

State Disaster Relief Funds Released

On September 28, Ohio Governor John Kasich authorized the implementation of the State Disaster Relief Program (SDRP) as a result of flooding and severe storms in June and July 2015.

The SDRP reimburses local governments and eligible non-profit organizations for disaster costs related to debris removal, emergency protective measures and repairs to infrastructure.

Funding is provided at 75 percent of eligible costs. In order to apply there must be a local declaration. To get reimbursed for eligible work, the costs associated with the local government's work must exceed one-half of 1 percent of its usable budget. Forty local governments within the following counties have submitted applications to the program:

- June 14-30 flooding and severe storms: Adams, Logan, Mahoning, Mercer, Van Wert and Wood
- July 13-14 flooding and flash flooding: Gallia, Jackson and Lawrence
- July 18-19 flooding and flash flooding: Brown

On October 19, the State Controlling Board approved appropriation of \$6 million in order to fund SDRP for these three disasters.

The Disaster Recovery Branch (DRB) is currently working with the local governments to refine estimates and gather site specific information on damages and costs. As each local government finalizes cost estimates, DRB will send a Notice of Award which will outline the initial estimate of the local government's grant.

Local governments will initially have until October 19, 2016 to complete work. The SDRP normally allows for completion of



Flash flooding washed out a culvert in Harrison Township, Gallia County, during heavy rains in mid-July. State Disaster Relief Program funds will reimburse the local government for 75 percent of replacement costs.

work within six months with time extensions awarded on a case-by-case basis. The extended completion deadline is due to the upcoming shift to the winter season and the fact that some road repairs cannot be completed during the colder months. Once a local government completes its work, it will submit documentation with the final actual costs and then be reimbursed.

The SDRP has been in existence since the late 1990s/early 2000s, although funding was provided through a less formal process back to 1985. Since 1985, the program has funded disaster recovery efforts for 68 disasters totaling \$35.4 million.

Ohio EMA

Watch Office

Ohio EMA is in the final steps of opening a Watch Office, or a full-time Assessment Room. The Ohio EMA Watch Office will be fully operational to start the New Year.

Josh Sigmon, formerly a planner at Ohio EMA, and Tyler Kempf, who previously worked as a Public Safety Intelligence Manager in the Ohio State Highway Patrol's Intelligence Unit, have been hired as the two Watch Chiefs. They are in the process of hiring and training a team of analysts to staff the Watch Office, located adjacent to the State EOC. The Ohio EMA Watch Office will operate 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week, 365 days a year.

The Ohio EMA Watch Office team of analysts will provide daily situational awareness products and decision-support, track and dispatch Ohio EMA resources and assets, provide timely, accurate and actionable assessments to Ohio EMA, its partners, and stakeholders throughout the state. The Watch Office is charged with increasing Ohio EMA's and the State EOC's speed and efficiency, enabling the State of Ohio to better prepare and respond to all hazards.

The Ohio EMA Watch Office is also a center for collaboration, and will work with whole-community partners at all levels of government to identify gaps in disaster preparedness and response.

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Public Safety Training Campus upgraded

The Department of Public Safety recently upgraded the Public Safety Training Campus. As a result, the link to the “Log-in” / “New-User” page changed.

Please use this link in the future to log into your Training Accounts: <https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/cm/cm710/pstc/pstc.html>

Contact Lisa Jones at ljones@dps.ohio.gov if you have questions about the following four items

[FEMA's Emergency Management Institute \(EMI\) Course Schedule](#) - Access the hyperlink above to view a list of EMI's Upcoming Courses

[NIMS ICS All-Hazards Position Specific Training Courses](#) - Access the hyperlink above if you are interested in attending FY2016 Schedule of On-Campus Resident, Train-the-Trainers and Off-Campus Regional Classes

[FEMA Student Identification \(SID\) Number](#)
Access the hyperlink above to Request or Retrieve your FEMA Student Identification (SID) Number

[National Domestic Preparedness Consortium \(NDPC\) and the Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium \(RDPC\)](#)
Click the following hyperlinks for information about our [National Domestic Preparedness Consortium \(NDPC\)](#) and the [Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium \(RDPC\)](#) Training Partners.

