



# STATE OF OHIO

## Emergency Operations Center

### SITUATION REPORT

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Ted Strickland, Governor

**FROM:** Ohio Emergency Management Agency

**SUBJECT:** Severe Weather and Tornadoes – September 2010

**DATE:** September 20, 2010

Information in this Situation Report is current as of 2:00 p.m. on Monday, September 20, 2010.

In response to the “Severe Weather and Tornadoes – September 2010” event, the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Assessment Room was activated at 7:45 p.m., Thursday, September 16, 2010.

**The next scheduled CAS-1 briefing is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. tomorrow in the SEOC Executive Room.**

### INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

During the early evening of September 16, 2010, a line of severe weather moved across the state. Multiple counties were affected by high winds and possible tornadoes primarily in central, southeast and northeast Ohio.

As of today, the National Weather Service confirmed nine tornadoes in the following areas:

County(ies)	Fujita Scale	Additional Information
Athens	EF2	The Plains, Nelsonville, Athens
Delaware	EF0	Three miles southwest of Galena
Fairfield	EF0	Rushville
Holmes	EF1	Clark Township
Meigs	EF3	Reedsville
Perry	EF2	Bearfield and Harrison
Perry	EF1	Crooksville
Pickaway/Fairfield	EF1	Tarleton road area
Wayne	EF2	Wooster and also affected the local OSU Campus

**Thursday, September 16:** The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Assessment Room was activated at 7:45 p.m., Thursday, September 16, 2010 at a Crisis Action System (CAS) Level 1 in response to severe weather storms throughout the state.

**Friday, September 17:** CAS Level 1 briefings were held in the Assessment Room at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Governor Strickland, ODPS Director Thomas Stickrath, Assistant Director George Maier, and Ohio EMA staff toured areas damaged by severe weather in Athens and Meigs counties. Ohio EMA Field Operations staff were dispatched to Athens and Wayne counties and assisted with damage assessment. At 8:00 a.m., there were more than 40,000 homes without power across the state. By 1:30 p.m. 18,405 customers across the state were still without power due to the storms.

**Saturday, September 18:** The Assessment Room opened from 8:00 a.m. until noon to monitor storm-related activities. The Governor toured damaged areas in Wayne County.

**Monday, September 20:** The Assessment Room continued CAS-1 activities with a 10:00 a.m. briefing. All significant power outages have been restored. Ohio EMA Recovery, Mitigation, and Field Operations staff were dispatched to Athens, Perry, and Wayne counties to assist with Individual Assistance Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDA).

## **DECLARATIONS**

County – Athens, Meigs, Perry, Wayne  
Local – Harrison and Bearfield Townships (Perry County)

## **WEATHER**

### Weather Forecast

Nearby high pressure will give Ohio fair weather today with temperature ranging from the mid 60s to the north and mid 80s further south. Tonight will be partly cloudy with a low of 60 degrees. On Tuesday expect sunny skies and much warmer conditions with highs near 90 in many places. A cold front arriving Wednesday may produce some showers and thunderstorms.

There are no NWS warnings, watches or advisories in effect for Ohio at this time.

## **STATE LEVEL DISASTER ASSISTANCE ACTIONS**

### **ESF 1 – Transportation**

#### Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT)

Major debris clean-up missions from last week's storms are completed and all state roadways are now open. ODOT District 10 in Marietta reports work today along SR 124 near Reedsville in Meigs County, and SR 691 near The Plains in Athens County. ODOT crews will remove trees and brush from right-of-ways. A single crew has been committed for each location.

ODOT District 3 (Ashland) provided detour signage to the city of Wooster over the weekend.

## **ESF 6 – Mass Care**

### Ohio Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (Ohio VOAD)

Volunteers are being deployed to Athens, Meigs, and Perry counties to assist with clean-up efforts. Volunteers have been instructed to register with county EMA offices until a system is established to coordinate volunteers.

