





This Week in Ohio EMA

A publication of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety

Bob Taft, Governor ♦ Nancy Dragani, Executive Director, Ohio EMA ♦ Kenneth L. Morckel, Director, ODPS
www.ema.ohio.gov (614) 799-3695 - Ohio EMA Public Affairs

June 9, 2006 Volume III, No. 23

Ohio EMA Plans Branch Incorporating Pet and Animal Safety into Disaster Preparedness Plans

It's been almost a year since hurricanes Katrina and Rita disrupted and destroyed the lives of thousands residing along the Gulf Coast.

After Hurricane Katrina, many residents refused to evacuate because they were not permitted to take their pets with them. Federal and state emergency response offices quickly realized the importance of disaster preparedness for the entire family - including family pets.

The Ohio EMA Plans Branch is in the initial states of developing guidelines in plans for animal care. A meeting will be scheduled with the Ohio Department of Agriculture to review how the Ohio Veterinary Emergency Responders and other organizations can assist with emergency planning and response to animals.

The U.S. House of Representatives recently passed its version of the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act (H.R. 3858), which requires state and local authorities to consider the needs of individuals with pets and service animals in the event of a major disaster. The bill passed, 349 to 24.

The Department of Homeland Security's Ready campaign has posted a new link on its Web site entitled: "Preparing Your Pets for Emergencies Make Sense. Get Ready Now." According to the Ready brochure, preparing for your pets is as easy as 1-2-3.

1. **PREPARE** a pet emergency supply kit (or two). One kit should have everything you and your pets will need to stay at home (basically, food, water, medical and sanitary supplies to last for three or more days. The other kit should be a smaller version that you can take with you in case you need to evacuate.
2. **PLAN** what to do in an emergency. Be prepared to assess the situation and determine what is needed to ensure your family and animals' safety. Plan to take pets with you if you need to evacuate. You may need to make arrangements with animal shelters; public reception centers (shelters) usually do not permit pets.
3. **STAY INFORMED.** Know what types of disasters or emergencies can affect your region. Know where to find emergency plans established by your state and local government. For additional preparedness tips, visit www.ready.gov.

Other helpful sites include: The Humane Society of the United States - www.hsus.org/
 American Veterinary Medical Association - www.avma.org/disaster/saving_family.asp



Homeland Security Threat Level:

ELEVATED

**Ohio EMA Weekly Report Entries
(Ending June 6, 2006)**

BSSA Vehicle Unit 7



Communications Branch personnel began training the Ashland County Sheriff's Office on the use and operation of the Buckeye State Sheriffs' Association (BSSA) Interoperability Vehicle Unit 7. Ashland County Sheriffs' Office personnel will attend a total of 32 hours of training on the vehicle.

Unit 7 will be operational by June 23.

EMA County Call-Out System

Ohio EMA Communications personnel began training members of the Emergency Management Association of Ohio on the operation of the Ohio EMA County Call-Out System. The system will be used to notify the county EMAs of "short-fused" important information.

An example of short-fused would be an Emergency Management Assistance Compact request for a disaster-struck state, like Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina. All Ohio county EMAs were issued wallet-sized instructional cards in March.

EMA UPDATES

Matthew Keefe, Director
Fairfield County EMA

Doug Bentley, Interim Director
Ashland County EMA



NIMS Alert

**Available: New Online Training Course
on NIMS Resource Management**

Resource management is a key component of the National Incident management System (NIMS), which standardizes the procedures and functions involved in the resource management process. NIMS resource management provides a uniform way to identify, acquire, allocate and track resources, including personnel, teams, equipment and supplies. It is tied to mutual aid, resource typing, the use of common terminology and credentialing.

The on-line course (IS-703 NIMS Resource Management) involve the following tasks:

- Establish systems to describe, inventory, request and track resources
- Activate systems and dispatch resources prior to and during an incident
- Deactivation or recall of resources

The course's goal is to enable incident managers, logistics managers and other state, local or tribal officials to plan for, manage and implement resource management systems for times of crisis and disaster.

Access to NIMS Resource Management course:
<http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/is/is703.asp>

For additional information, contact Tom Gilboy, Emergency Management Institute manager, at tom.gilboy@dhs.gov.



June 14th: Flag Day

SafetyComm Solutions

Where Safety Comes 1st

SafetyComm Solutions provides professional public awareness, pipeline safety training, RP 1162 Compliance and Utility Communications services to the petroleum, natural gas, hazardous chemical and utilities industries through various outreach methods mandated by local, state and federal guidelines, as well as the internal policies of our client companies.

SafetyComm Solutions will conduct a free pipeline safety/incident response seminar for contractors/ excavators, public officials and emergency response personnel. Their seminar includes: registration/sponsor reception; a formal safety awareness presentation; and a question and answer session with pipeline company representatives (sponsors) and guests.

SafetyComm Solutions will conduct seminars in the following Ohio cities:

New Philadelphia, Ohio - June 12
(Belmont, Harrison, Homes, Jefferson, Monroe, Tuscarawas, Washington counties)

Marion, Ohio - June 19
(Coshocton, Crawford, Delaware, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Union, Wyandot counties)

Alliance, Ohio - June 13
(Carroll, Columbiana, Mahoning, Stark, Trumbull counties)

Lima, Ohio - June 20
(Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Mercer, Putnam, Shelby, Van Wert counties)

Toledo, Ohio - June 14
(Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Ottawa, Sandusky, Wood counties)

Defiance, Ohio - June 21
(Defiance, Paulding and Williams counties)

Norwalk, Ohio - June 15
(Ashland, Erie, Huron, Lorain, Richland, Seneca counties)

Richfield, Ohio - June 22
(Cuyahoga, Medina, Portage, Summit, Wayne counties)

To register and for additional information, go to: www.safetycommsolutions.com/trainingschedule-jun.asp.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|-----------|-----------|
| June 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 Incident Mgmt Ohio EMA | 8 Communications TAC Teleconference - 10 am | 9 | 10 |
| | | Beaver Valley Power Station DRY RUN (Plume Phase 06/06) Ingestion Phase 06/07 | | | | |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 HazMat TAC Ohio EMA  | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18  | 19 Medical TAC Ohio EMA | 20 | 21 | 22 Water TAC Ohio EMA | 23 | 24 |
| National Weather Service's NATIONAL LIGHTNING SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK (June 18-24) | | | | | | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |
| | | Beaver Valley Power Station EXERCISE (Plume Phase 06/27) (Ingestion Phase 06/28) | | | | |

Register for Ohio EMA courses by visiting <http://ema.state.oh.us/training>