PER-327 Crude by Rail Courses

Security and Emergency Response Training Center (SERTC) has the following Crude by Rail (PER 327) seats available for immediate placement of your responders (please register as soon as possible, because these seats fill quickly). <http://sertc.org/>

November 2-4, 2015	1 seat available
November 9-11, 2015	3 seats available
November 11-13, 2015	1 seats available
November 16-18, 2015	4 seats available
November 18 – 20, 2015	19 seats available
November 30 – December 2	(SPANISH ONLY)

These seats are FEMA-NTED funded which means portal to portal costs are covered EXCEPT for backfill and overtime (NOT COVERED IN THE GRANT). The course pre-requisites are mandatory: Firefighter I and Haz Mat Operations. For more information contact, Glen D. Rudner, General Manager, SERTC – CIRG at email address: Glen.Rudner@aar.com

Highlighted Courses

If you are interested in attending one of the following courses at Ohio EMA and you already have a user profile in the Public Safety Training Campus (PSTC), please send an email to Lisa Jones at ljones@dps.ohio.gov and she will register you for the course(s).

MGT-409 Community Healthcare Planning and Response to Disasters Course, November 16-17, 2015 Lucas County)

This course provides comprehensive planning tools to mitigate impacts on communities during large-scale incidents and examines the need for collaboration among responders in a community-wide disaster response. It is taught through a combination of facilitated discussion, hands-on training and traditional instruction. Recognizing that response to disasters differs by locale, the course can be tailored to local participant needs. Several activities rely on the varied expertise and experiences of the audience to provide information about their planning considerations and response roles.

L-449 Incident Command System (ICS) Train the Trainer (TtT) Course at Ohio EMA, May 3 – 6, 2016

L-449 Incident Command System (ICS) Curricula Train the Trainer (MGT906) prepares participants to deliver EMI's ICS curricula. Enhance your instructional skills and prepare to deliver FEMA's Incident Command Systems (ICS) curriculum. While ICS-100 and ICS-200 courses are addressed, the major emphasis is on ICS-300 and ICS-400.

Students will learn from training professionals how to use adult-learning techniques to get the best out of the classes you teach.

Students will develop and deliver a training module during the course. This course is 32 hours (4 days) and is scheduled through the State Administrative Agency only in cooperation with The Emergency Management Institute.

Radiological Courses:

AWR-317 REP Core Concepts Course (RCCC), November 16-17, 2015

The REP Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Core Concepts Course (AWR-317/RCCC) focuses on the nuclear power plant off-site radiological emergency preparedness program. It addresses the history and sentinel events, federal **(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)**

2 CFR 200 requires procurement documentation

Are you worried about the changes for the new 2 CFR 200 with regards to your grant?

As this is a federal regulation it applies to all grants that Ohio EMA receives to pass through to the local jurisdictions. That means you need to worry about this change for EMPG, SHSP, and HMEP.

One of the most important changes to note is that to keep your costs eligible, all sub-recipients need to show complete procurement information based on the guidelines.

If you submit any requests without appropriate documentation of procurement then the Grants Branch will contact you.

So, please plan the acquisition of equipment and services ahead of time and give us your documentation to tell your procurement story.

Here are a few more helpful things to note for EMPG (These may delay your request and involve us reaching back out to you):

- Emergency response lights and sirens are not eligible.
- Memberships need to be directly EMA related associations such as IEAM, EMA Sectors and EMAO.
- All costs must be within the stated performance period on your grant

agreement.

