



This Week in Ohio EMA



Seneca County, Nov. 2002



Hancock County, Aug. 2007



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

March 7, 2008

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Understanding Snow Emergency Classifications

(From the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness Web site: www.weathersafety.ohio.gov)

The county sheriff may, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Sections 311.07 and 311.08, declare a snow emergency and temporarily close all or certain highways, roads and streets within his jurisdiction when such action is reasonably necessary for the preservation of the public peace. Ohio Attorney General's Opinion 97-015 issued April 1, 1997, concludes that this authority includes all federal and state highways, county and township roads and municipal streets.

There are three levels of snow emergency classifications:

Level 1: Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Roads may also be icy. Drive carefully.

Level 2: Roadways are hazardous with blowing and driving snow. Only those who feel it is necessary to drive should be out on the roads. Contact your employer to see if you should report to work.

Level 3: All roadways are closed to non-emergency personnel. No one else should be out during these conditions unless it is absolutely necessary to travel, or a personal emergency exists. All employees should contact their employer to see if they should report to work. Those traveling on the roads may subject themselves to arrest.

3:25 PM EST March 7, 2008

The National Weather Service in Wilmington has issued a BLIZZARD WARNING, which is in effect until 4 PM EST Saturday. The Winter Storm Warning has been cancelled.

A major winter storm will continue to affect the Ohio Valley overnight into Saturday. This storm will hit as a one-two punch today, followed by a brief lull in snow intensity this evening before picking up in intensity again overnight when strong low pressure will combine with an upper level disturbance to bring a second round of heavy snow to the region.

Winds will gust up to 40 mph at times overnight before the storm ends Saturday afternoon. You can expect 10 to 15 inches of accumulation. The strong winds combined with snow and blowing snow will cause extreme winter weather conditions. The snow and blowing snow will reduce visibilities to near zero at times, causing whiteout and blizzard conditions.

Do not travel unless absolutely necessary. Conditions can deteriorate rapidly in blizzard conditions.

Remember: a BLIZZARD WARNING means severe weather conditions are imminent or highly likely.

Go to the National Weather Service Web site at www.nws.noaa.gov for up-to-date information.



Severe Weather Awareness Week:

March 23-29, 2008

Statewide Tornado Drill:

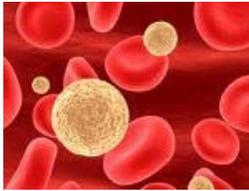
Wednesday, March 26 at 9:50 a.m.

Homeland Security Current Threat Level: **ELEVATED** - Significant risk of Terrorist Attack
HIGH (or Orange) for Aviation Sector

ELEVATED

Ohio EMA Monthly Report Highlights (dated February 5 - March 4)

Pandemic Influenza Continuity of Operations Plans



The Ohio EMA Plans Branch and staff from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) facilitated a meeting on Feb. 29 to discuss the recent federal draft guidance on the creation of state level Continuity of Operations Plans during a pandemic influenza incident. Final federal guidance is anticipated soon. The Ohio Emergency Operations Plan and the ODH Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Plan will guide the state's response during a pandemic influenza or any other infectious disease emergency. Ohio EMA is assisting ODH and other state agencies in planning a response to a pandemic flu outbreak.

Training and Exercise Plan Workshop

The Training and Exercise Plan Workshop was conducted Feb. 20-21. This course is a requirement of the FY 2007 Homeland Security Grant Programs for state and Urban Area Security Initiative cities. The workshop provided an opportunity to review the state/urban area homeland security strategy and to update the state's multi-year training and exercise plan.

Available Road Salt Resources

(From Ohio EMA e-mail sent to county EMA directors, 03/06/08)

The Ohio Department of Administrative Services has identified the following available resources:

Robinson Salt

(state term contract)

Salt alternatives available to local government through state co-op program. **800-898-7258**

North American Salt

(state term contract)

1,000 tons of salt available. Local government can access through state co-op program. **800-323-1641**

International Salt

(not on state term contract)

HQ in Pennsylvania - will deliver
888-388-4726

Morton Salt

Will sell only to those pre-identified on its contract (primarily state agencies and universities)

OPERATION: O.H.I.O. (Ohio Helps Its Own)

The Adjutant General of Ohio, Major General Gregory L. Wayt is conducting six town hall meetings throughout the state entitled: *A Call to Action*. The meetings will focus on how businesses and organizations can work together to support Ohio's military families. More than 13,000 Ohio Army and Air National Guard members have been mobilized and deployed to the Middle East since the tragic events of September 11, 2001.

The town hall meetings will provide information on the state's system of support of all Ohio military families. Outreach from local communities and organizations continues to be a critical source of support for Ohio's military families.

All meetings are held from 7p.m. to 9 p.m.

(March 5 - Wednesday)

Medina Performing Arts Ctr
777 East Union Street
Medina, OH 44256

March 13 - Thursday

Hocking College Student Ctr
3301 Hocking Parkway
Nelsonville, OH 45764

March 18 - Tuesday

Dublin Scioto High School
4000 Hard Road
Dublin, OH 43016

April 1 - Tuesday

Owens Community College
30335 Oregon Road
Perrysburg, OH 43451

April 15 - Tuesday

Kettering Government Ctr
3600 Shroyer Road
Kettering, OH 45429

May 20 - Tuesday

First Church of God
3100 Princeton Road
Hamilton, OH 45011

For more information, call (614) 336-7000.

Eleven complete Advanced Professional Development Series



From left to right: Brad Lawrence, Sandusky County EMA; Chris Mock, Sandusky County EMA; Keven Clouse, Ohio EMA; Shandra Roth, Medina County EMA; Michael Schulsinger, Clark County EMA; Christina Fozio, Medina County EMA; Todd Throckmorton, U.S. Postal Service (Columbus); Tim McVey, Columbus Police Department; Sharon Liebercht, Columbus Police Department; Michael Snowden, Hamilton County EMA; and Victor Wilson, Ohio Air National Guard.

Eleven city, county, state and federal employees earned certification in the Advanced Professional Series on March 5 after completing the G270.4 Recovery from Disaster, the Local Government Role course instructed by the Ohio EMA Disaster Recovery Branch staff. Students must complete five required courses and five of 16 elective courses.

The Advanced Professional Series (APS) was developed five years ago to motivate and challenge emergency management/response personnel to continue emergency management training. APS courses address top skills for performing emergency management and disaster duties.

Required courses: EOC Management and Operations; Incident Command System/EOC Interface; Rapid Assessment Workshop; Recovery from Disaster, the Local Government Role; and Mitigation Planning Workshop for Local Governments.

For more information on APS, click on the EMA Training Catalog from the Ohio EMA Training Site: <http://ema.state.oh.us/training>.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 9  <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i>	10 Canine TAC ODPS 4th Floor	11 Basic Public Information Officer Course Ohio EMA	12 Senior TAC ODOT Auditorium	13	14	15
16	17  St. Patrick's Day	18 HazMat TAC Ohio EMA	19 Incident Mgmt TAC Ohio EMA Animal Health TAC Ohio EMA	20 Water TAC Ohio EMA	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 CERT Train-the-Instructor Franklin County
Ohio Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week ~ Statewide Tornado Drill: Wednesday, March 26th at 9:50 a.m.						
30 CERT Train-the-Instructor Franklin County	31	April 1 Directors Seminar Holiday Inn East - Columbus	2	3	4	5

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