



# TOIRMA Partners with IPWMAN

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS RISK MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

It's no secret that TOIRMA is an advocate of intergovernmental agreements. Having an intergovernmental agreement in place better protects townships/road districts by outlining the specific terms of the cooperation and the responsibilities of the parties involved. Whether it's for road maintenance, snow removal, or construction projects, townships/road districts, through intergovernmental cooperation, are increasing efficiencies and saving taxpayer dollars while getting the job done. In the spirit of planning ahead with intergovernmental cooperation and written agreements, TOIRMA is partnering with the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network (IPWMAN). **During calendar year 2019, for any TOIRMA member that joins IPWMAN for the first time, TOIRMA will reimburse that member the 2019 IPWMAN membership fee.**

**QUESTION:** What is IPWMAN?

**ANSWER:** IPWMAN was established with the goal of assisting local governments in being better equipped to respond to natural disasters such as tornadoes, earthquakes, flooding, other major storm events, infrastructure failures, and terrorism events. *It is the mission of IPWMAN, in the spirit of intergovernmental cooperation, to develop and maintain a statewide network of public works related agencies whose principal purpose is to provide mutual aid response and recovery assistance to each other when confronted with natural or man-made emergencies and disasters.*

**QUESTION:** How does IPWMAN work?

**ANSWER:** When a disaster occurs, an IPWMAN member can make a request to the network for assistance from other IPWMAN members.

**QUESTION:** What are some examples of situations where assistance has been provided by IPWMAN?

**ANSWER:** Examples of assistance during disasters include the need for personnel, equipment, or both. IPWMAN members have assisted during the aftermath of tornadoes (cleanup). During regional flooding, townships/road districts may put out a request for temporary signs or barricades from other unaffected areas of the state.

**QUESTION:** If a township/road district is a member of IPWMAN and a call is made for assistance, does that member have to provide the requested assistance?

**ANSWER:** No, it is NOT mandatory for IPWMAN members to provide assistance. IPWMAN members maintain their ability to decide whether they can help or not.

**QUESTION:** What organizations may join IPWMAN?

**ANSWER:** Membership is open to any public agency that provides public works related services. This includes townships/road districts.

**QUESTION:** What are the benefits of joining IPWMAN?

**ANSWER:** As stated above, by joining IPWMAN, members have access to personnel and resources when there is an emergency. In addition, members benefit from IPWMAN's guidance in coordinating a response to an emergency, consistent understanding of the responding and requesting agencies' roles during response by following the mutual aid agreement, response that is based upon the need of the requesting agency as opposed to unsolicited responders hampering recovery efforts, and opportunities to participate in emergency training programs.

IPWMAN has responded to disasters all over the State of Illinois since 2009, and is recognized by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. IPWMAN maintains a current, readily accessible listing of available resources for its members, provides standardized operating procedures for disaster response, has quick and direct access to public works assets, and a simplified reimbursement system.

**QUESTION:** Does IPWMAN provide an intergovernmental agreement?

**ANSWER:** Yes. The IPWMAN mutual aid agreement is a standard intergovernmental agreement entered by each IPWMAN member. The agreement is self-renewing after the first year with the payment of dues. Members retain their ability to cancel at any time.

**QUESTION:** What does it cost to join IPWMAN?

**ANSWER:** IPWMAN has provided over \$2.5 Million in services to stricken members since its inception in 2009. IPWMAN dues are based on population served, so townships/road districts with a population under 15,000 annual dues will be \$100 per year, 15,001 to 75,000, \$250 per year, and townships/road districts with a population over 75,000, \$500 per year.

**QUESTION:** How does a township/road district join IPWMAN?

**ANSWER:** For more information regarding membership in IPWMAN, please visit [ipwman.org](http://ipwman.org), or feel free to contact IPWMAN by email, [info@ipwman.org](mailto:info@ipwman.org), or telephone (844) 479-6269.

**QUESTION:** How does a township/road district that is a TOIRMA member get reimbursed for initially joining IPWMAN during calendar year 2019?

**ANSWER:** Once you have paid your 2019 IPWMAN membership invoice, please provide TOIRMA a copy for reimbursement. Send it to our office by email: [pjacob@toirma.org](mailto:pjacob@toirma.org), fax: (217) 744-8011, or by mail: TOIRMA, 3217 Northfield Drive, Springfield, IL 62702.

**Thank you for your attention to these matters. As always, if you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact our office toll-free at (888) 562-7861 or by email at [jdonelan@toirma.org](mailto:jdonelan@toirma.org).**