- For payroll, please show all funding sources to establish the equitable split for EMPG time. If you claim the gross salary then you can only claim - and need to show in your auditor's report - exactly the employer-paid benefits.
- Volunteer rate for in-kind must be for eligible activities under EMA responsibility and be an hourly rate comparable to a similar position within the county. We will need copies of these county position descriptions to show how the amount was established.

TRAINING INFORMATION

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regulatory policies, basic radiation principles, REP planning guidance (planning standards), REP demonstration guidance (exercise evaluation areas) and the REP Disaster Initiated Review (DIR) process.

At the successful completion of this course, the student will have satisfied the instructor-led training prerequisites for both the MGT-445 REP Program and Plan Review Course (RPPR) and the PER-314 REP Exercise Evaluator Course (REEC).

MGT- 445, REP Program and Plan Review Course (RPPR), November 17-19, 2015

FEMA Region V will be hosting the MGT-445, REP Plan Review (RPPR) Course on November 17 - 19, 2015. This course focuses on the review of REP emergency plans, specifically the NUREG 0654/ FEMA-REP-1 planning standards that address the public's health and safety. The revised REP Plan Review Course will include training based on the Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG) -101, familiarization of Hostile Action Based (HAB) plan review, annual plan review, and the Annual Letter of Certification Review Guide process.

AWR-327 REP Exercise Controller (RECC), November 20, 2015

This course covers the roles, responsibilities, and conduct of REP Exercise Controllers during REP Exercises or Drills. The content is based on the REP Program Manual and best practices gathered from Subject Matter Experts. The course is designed for anyone fulfilling the role of an offsite controller from Federal, State, Local, and Tribal Emergency Management and Utilities involved with offsite REP exercise/drill control for NRC-licensed commercial nuclear power plants.

G251 Workshop in Emergency Mgmt. Amateur Radio Resources at Lake County EMA, December 19, 2015

This workshop will educate state and local emergency management officials about amateur radio resources that provide emergency communications. More specifically, the workshop provides information and guidance on Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), encourages State and local emergency management agencies to use RACES and shows how these agencies can have an effective, integrated, and properly managed RACES organization. The target audience for this workshop includes: emergency managers, state and local elected officials, road and bridge supervisory personnel, emergency management personnel, city planning directors, EOC staff.



Ohio Department of Public Safety Emergency Resource Team members pose with a MedFlight helicopter after their four-day training.

DPS Emergency Resource Team Trains

The DPS-Emergency Resource Team (DPS-ERT) was created per the request of Director Born, under “A Safer Ohio” program comprised of DPS employees to help the local EMA’s with gaps that need assistance within an incident upon their request.

The team has pre-identified mission sets to assist, under their direction with the local EMA’s, such as Damage Assessment. Forty students have completed the

basic training course in July and August, which entailed the light search and rescue, how to use the MedSled, fire safety, fire extinguisher training with the “Live Burn” simulator, terrorism, medical operations, and health concerns while deployed. The last day of the four-day training was an exercise that the students participated in using all of their new learned skills extracting victims from inside and outside of the Ohio EMA building.

Eleven of the original 30 DPS-ERT members attended “landing zone training” at Ohio MedFlight. This team assisted the MedFlight helicopter landing to extract a victim that needed urgent hospital care at the end of the exercise.

After the exercise, the new recruits participated in an after-action meeting and graduation, where the students became DPS-ERT members, making the team count, 70.

Two New Ohio EMA Hires Complete Regional Staffing

Ohio EMA is pleased to welcome two new members to the Regional Field Staff. Anita Stechsulte works in the Findlay office and Michelle Sowers is assigned to the Parma office. Both are titled as Emergency Management Specialists who support county EMA offices in the northwest and northeast regions of the state.

Anita Stechsulte comes to Ohio EMA with seven years of experience at the local emergency management level from Putnam and Paulding counties. She has completed the FEMA

PDS and holds bachelor degrees from Rhodes State College and Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science.

