



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

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EMA Director Attends National Weather Conference

Rick McCoy, Van Wert County EMA director, was the keynote speaker at the National Weather Association Conference held in Cleveland this week. More than 400 television meteorologists from around the country attended for the updates on new severe weather analysis and forecasting, and services TV viewers expect with weather event broadcasts.

McCoy gave a presentation on the November 2002 tornado in Van Wert and told of the benefits of partnering with the National Weather Service (NWS), television meteorologists and emergency management to provide lifesaving information to the public.



Pictured from left to right: Dean Gulezian, NWS Eastern Region director (New York); Rick McCoy, Van Wert County EMA director; and Brig. Gen. David Johnson, NWS director (Washington, D.C.)



FLOODSMART.GOV An official site of the National Flood Insurance Program

In Your Community

When a flood strikes your community, it's everyone's problem. Damage to private and public property can be swift and severe. It can take months and millions of dollars to recover and rebuild property and lives destroyed by floods.

Community participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is voluntary. Each identified flood-prone community must assess its flood hazard and determine whether flood insurance and floodplain management would benefit the community's residents and economy.

Floodplain management refers to an overall community program of corrective and preventive measures for reducing future flood damage. When a community chooses to join the NFIP, it must adopt and enforce minimum floodplain management standards for participation.

Visit www.floodsmart.gov for additional information.

Homeland Security Current Threat Level (Domestic & International Flights):

HIGH

Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness Presents Trophy to Salt Creek Elementary



2006 OCSWA Chair Carol Shkolnik, Ohio Department of Aging; Gabriela Torres, 2006 Overall State Winner; Principal Marsha Widelich, Salt Creek Elementary; and Pickaway County EMA Director James Deal.

The Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness (OCSWA) has sponsored an annual statewide severe weather safety poster contest since 1977, asking for Ohio students in first through sixth grades and individualized instruction classes to design a poster that demonstrates severe weather safety and preparedness.

Gabriela Torres, now in sixth grade, was awarded the 2006 Overall State Winner in August. She was one of 58 students recognized this summer at the Ohio State Fair as a regional winner.

Salt Creek Elementary School is a strong participant in the poster contest annually. The school had four students awarded as regional and state-level winners this year, and has had five overall state winners and numerous state-level and regional winners since 1998.

(Remember: Winter Severe Weather Awareness Week is November 12-18, 2006.)

Ohio Board of Regents Hosts Pandemic Influenza Continuity of Operations Plan Meeting



The Ohio Board of Regents held a meeting with state agency representatives on October 10 to review their Pandemic Continuity of

Operations Plans (PCOOP). The purpose of the meeting was to present an evaluation of the Board of Regents' PCOOP and for state agencies to suggest methods and provide tools to assist in improving the plan.

Two Ohio EMA planners developed and presented an electronic toolkit ("e-toolkit") that contains a guidance and templates.

All cabinet-level departments are required to submit their revised PCOOP on or before November 1.

State agencies represented included: Ohio EMA, Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Department of Administrative Services, and Ohio Department of Human Resources.

For additional information, contact the Ohio EMA Plans Branch at (614) 799-3688.

Including People with Disabilities in Emergency Planning

The workshop "Including People with Disabilities in Emergency Planning" is intended for individuals planning prior to an incident, first responders, shelter staff and people with disabilities.

December 7, 2006: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Presentation by Hilary Styron, director for the National Organization on Disability's Emergency Preparedness Initiative.

December 7, 2006: 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Tabletop exercise that involves first responders and people with functional needs.

Fee: No charge, but pre-registration is required. Call 614-287-5997. Visit www.olrs.ohio.gov/ASP/CSCCEM.asp for more information.

Co-Sponsored by: Columbus State Community College; Ohio Emergency Management Agency; Ohio Department of Health; Ohio Legal Rights Service; Ohio Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities; Ohio Department of Mental Health; Ohio Department of Aging; Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council; Ohio State University Nisonger Center UCEDD; University of Cincinnati UCEDD; and Governor's Council on People with Disabilities

EMA UPDATES

Athens County Emergency Management
 Fred Davis, Director
 E-Mail: gtedavis@yahoo.com

PERRY NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

Perry Nuclear Power Plant
 Partial Participation, Graded Exercise
 Lake, Ashtabula and Geauga counties

Tuesday, October 24, 2006

The Lake County Emergency Management Agency will facilitate a public meeting on Friday, October 27 for Department of Homeland Security and Nuclear Regulatory Commission evaluators to review preliminary exercise findings.

*Winter Safety Awareness Week:
 November 12-18, 2006*

Governmental and Private Attorneys' Role in Disaster



The forum "Governmental and Private Attorney's Role in Disaster" discusses the function of private and public attorneys when dealing with major community disrupting events. These actions could involve writing legislation prior to an incident; prosecuting false claims as a result of a disaster; representing the public with claims; and legal assistance for local emergency responders, support agencies and elected officials at all times.

The forum is co-sponsored by the Ohio Bar Association and the Columbus State Community College's Center for Workforce Development.

When: **Thursday, November 2, 2006**
 9 a.m. to noon

Location: Columbus State Community College
 Center for Workforce Development
 Fourth Floor Conference Center
 315 Cleveland Avenue
 Columbus, Ohio 43215

Cost: Free, but pre-registration is required
 Call (614) 287-5997 to register

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October 15	16 Medical TAC Ohio EMA School Roundtable ODOT-B	17 HazMat TAC Ohio EMA	18 Incident Mgmt TAC Ohio EMA	19 Water TAC Ohio EMA	20	21
22	23	24 Homeland Security Exercise & Evaluation Program Columbus - Polaris Campus Perry Nuclear Power Plant EXERCISE	25	26	27	28
 29 Daylight Savings. Set clocks BACK one hour.	30	31 Halloween	November 1 Communications TAC Ohio EMA	2	3	4
5	6	7 Election Day	8 Emergency Management Assistance Compact Ohio EMA	9	10 Holiday Observed	11 Veterans Day

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

UASI: Urban Area Security Initiative - TICP: Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan - FS: Full Scale Exercise