Utility Resilience Workshop:
Safeguarding against physical and digital threats

January 20, 2026

MMUA's Lake Superior Training Room
600 Hwy 169 S, Ste 701, St. Louis Park, MN

2026 program details

Join MMUA and a host of state and national experts who will help you identify and mitigate physical and digital threats to your community.

Minnesota cities and local utility companies face an imposing array of physical and cyber risks that are very real and increasing daily. Like all businesses, hometown utilities are vulnerable to vandalism, theft, and data breaches involving personal information of employees, customers, and vendors. However, utilities have an even greater risk when they are exposed to cyber espionage, cyber extortion, and cyber-attacks aimed at manipulating or destroying utility control systems and the equipment they operate. Whether bad actors try to break into a facility or hack your IT system, you want to be ready—and this workshop will help you prepare.

Protect your community's system

Join fellow utility professionals for this practical, eye-opening workshop on today's most pressing security challenges. Hear from national experts, learn about real-world threats facing utilities like yours, and take part interactive exercises that reveal how easily vulnerabilities can be exploited—and how to prevent that from happening. After this session you will know how to strengthen your defenses, sharpen your awareness, and bring home tangible strategies you can put to work immediately. Register today and take the next step toward a more secure utility.

Registration information

Workshop fee

- $400—regular member
- $500—affiliate/associate member
- $600—nonmember

Registration fee includes refreshment breaks and lunch. MMUA will issue a refund (less $50 processing fee per person) provided MMUA is notified of the cancellation by 4:30 pm on January 7. Refunds issued to a credit card will be subject to a three percent fee.

Early birds save money!

Register by December 19, 2025 for the best rate. Fees increase $50 after that date.

To register, visit mmua.org/events.

Workshop agenda
Tuesday, January 20
9:00 am–4:30 pm

The Littleton Electric Light and Water hack: Pitfalls and lessons learned

As seen on 60 Minutes

- **Nick Lawler,** General Manager, Littleton Electric Light and Water Departments

National security report: Insights

- **Michael P. Coe**, Vice President, Physical and Cyber Security Programs, American Public Power Association
- **Matt Whiting**, Security Program Specialist, American Public Power Association

Minnesota security threats: Statewide assessment and case studies

- **Chris Watkins**, Energy Security Advisor, Office of Energy Modernization, Resilience, and Security, Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources
- **Angela Hary**, Cyber Navigator, Security Operations Center, Minnesota IT Services (MNIT), Partners in Performance
- **Carter Oster**, Intelligence Coordinator, Minnesota Department of Public Safety
- **AJ Carlson**, Special Agent, St. Paul Office, Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

Simulation: Incursion at a hometown utility
Live demonstration of likely scenarios

Table top exercise: Crisis at a municipal water utility
Participants will engage in this hands-on practice event that will test readiness, decision-making, and resource coordination under realistic pressure.

Taking action, making an impact

- **Dan Harkness**, CISSP, Group Lead, Secure DevOps, Argonne National Laboratory, US Department of Energy

Professional development credit of up to 6.5 hours (PDH) is available. Attendee is responsible for tracking PDHs.