



# Wastewater Treatment Plant Survey123:

## A Tool for the Virginia Emergency Support Team (VEST) Emergency Support Function (ESF) 3 – Public Works and Engineering

### OVERVIEW

The Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) is responsible for developing and maintaining the Commonwealth of Virginia's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). In response to natural and manmade disasters, the state expands staffing at the Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC) through the Virginia Emergency Support Team (VEST). The VEST is comprised of more than 300 representatives from state, federal, private, and nonprofit groups that work together to respond to calls for assistance from local governments throughout the Commonwealth.

The VEST is organized by Emergency Support Functions (ESFs), such as ESF #3 - Public Works and Engineering. One of the core capabilities of ESF #3 is to provide technical assistance for the clearance, removal, and disposal of debris from public property and to track the status of, and provide technical assistance to, solid waste management facilities that may experience disaster-related disruptions to operations.

### SURVEY123



In an effort to provide better support to wastewater treatment facilities across Virginia during a disaster, VDEM and ESF #3 partners have developed a GIS-based survey tool. This tool is used to collect information on the overall status of wastewater treatment facilities, as well as some operational elements that are critical to the continuity of operations.

Responses to the surveys are collected through VDEM's ArcGIS Online account and help VDEM anticipate potential resource issues in a timely manner. Additionally, this helps VDEM queue up support as needed where local resources and/or capacities are exceeded. Only VDEM has direct access to the collected data.

### HOW IT WORKS

In the event of a disaster, ESF #3 will send out an email to the Emergency Contact on file for each permitted wastewater treatment facility in the disaster area. This email will come from the ESF #3 account which is [pwae@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:pwae@vdem.virginia.gov).\*

The email will include the link to the survey, as well as instructions for how frequently to update the survey if the facility experiences operational disruptions.

\*[pwae@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:pwae@vdem.virginia.gov) is a legitimate shared inbox but may be blocked by your organizations firewall policies.

### NEXT STEPS

In preparation for a potential disaster, please ensure:

1. The Emergency Contact information for your facility is up to date. This information can be updated for your facility by using the [Wastewater Treatment Plant Emergency Contact Form](#).
2. You are able to access the operational status survey by scanning the QR code above or using the URL: <https://arcg.is/1zze000>
3. Your facility is able to receive emails from [pwae@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:pwae@vdem.virginia.gov).

Please email [pwae@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:pwae@vdem.virginia.gov) with any questions.