



U.S. EPA’s Tabletop Exercise Tool for Water Systems: Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Climate Resiliency: Train-the-Trainer Workshops

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

The Horsley Witten Group, Inc. (HW) developed a train-the-trainer workshop for the U.S. EPA to promote the use of EPA’s newly released tabletop exercise tool entitled “Tabletop Exercise Tool for Water Systems: Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Climate Resiliency (TTX Tool).” The TTX Tool is designed to provide the water sector with the necessary resources to plan, conduct, and evaluate tabletop exercises. Tabletop exercises allow water systems to practice, test, and improve emergency response plans (ERPs) and procedures. The TTX Tool simplifies the process of planning and conducting tabletop exercises, and provides resources that aid in the development of customized scenario-driven, discussion-based tabletop exercises.

HW conducts training sessions at EPA Regional offices to an audience of drinking water and wastewater utility staff, EPA Regional personnel, state primacy agency personnel, and those interested or involved in supporting a utility conducting a TTX. HW developed and delivers the training sessions to ensure that all participants are:

- Comfortable with navigating the interface of the tool;
- Aware of its different resources and functionality;
- Able to select, design, and customize an appropriate exercise, based on the exercise scope and objectives, as well as the needs of the participants, and the probability of a particular incident in a geographic region; and
- Comfortable with leading and facilitating a TTX, based on lessons learned from HW’s experienced facilitator cadre.

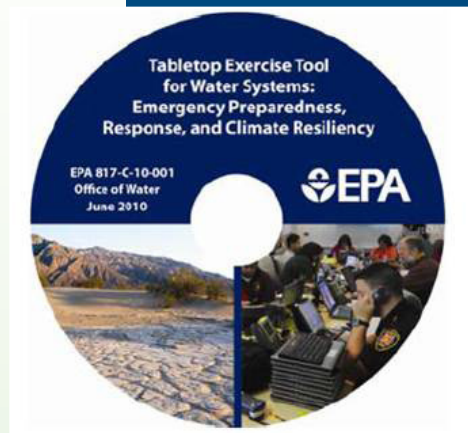
In addition to the trainings, HW will conduct two three-hour webinars to explain how to use the TTX Tool and to customize the exercises. The webinars will be based on the same materials used in the on-site trainings, and will serve as instruction for those unable to travel to an on-site training.

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