



STATE OF OHIO
Emergency Operations Center
SITUATION REPORT

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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Ted Strickland, Governor
FROM: Ohio Emergency Management Agency
SUBJECT: February 2008 Wind and Flooding
DATE: February 8, 2008

The EOC Assessment Room is at CAS-1. This is the third Situation Report for the February 2008 Wind and Flooding Incident

Information is current as of 4:00 P.M. Friday, February 8, 2008.

CURRENT SITUATION

Rivers and tributaries are at or near crest and should begin receding over the weekend. Damage Assessments are ongoing and will take place as flooded areas become accessible. A second conference call for declared counties took place at 11:00 A.M. today. A Field Liaison will assist Logan County Saturday morning.

The state EOC Assessment Room will be staffed this weekend from 7:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., though hours of operation may be extended to accommodate and support local needs.

The next scheduled CAS-1 briefing will be held at 9:00 A.M. on Monday, February 11, 2008. CAS-1 agencies should be present in the state Assessment Room or continue to call 614-387-3141 to participate in the briefing.

Ohio Emergency Management Agency continues to monitor the situation for any changes.

DECLARATIONS

County: Auglaize, Defiance, Hancock, Henry, Logan, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Seneca

WEATHER

Weather Forecast

Weather in Ohio today was characterized by overcast skies with a few rain and snow showers across the state. High temperatures are currently in the forties, though they are falling. An arctic cold front is headed toward the state bringing with it increased threat of rain and snow showers Saturday evening and Sunday morning. High temperatures on Sunday will be in the twenties.

Current Warnings and Advisories As Reported by NOAA

The following counties are under a Flood Warning: Allen, Defiance, , Fulton, Geauga, , Hancock, , Henry, Holmes, , Lake, Logan, , Lucas, , , Marion, Mercer, , Ottawa, Paulding, Pickaway, Pike, Portage, Putnam, Sandusky, Scioto, Seneca, , Summit, , Van Wert, Wayne, Williams, and Wood.

The following counties are under a Flood Advisory: Gallia, Meigs, and Washington.

STATE LEVEL DISASTER ASSISTANCE ACTIONS

ESF 1 – Transportation

Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT)

There are currently 51 U.S. and state routes closed, and four restricted, due to high water and flooding. ODOT anticipates further road openings as the evening progresses. No interstate highways are being impacted by flooding at this time. For a complete list of road closures, visit www.buckeyetraffic.org.

ESF 3 – Engineering and Public Works

Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR)

ODNR Watercraft swift water rescue crews responded to a request for assistance in Putnam County. Three crews worked through the early morning hours in Kalida, Ohio. Those crews have been released and returned to their headquarters.

Two swift water rescue teams are still located in Ottawa, Ohio but are to be released by 4:00 P.M. today.

The Miami-Erie Canal embankment that was breached on the night of 6 February 2006 in (Auglaize County) is the responsibility of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Canal Office is working to repair the earthen embankment. The leakage was from a hole about six to eight inches in diameter located at the toe of the canal. The water from the leakage was flowing along the toe of the canal and over the adjacent road. Through the use of dye ODNR staff were able to determine the location where water was flowing through the embankment. Due to the vegetation on the downstream slope and receding water level as of last night, sandbags were placed around the hole reducing the effective head between the canal water level and where the water exited.

Currently, the water level in the canal has receded and the amount of leakage also reduced significantly. ODNR will repair the canal embankment accordingly by excavating the weakened soil and replacing it with compacted clay. Due to the original construction method of the canal embankment in which horses and mules were used to compact the soil, this type of leakage commonly occurs along the canal embankment during floods and are repaired accordingly

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

The boil advisory for Findlay Public Water System has been lifted.

Ohio EPA Solid Waste inspectors are available for technical assistance regarding flood debris issues. Inspectors are requesting that any request for debris management be routed through Stark County EOC.

ESF 6 – Mass Care

Ohio Community Service Council (OCSC)

OCSC continues to monitor sheltering and mass care operations and has staff ready to assist if the situation dictates.

American Red Cross (ARC)

Shelters continue to operate in Marion, Erie, Hancock, Henry, Defiance and Putnam counties.

Ohio VOAD

Long Term Recovery Committees (LTRC) are meeting Friday in Findlay to make plans. 500 Flood Kits are ready to be distributed as needs arise. Volunteers to do mud out work in Findlay are ready.

Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH)

Mental Health response teams are still on site at the ARC Owens Community-Findlay campus, Hancock County. Medical Reserve Corps Mental Health volunteers are ready to assist.

Salvation Army

Northeast Ohio Salvation Army reports that no shelters are open. Emergency canteens are out servicing the area with food and beverages.

ESF 8 – Public Health and Medical Services

Ohio Department of Health (ODH)

The ODH is monitoring the Real-time Outbreak and Disease Surveillance (RODS) system. There is nothing to report.

The ODH is monitoring the Ruffing Care Center evacuation in Seneca County. As a precaution the Ruffing Care Center evacuated 36 residents to St. Francis Care Center/Rehab Hospital in Green Springs, Ohio at 6:00 A.M. February 8. The residents were evacuated to the St. Francis Rehab hospital. Everything went very well and everyone was moved in by 8:30 A.M. Feb 8. The fire department assisted with the transfer of residents and they plan on returning all residents to Ruffing Care Center Feb 8 evening at 6:00 P.M.

The ODH provided the Defiance County Health Department with information regarding the emergency disinfection of drinking water.

The ODH is communicating with the Henry County Health Department (HCHD). The HCHD has assisted the Henry EMA in public announcements and given public information to the help lines (211). The HCHD has been on standby in assisting the local EMA in health related issues and the Red Cross for shelter needs as far as Nurses. The HCHD has assured the safety of the Home Health Hospice patients.

ESF 10 – Hazardous Materials

As reported at 0900 briefing, Ohio EPA received a report of a flood related petroleum release in St. Mary's, Auglaize County, at approximately 1500 hours yesterday, February 7, 2008. An On-Scene Coordinator from the EPA Emergency Response Unit responded to the scene yesterday evening, identified the responsible party, and advised them on requirements to abate and mitigate the spill. The facility owner hired a contractor to clean up the spill, and most of the work has been completed as of this report. OEPA will follow up and conduct an inspection to confirm the completion of the cleanup.

EPA also received a report of drums observed in the flood waters of the Auglaize River from Auglaize County Emergency Management Agency; they advised that they would follow up with additional information on the responsible party. Ohio EPA's Orphan Drum Coordinator has been notified and will coordinate with CEMA on the appropriate response.

ESF 11 – Agriculture

All animals in Auglaize and Findley Counties are ok, and the Regional DART-1 Team is on alert through tomorrow, ready to respond to requests for animal assistance. The Ohio Veterinary Emergency Response (OVER) is also on standby through ODA. ESF 11 will continue to monitor ODA internal divisions for any damage reports from the field.

ESF 12 – Energy

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO)

There are no reported storm-related power outages.

ESF 13 – Law Enforcement

Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP)

There are no reports of traffic-related unusual circumstances beyond management of road closures and detours. Troopers are regularly checking on existing road closure signs and assisting with ongoing assessment of any additional traffic control signs needed.

Ohio National Guard (ONG)

ONG is standing by and continuing to monitor the flooding situation.

ESF 14 – Recovery and Mitigation

Disaster Recovery Branch (DRB)

Homeowners, renters and business owners that received federal disaster grants and loans due to the August 2007 floods may have flood insurance coverage, which may provide funds to assist with damages due to current flooding. Please contact the National Flood Insurance Program at 1-800-638-6620 for claims and customer service information.

Debris Management:

Defiance and Putnam Counties are moving ahead with their debris management. If there are homes impacted, furniture and soaked items from flooded homes and need to be brought to the curb. Disaster Recovery sent the Debris Fact Sheet goes to local officials. Ohio EPA Bowling Green Office can provide technical assistance to you and is available to address issues, or call Greg Keller, Ohio EMA: 614-799-3669.

COUNTY IMPACTS

The following county reports are current as of 4:00 P.M. Friday, February 8, 2008.

Auglaize County: The mayor of the city of Wapakoneta has ordered that residents should not put debris on the streets as it will not be picked up by the city. Current Wapakoneta city policy is that residents are responsible for managing their own flood and weather related debris. The Salvation Army has promised 200 cleanup kits, but they will not be available until Monday, 11 February 2008. As of 16:30 the American Red Cross shelter is closed and no longer on stand-by.

Clean-up crews are standing-by to begin cleanup on the St. Mary's and Auglaize Rivers. The source of the flood-related oil spill has been identified and the county and Ohio EPA will work to the responsible party for cost recovery.

The EOC will close today at 16:30.