Ohio VOAD reports that a donations warehouse is available at 31860 Claypool Hollow Road in McArthur. Hours of operation will be determined by Adventist Community Services. Ohio VOAD requests support to publicize the need for monetary and in-kind donations. A need has been identified for tarps.

Long Term Recovery Committees (LTRCs) are being formed in Athens, Meigs, and Perry counties. Wayne County is assessing the need to establish an LTRC. Funding to support case management services is needed for the LTRCs.

Spiritual and emotional care volunteers and animal rescue volunteers are available for deployment.

Ohio VOAD is coordinating activities in a daily 9:00 a.m. teleconference call through Friday, September 24. Interested members should call 800-320-4330, 271187#.

Athens County EMA has requested a Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) to coordinate volunteers wanting to help with clean-up efforts. VRC operations will be from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at The Plains Public Library, 70 North Plains Road in The Plains. Point of contact is Susan Rauber at (740) 385-6168. Area Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) will assist in the clean-up efforts.

### American Red Cross (ARC)

The ARC has conducted assessments of damage to homes. ARC reports a number of destroyed, major, minor and affected structures in Meigs, Athens and Perry counties. ARC has established a fixed-feeding site at The Plains United Methodist Church, 3 North Plains Road in The Plains (Athens County) from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. until further notice.

ARC is distributing clean up kits and providing meals to community members. Bulk water and clean-up kits are being provided at the fixed feeding site. ARC has mobile feeding sites in those areas affected by the severe storms in Meigs and Athens counties.

ARC is opening cases and providing financial assistance, and mental and physical health services to families impacted from the storms. ARC is acquiring bulk distribution items to include tarps, which should be available later this week.

## **ESF 10 – Hazardous Materials**

### Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA)

Ohio EPA received two additional reports on the Emergency Spill Hotline potentially related to last Thursday's severe weather event. An oil release from a pole-mounted transformer was reported in Wayne County. In Tuscarawas County, a sheen of unknown origin was reported on the Tuscarawas River. Both incidents were addressed in accordance with Ohio EPA standard operational procedures.

## **ESF 13 - Law Enforcement**

### Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP)

OSHP continues to provide traffic control and officer presence in Meigs County to provide security in the affected areas. Two units per shift have been assigned to the Gallipolis Post since late Thursday evening. As of this report, OSHP reduced its presence to one unit per shift.

OSHP reports all roads related to the tornado are open in Wayne County. Power was restored to the majority of the area including the OSHP post on Sunday afternoon. A portion of the campus is without power. OSHP will continue to provide one unit for security patrols of the campus during the night hours.

OSU Police Department is still operating out of the Wayne County Command Vehicle. As of Sunday, they were still attempting to clean up the debris and patch the roof on the station.

OSHP units are no longer assisting with traffic control in the Athens Post area.

## **ESF 14 – Recovery and Mitigation**

### Ohio Emergency Management Agency (Ohio EMA)

Recovery, Mitigation and Field Operations staff are certifying Individual Assistance damages submitted last week by Athens, Perry and Wayne counties. Ohio EMA teams are scheduled to complete their follow-up assessments by close of business today, Monday, September 20.

### Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR)

The ODNR Floodplain Management Program is sending letters to all affected counties to remind floodplain administrators in each community of their responsibility to perform substantial damage determinations on the affected structures within the FEMA identified floodplains.

## **ESF 15 – Emergency Public Information and External Affairs**

### Ohio Emergency Management Agency (Ohio EMA)

Public Affairs continues to respond to media inquiries for this event. The office is coordinating with local Public Information Officers in an effort to support them with public information and handouts for individuals impacted by the tornadoes. Public Affairs is coordinating with the Ohio Department of Insurance to release information statewide about storm chasers.

### **BRIEFING/SITREP DATA**

Crisis Action System (CAS) Level 1 Briefing: The next CAS 1 briefing is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 21, 2010.

The SEOC Assessment Room staff will continue to monitor the recovery situation until conditions improve.

All agencies should email their briefing reports by 2:00 p.m. to: [eocassmt@dps.state.oh.us](mailto:eocassmt@dps.state.oh.us).