



Ohio's Emergency Management News



Ted Strickland, Governor ★ Tom Stickrath, ODPS Director ★ Nancy Dragani, Ohio EMA Executive Director

Tornadoes, Flash Flooding Hit Brown, Highland and Adams Counties Severe Storms Affect Ohio Valley; Adams and Pike Counties Declare

The National Weather Service in Wilmington confirmed two tornadoes that affected three Ohio counties Friday evening, May 21. The first tornado touched down near Mt. Orab in Brown County then crossed into Highland County before lifting near State Highway 321, southeast of Buford. The tornado traveled a path of three miles.

The worse damage occurred to a residence in Highland County. The NWS rated the twister as an EF1 with estimated wind speeds of 100 mph. Damage assessment found several barns and outbuildings destroyed or heavily damaged.

An EF1 tornado touched down about two hours later in Adams County near Bentonville, traveling a destructive course of 2.6 miles. According to the NWS, the tornado caused significant tree damage, minor damages to homes, and significant damage to numerous barns and outbuildings.

Adams County Commissioners declared a local emergency on May 22. The county has not requested state-level assistance.

The same line of storms inundated portions of Pike County with heavy rainfall and flash flooding. Campcreek and Newton townships received 4-5 inches of rain in a short period of time causing rapid water runoff and water erosion to road ditches, berms, culverts and bridges. Several access bridges to residences were destroyed and/ or washed away.

Pike County Commissioners declared a local state of emergency on May 24. To date, the county has not requested state-level assistance.



May 21, 2010 - Tornado damage near Bentonville, Adams County / Photo: NWS -Wilmington Storm Survey Team

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Homeland Security Threat Level:

ELEVATED



Significant Risk of Terrorist Attack

HIGH or **Orange** for Aviation Sector

Fayette County Director 2010 Hall of Fame Inductee

(From May 19 Record Herald article)

Fulton Terry, Fayette County Emergency Management Agency director was one of 12 individuals who were inducted into the 35th Annual Central Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame, May 19.

The ceremony was held in Columbus and conducted by the Central Ohio Area on Aging. Of the more than 218,000 seniors living in central Ohio, the selected individuals represent older Ohioans who set an example by leading lives not defined by age.

Terry was nominated by the Kiwanis Club of Washington Court House. His nomination states that his service to the county and his fellow man is extensive, particularly in the area of safety. Terry received higher education at the General Motors Institute and at Sinclair Community College. He also earned certificates in specialized training from FEMA, the Ohio Fire Academy, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and Ohio Department of Public Safety.



Throughout the years, Terry has worked in many organizations in Fayette County, including the Washington Court House Police Department, Ohio Department of Transportation, the Fayette County Engineer's Office, and 35 years as a call volunteer firefighter with the Washington Court House Fire Department.

Fulton Terry has served as Fayette County EMA director since October 1993.

Ohio Department of Insurance

State of Ohio Launches "Take Action – Protect Yourself from Fraud" Initiative

Columbus, OH – The easiest weapon people can use to protect themselves from fraud is to recognize it when they see it – before their money lines somebody else's pocket.

On May 11, the state of Ohio launched a new **Take Action: Protect Yourself from Fraud** initiative that educates consumers about insurance fraud and financial exploitation.

"There are growing trends in insurance and annuities fraud especially targeted at older people," said Ohio Department of Insurance Director Mary Jo Hudson. "This initiative is a proactive step to arm all Ohioans with knowledge to help them avoid financial exploitation. It also serves as a resource so people know where to turn to report fraud across the state.

Take Action initially will focus on alerting consumers to types of deceptive sales practices and schemes occurring in annuities, living trusts, stranger-oriented life insurance, reverse mortgages, Medicare sales and health care fraud. **Take Action** also assists Ohioans in safeguarding their online information and warding off unwanted telemarketers and spammers. The Ohio Department of Aging assisted in creating **Take Action** resources and plays a key role in the outreach to older Ohioans.

A free consumer guide provides background facts on areas where people are exploited and serves as a workbook listing important questions consumers should ask. The guide is available at www.takeaction.ohio.gov. It is an interactive site filled with tips on how to recognize, avoid and report fraud. The Web site also directs consumers to the right offices and agencies within state government.

For additional information on insurance fraud, contact the Ohio Department of Insurance Consumer Hotline at 1-800-686-1526.

“When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!”
Lightning Safety Awareness Week is June 20-26

In a coordinated effort with the National Weather Service and the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness, and in participation with national efforts, Governor Ted Strickland recognizes June 20-26 as “Lightning Safety Awareness Week,” and encourages all Ohioans to practice lightning safety and preparedness during this week and throughout the summer.

Lightning is one of nature’s most dangerous weather phenomena. Last year there were 34 fatalities caused by lightning strikes in the U.S. Ohio reported no deaths caused by lightning in 2009.

To date, two people have died this year because of lightning strikes.

According to the NWS, there is no safe place outside during a thunderstorm. The safety slogan continues to be, “When thunder roars, go indoors.”

Other safety tips include:

- Avoid open areas
- Stay away from metal conductors such as wires or fences
- Monitor the weather; listen to weather forecasts/reports.

Visit www.weathersafety.ohio.gov for more information.



Enhanced Threat & Risk Assessment

The Enhanced Threat and Risk Assessment course enhances the process taught in the Threat and Risk Assessment course. It provides emergency managers enhanced skills to conduct a comprehensive assessment of a jurisdiction’s critical vulnerabilities and develop an action plan to prevent, reduce and/or mitigate the potential damage from a CBRNE/terrorism incident (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive)

Participants should have a working knowledge of the jurisdiction’s Emergency Operations Plan Terrorism Incident Annex. It is recommended that participants complete the Threat and Risk Assessment source and a CBRNE/terrorism incident awareness course.

Where: Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security – Columbus

When: June 8-9, 2010 / 8 am to 5 p.m. daily

Contact Pamela Tickle at 614-794-0213 or pktickle@franklincountyohio.gov for additional information.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 30	31  Memorial Day	June 1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Developing & Managing Volunteers - Ohio EMA		9 Exercise & Evaluation Program – Geneva State Park		10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	Rapid Assmt Workshop Ohio EMA		Basic OpsCenter Ohio EMA State EOC		Damage Assmt Refresher Darke County EMA