Defiance County: The American Red Cross shelter opened overnight at Trinity United Methodist Church on East Second Street reported one family in the shelter overnight. The shelter is open today from 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. The river is receding. No resources are needed at this time. The EOC will be open late tonight and for some hours over the weekend in support of damage and debris assessment.

Hancock County: The ARC shelter at Owens Community College on Bright Road at the north end of town will close at noon on Saturday. The contact for the shelter is Ruth at (419) 619-8990 or Gloria at (419) 351-1002. The county has conducted an initial damage assessment in accessible areas and determined that there are three homes with damage that borders on Major and 12 homes with Minor damage. All of the homes are mobile homes, and there is no debris issue. Additional assessments will be conducted on Saturday morning.

The Hancock County Sheriff's office deployed the Buckeye State Sheriffs' Association (BSSA) communication vehicle to the county EOC yesterday. The vehicle remains on-scene indefinitely.

The Hancock County EOC will close at 2:00 this afternoon and will not be open over the weekend.

Henry County: Most of the areas from SR 65 east to Wood County have some degree of flooding. Henry County EMA will begin Preliminary Damage Assessments and compare digital photos to the 2005 flood. The Current damage assessment reports indicate there is damage to 28 homes along the Maumee River in an area known to flood. Of those 28 home, 15 are currently thought to be Major and 13 are thought to be Minor. There are several areas along tributaries in the county that have reports of basements completely flooded, and these will require further investigation.

Approximately 50-60 private driveways cannot be accessed due to flood waters, including a campground with all infrastructure and foundations underwater.

One American Red Cross shelter is on standby status near the village of Hamler.

One water rescue was completed by the Napoleon Fire Department and one family refused evacuation and will be isolated for two to three days.

Detailed damage assessments will begin Monday, as the water recedes. The Red Cross will provide clean-up kits on Saturday and Sunday. The EOC is closed.

Logan County: Logan County declared at 3:30 P.M. on February 8, 2008. Waters are rising in some areas and receding in other spots.

The EOC remains open for coordination of information. The EMA Director requested assistance for coordination of information and Auglaize County has offered assistance. Ohio EMA Liaison Marc Burdiss has transitioned to Logan County to assist. Assistance for the Local Chapter of the Red Cross is being coordinated as well.

Mercer County: The St. Mary's River is leveling at 14.5 feet and the water level in Lake St. Mary's is falling. Some water remains near the base of the Medical Building. Some roads remain closed, but should reopen as the water recedes. EMA is conducting assessments on basement flooding. No shelters were opened during event. The EOC will not be open this evening or through the weekend.

Paulding County: The county has declared to assist the Village of Oakwood, where most damage is confined to two streets. Eight families are displaced, and at least two of those residences may have Flood Insurance coverage. No shelters are open as the displaced families have sheltered with family and friends. Waters are receding. The EOC is closed and the EMA director available by cell

Putnam County: At 1:13 P.M. February 7, 2008, the county EMA director advised the state EOC of a county-wide declaration of emergency. Damage assessments are continuing. ODNR conducted water rescues of 8-10 people in the Cloverdale area and one of two teams have been demobilized and the second team demobilized at 4:30 P.M. The Red Cross shelter is closing, and the population of two will have alternate locations found for them. The EOC will be open tonight, hour will be determined at 4:00 P.M. meeting. EOC will be minimally staffed over the weekend.

Seneca County: The river has not crested yet, but areas are spotty throughout the county with rising water in some places and receding water in others. The National Weather Service is en-route to investigate the discrepancy between actual water levels and gauge readings.

The Ruffing Family Care Center (nursing home) evacuated 36 residents to the St. Francis Care Center/Rehab Hospital in Green Springs, Ohio at 6:00 A.M. February 8. The movement went well and everyone was moved by 8:30 A.M. Feb 8. The evacuation was due to Basement flooding, and those residents should return this evening. .

Forty people have been evacuated in Tiffin and south of Tiffin. Shelter is provided by family and friends thus far. A shelter at Ebenezer Church remains on standby. The EOC remains open and will advise of extended hours if necessary. Damage assessments will be conducted over the weekend.

BRIEFING/SITREP DATA

Crisis Action System (CAS) Level 1 Briefing: The next CAS 1 briefing is scheduled for 9:00 A.M. on Monday, 11 February 2008. The state EOC Assessment Room staff will continue to monitor the severe weather situation in Ohio until conditions improve.