



Settle down.

City of Grand Forks

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN FOR CONTINUED SUPPLY OF SAFE POTABLE DRINKING WATER & WATER FOR FIRE FIGHTING PURPOSES

During a major emergency a command center will be set up at the RDKB Office or City Hall whichever site is the safest. A plan of action and notifications will be determined and put in place to correctly deal with the emergency by the individual who is in charge. Communications must be submitted to all who are involved.

March 16, 2016

PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH

Safe and reliable drinking water is vital to every community. Emergency response planning is an essential part of managing a drinking water system. Most public water systems have had routine operating emergencies such as pipe breaks, pump malfunctions, bacteriological contamination, and power outages. These are manageable if the water system has an emergency response plan that can be put into action. More serious non-routine emergencies may result from intentional acts of vandalism, chemical spills, floods, earthquakes, windstorms, or droughts. These can drastically affect the system and the community that depends on it. Each emergency has unique effects on different parts of a water system. Floods can cause widespread bacterial contamination, earthquakes can damage water sources, distribution systems and treatment systems, and storms can disrupt power supplies. The common element is that each emergency may threaten the system's ability to deliver potable and palatable drinking water. Emergency response planning is a process by which water system managers and staff explore vulnerabilities, make improvements, and establish procedures to follow in an emergency situation. It is also a process that encourages people to form partnerships and get to know one another. Preparing a response plan and practicing it can save lives, prevent illness, enhance system security, minimize property damage, and lessen the overall burden of a catastrophic event and the cost associated to the disaster.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN MISSION AND GOALS

Mission statement for Emergency Response Plan	In an emergency, the mission of The City of Grand Forks is to protect the health of customers by being prepared to respond immediately to a variety of events that may result in contamination of the water or disruption of supplying water via floods, storms, earthquakes, and vandalism
Goal 1	Be able to quickly identify an emergency and initiate a timely and effective response to the situation at hand
Goal 2	Be able to quickly notify local and regional authorities to assist in the response if utilities cannot respond effectively
Goal 3	Protect public health by being able to quickly determine if the water is not potable nor palatable to drink or use and being able to immediately notify customers effectively of the situation and advise them of an appropriate protective action plan.
Goal 4	To be able to quickly respond and repair damages to minimize system down time and the potential of illness associated to water quality in the event of a rare emergency.