices, streamlined protocols, and real-world insights. This valuable resource offers a proactive approach to preparedness—ensuring that when the unexpected strikes, public power is ready to lead with confidence.

• Strategic Risk Assessment: Building resilience with purpose

In today's rapidly evolving utility landscape, risk assessment is no longer a check box—it's a strategic imperative. A well-executed risk assessment provides a clear-eyed view of vulnerabilities, operational exposures, and emerging threats, empowering leaders to make informed decisions that protect people, assets, and service continuity. By identifying what matters most, and what's at stake, utilities can prioritize investments, strengthen interdepartmental coordination, and foster a culture of proactive resilience.

• Prioritizing Resource Management: Powering smarter utility operations

In an era of rising demands and unpredictable disruptions, effective resource management is the backbone of utility resilience. Prioritizing resources—whether personnel, equipment, or supply chains—will help ensure your utility can respond swiftly, operate efficiently, and maintain reliability under pressure. Smart resource management turns operational challenges into opportunities for excellence.

Conference agenda

Tuesday, February 17

12:00–1:00	Registration/check-in
1:00	Welcome and opening remarks
1:00–2:00	Mutual aid 2025 year in review: Powering through together
2:00–2:30	Break
2:30–5:00	Emergency preparedness tabletop exercise

Wednesday, February 18

8:00–9:00	APPA's Emergency Action Plan
9:00–9:30	Break
9:30–10:30	Strategic risk assessment: Building resilience with purpose
10:30–11:30	Prioritizing resource management: Powering smarter utility operations
11:30–12:00	Closing remarks and wrap-up

Professional development up to 7 hours (PDH) available.
Attendee is responsible for tracking PDHs.

Registration information

Conference fee

Regular member: \$500

Affiliate/Associate member: \$600

Non-member: \$750

Registration fee increases \$50 after January 16, 2026. Advance registration closes on January 30, 2026. MMUA will issue a refund (less \$50 processing fee per person) provided MMUA is notified of the cancellation by 4:30 pm on January 30. Refunds issued to a credit card will be subject to a 3% fee.

To register, visit mmua.org/events/emergency-prep-2026

Hotel information

Holiday Inn & Suites

75 37th Avenue South, St. Cloud, MN

<https://tinyurl.com/2026-emerg-hotel>

Booking code: MEP

Please make a reservation using the link and booking code above. Note the availability and reduced rate of \$129 (plus tax) cannot be guaranteed. The hotel block closes on January 23, 2026 or when sold out.