Michelle Sowers has spent the last five years with the Florida Division of Emergency Management where she worked in planning, exercise development, design and evaluation. She also has experience with nuclear power stations and the planning and exercise requirements associated with those unique facilities. She holds graduate and undergraduate degrees in meteorology and emergency management.

Silver Jackets Announce Floodplain Mapping for Marion County

To better understand and mitigate flooding along the Scioto River in Marion County, the Ohio Silver Jackets have secured funding from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Division of Soil and Water Resources, Flood Risk Management Program, for a floodplain study.

USACE allocated \$175,000 to update hydraulic and hydrology modeling along the study area, which includes the often-flooded villages of La Rue, Green Camp and Prospect, Ohio. The project is in collaboration with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Ohio Emergency Management Agency as part of the Silver Jackets interagency effort.

The USACE modeling is anticipated to be completed by September of 2016. The mapping would comply with current FEMA mapping standards and eventually be incorporated into the county's Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM).

Updated floodplain mapping could:

- Assist Marion County with its repetitive flooding problems through nonstructural efforts
- Allow the county to identify high-risk structures
- Update an all-hazards plan
- Formulate small-scale projects that could be completed at the local level

The Ohio Silver Jackets is an interagency team dedicated to creating a collaborative environment to bring federal, state, local, and other stakeholders together to network and learn from each other ways to reduce flood risks and other natural disasters. The Ohio Silver Jackets team is comprised of agencies with mission areas of hazard mitigation, emergency management, floodplain management, and natural resources management/conservation.

The intent of the Silver Jackets program is to bring agencies together to manage a state's flood risk throughout its life-cycle.

Zimber Ditch Mitigation Helps Downstream

Like many streams in Ohio, the Zimber Ditch has a history of flash flooding. Water accumulates quickly from the ditch, rising many inches within an hour during times of flooding. While the homes in this area were constructed in the mid-1950s to the late 1960s, prior to the first Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for the community, it is generally acknowledged that subsequent development upstream in the watershed during the past 40 to 50 years has increased the flood risk for properties along the lower reaches of Zimber Ditch.

In 2011, many homes sustained severe flood damage when the Zimber Ditch overtopped its banks on three separate occasions. It was these events that led city council and State Representative Kirk Schuring to work to find a solution to the repetitive flooding issue along the Zimber Ditch. Knowing that the flooding issues for local homeowners were not going away, local officials began to work towards a permanent solution to the problem. The permanent solution came in the form of an acquisition/demolish projects through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

The Stark County Park District (SCPD) is

using Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds to acquire and demolish a minimum of 10 repetitively flooded homes along the Zimber Ditch, with the possibility of nine additional homes should more funding becoming available. SCPD is managing the project and has partnered with Stark County Commissioners, the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District, and City of North Canton to provide the required 25 percent matching funds for the project along the Zimber Ditch.

To date, \$1.6 million dollars has been awarded to SCPD in federal and state funds for the acquisition/demolition project. Eight properties have been acquired, five have been demolished and three demolitions are pending. Additional homes are in the process now to be acquired and demolished in the very near future. As with any acquisition/demolish project that occur under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, the parcels will be deeded as open space permanently. At this time, it is envisioned that area will not simply become additional open space, but rather plans have been proposed for the property to be managed as a flood water storage area that will help protect downstream properties.

WATCH OFFICE

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Once operational, the Ohio EMA Watch Office will serve as the initial point of contact at the Ohio EMA for our state partners and county EMAs for incident reporting. The Ohio EMA Watch Office will develop daily situational awareness reports, as well as Ohio EMA Steady State Advisories, and other reports that provide awareness of a developing situation that may pose threats to life or property, with a focus on at-risk populations and cascading consequences.

The Ohio EMA Watch Office will also serve as a vehicle for information sharing by providing analysis, mapping products, and increased information flow across the spectrum of emergency management partners in Ohio.

*Ohio Winter Safety
Awareness Week
is November 15-21!*