



# This Week in Ohio EMA



Ted Strickland, Governor ★ Nancy Dragani, Ohio EMA Executive Director ★ Henry Guzmán, ODPS Director  
Ohio EMA Public Affairs (614) 799-3695 [www.ema.ohio.gov](http://www.ema.ohio.gov)

October 19, 2007

Volume IV, No. 31

## Federal/State Disaster Aid Reaches \$30 Million

Federal and state aid in the form of grants and loans to Ohioans after the severe storms and flooding of August 20-28 has reached more than \$30 million.

As of Monday, October 15:

- \$16,788,000 has been approved under two individual assistance programs.
  - \* \$13,880,000 in Individual and Housing Program grants to 4,747 households for temporary housing and/or basic repairs of flood-damaged homes; and
  - \* \$2,908,000 in Other Needs Assistance grants for 1,957 households to spend on repair or replacement of essential furniture and appliances, clothing, medical and dental bills, and other flood-related expenses.



*(Findlay, OH, Sept. 15) - FEMA Mitigation representative Luletha Cheatham gives flood repair and prevention information to a shopper at the Lowe's Home Improvement store. FEMA mitigation representatives set up desks around communities affected by flooding to give homeowners information about FEMA programs. FEMA photo/John Ficara*

- \$13,324,000 has been approved by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in long-term, low-interest loans to homeowners, renters and business owners.

FEMA funds 100 percent of the housing grants; FEMA pays 75 percent of the other needs grants, and Ohio funds the remaining 25 percent.

The deadline for registering with FEMA and to submit your SBA loan packet is October 26.

Affected residents in the eight federally declared counties can register with FEMA by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or TTY 1-800-462-7585, or register online at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov).



## Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Training Course Conducted in Columbus

Ohio EMA exercise staff, in partnership with Bridgeborn Government Solutions, conducted the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) in Columbus, October 2-5. Forty-eight students representing Ohio city, county and state entities and the U.S. Coast Guard participated in the course.

The HSEEP training is a newly developed, intermediate-level course that incorporates exercise guidance and best practices from the HSEEP volumes. Course topics included exercise program management; design and development; conduct; evaluation; improvement planning; and the HSEEP toolkit.



A train-the-trainer module for individuals who have completed the HSEEP course and additional HSEEP courses will be conducted in 2008.

For additional information, contact Exercise Program Manager Darren Price, MEP, at (614) 799-3660 or e-mail: [deprice@dps.state.oh.us](mailto:deprice@dps.state.oh.us).

### EMA STATUS REPORT

#### **FEMA-1720-DR-OH**

Incident Period: August 20-28, 2007

Individual Assistance for: Allen, Crawford, Hancock, Hardin, Richland, Putnam, Seneca and Wyandot counties (declared 08/27/07)

**Deadline to Apply for FEMA IA: October 26**

Public Assistance for: Allen, Crawford, Hancock, Hardin, Putnam, Richland and Wyandot counties (declared 09/11/07)

Cumulative number of registrations for the eight (IA) declared counties: **8,205** (as of COB 10/14).

#### **By county:**

Allen	308
Crawford	1,658
Hancock	2,597
Hardin	119
Putnam	874
Richland	1,957
Seneca	119
Wyandot	573

#### **As of October 14:**

Indiv. & Households Program (IHP)	5,199 approved	\$16.78 million
SBA Home/Personal Property		
SBA Business Loans		\$13.3 million

**Saturday, November 3, 2007**

### **Ohio Haz Mat Teams Conference**

*8th Annual Haz Mat Technician/Specialist Refresher Training*

**NO COST TO ATTEND. NO REGISTRATION FEE.**

Solon Community Center (Cuyahoga County)  
35000 Portz Parkway, Solon, Ohio  
(off State Route 91, one mile south of US 422)

#### **Conference Agenda Topics:**

Highway Cargo Tank Emergency Response  
Break-out Sessions Featuring:

- The National Nuclear Security Agency
- Intermodal Container Emergencies
- Rapid Risk Assessment Techniques
- Basic Chemistry for Emergency Response
- Hazardous Material Case Studies
- U.S. Coast Guard Strike Team Workshop
- PUCO Haz Mat Enforcement Workshop

*Sponsored by the Chagrin/SE Hazardous Materials Response Team, with support of the Cuyahoga County LEPC and HMEP Grant Funding. Register online at:*  
**[www.ohiohazmatconference.com](http://www.ohiohazmatconference.com)**



(From the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio - [www.puco.ohio.gov](http://www.puco.ohio.gov))



It's hard to predict what energy prices will be in the future, just like it's nearly impossible to predict how cold it will be this winter. However, if we start "Keeping PACE with Winter Heating Bills" now, by **Preparing** our homes, checking on available **Assistance** programs, shopping around for natural gas **Choice** providers, and implementing **Energy** conservation measures, no matter what the winter brings, we can help keep winter heating bills manageable.

**Preparing Our Homes** - Preparing now for the winter can start you off on the right track. By doing things like caulking windows and other cracks on the outside of your home, you can help keep the cold winter air out. Scheduling an appointment to have your furnace tuned up now will be easier (and probably less expensive) than if you have to make an emergency call to the repairman on a cold winter night. Talk to your electric and natural gas company now about budget billing and other payment plans that might make paying winter bills a little easier.

**Assistance Programs** - There are several state and federal programs available to assist with the winter heating bills for those who qualify. The PUCO suggests inquiring with the Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP), Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), and PUCO winter reconnect order.

**Choice Providers** - Ohio's natural gas companies offer programs that allow customers to choose who supplies their natural gas. The PUCO's Apples to Apples charts provide consumers with a "snapshot" comparison of current supplier price options, contract terms and an estimated annual total cost. To have a chart mailed to you, call (800) 299-7271.

**Energy Conservation** - Another way to reduce your energy costs is to simply use less energy. Installing a programmable thermostat and setting it to 68 degrees and even cooler when you're not home will help keep your energy costs down. Also, set your hot water heater back a few degrees and use long-life halogen or fluorescent light bulbs to reduce energy usage.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October 21	22	23	24	25	26	27
			Water TAC Ohio EMA Senior TAC ODOT Auditorium		Campus Safety and Emerg. Planning, Reg. 4 Ohio State University	Intermediate ICS-300 Coshocton
28	29	30	31 Halloween	November 1	2	3
Intermediate ICS-300 Coshocton	Canine TAC ODOT "A"	Campus Safety and Emerg. Planning, Reg. 7 Hocking Tech College	Campus Safety and Emerg. Planning, Reg. 5 Youngstown State Univ	Animal Health Emerg TAC- ODOT, "B"	Campus Safety and Emerg. Planning, Reg. 1 Bowling Green St Univ	
4 Daylight Savings Time Ends	5	6 Election Day Damage Assessment Ohio EMA	7 Debris Management Ohio EMA	8 Campus Safety and Emerg. Planning, Reg. 6 Cincinnati Tech&Comm	9 Cost Documentation Ohio EMA	10 Intermediate ICS-300 Coshocton
11 Veterans Day	12 (Observed) 	13	14	15	16	17
Intermediate ICS-300 Coshocton		Intermediate Incident Command (ICS-300) Ohio EMA Campus Safety and Emerg. Planning, Reg. 2 Cleveland State Univ	Incident Mgmt. TAC Ohio EMA	Advanced Incident Command (ICS-400) - Ohio EMA	Campus Safety and Emerg. Planning, Reg. 8 Washington State Comm	
Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness ~ Winter Safety Awareness Week						

Register for Ohio EMA courses by visiting <http://ema.state.oh.us/training> - TAC - Technical Advisory Committee