



# STATE OF OHIO

## Emergency Operations Center

### SITUATION REPORT

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Emergency Management Agency

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#### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** John R. Kasich, Governor

**FROM:** Ohio Emergency Management Agency

**SUBJECT:** Statewide Severe Weather – March 2, 2012

**DATE:** March 5, 2012

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This is the third Situation Report for this incident. Information in this Situation Report is current as of 3:30 p.m. on Monday, March 5, 2012.

The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Assessment Room was activated at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, March 2, 2012 to monitor the “Statewide Severe Weather – March 2, 2012” event. On Saturday, March 3, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. the SEOC moved to Crisis Action Level 1 (CAS-1).

CAS-1 briefings were held at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on March 5, 2012. The SEOC Assessment Room will close at 5:00 p.m. on Monday and will reopen at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 6.

The next CAS-1 briefing will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 6.

#### **FATALITIES**

The storms resulted in three (3) fatalities in Clermont County: James Prater, 54 and Bill Adkins, 58, both of Bethel; and Carol Forste, 64, Village of Moscow Councilwoman. No additional storm-related fatalities are anticipated in Ohio.

#### **INCIDENT SYNOPSIS**

Severe weather, including five tornados moved through Adams, Brown, Clermont, Pike and Scioto during the evening hours on March 2, 2012. National Weather Service preliminary estimates were that an eF3 tornado impacted Clermont County near Moscow, Ohio; an eF1 tornado impacted Adams County near Seaman, Ohio; an eF0 tornado impacted Adams County southwest of West Union, Ohio; an eF2 tornado impacted Adams County northeast of West Union, Ohio; and an eF0 tornado impacted Scioto County near Otway, Ohio.

The Village of Moscow in Clermont County suffered the most extensive damage of all the areas affected. A number of gas leaks were reported Friday night into Saturday and residents left the

area; residents were allowed to return at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday. A curfew was in place from 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. Sunday overnight.

Clermont County EMA has reported that 287 structures suffered some level of damage. The status of insurance coverage on all the structures has not yet been determined. The one shelter at the New Richmond High School has been closed. There was no overnight population on March 3 or March 4.

A Joint FEMA/State Individual Assistance Preliminary Damage Assessment (Joint IA PDA) has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 6 in Clermont County. This Joint IA PDA will help the state determine whether the impact and magnitude of this event warrants a request for a Major Disaster Declaration under the Stafford Act.

Governor Kasich has authorized implementation of the State Disaster Relief Program (SDRP) for assistance to Clermont County in two categories: 1. Emergency Protective Measures, and 2. Debris.

## **DECLARATIONS**

State: Governor Kasich issued a declaration for Clermont County on Saturday, March 3.

County: Clermont County

## **WEATHER**

A Flood Warning is in effect until Wednesday morning for Defiance, Fulton, and Williams counties in far northwest Ohio due to minor flooding on the Tiffin River. Look for some cloud cover to linger through the day on Monday. This will help keep temperatures in the 30s Monday afternoon. It will be dry tomorrow as sunshine returns. It will be mild Wednesday as another round of rain rolls in on Thursday.

## **FIELD OPERATIONS**

An Ohio EMA Field Liaison is in Clermont County to assist with EOC operations.

## **COUNTY BY COUNTY SUMMARY REPORT**

### **Clermont County**

- **Fatalities:** 3 confirmed deaths. James Prater, 54 and Bill Adkins, 58, both of Bethel; and Carol Forste, 64 a Village of Moscow councilwoman. Injuries: 5 people transported to hospital.
- **Area Impacted:** Tate Township, Bethel, Felicity, and Moscow/Washington Township (most damages). National Weather Service preliminary assessment estimates the Moscow tornado was EF3.
- **Declaration:** County State of Emergency. The Governor has issued a verbal declaration for Clermont County.

- **County EOC:** The Clermont County EOC is open today March 5, will close tonight at 6:00 p.m. and re-open at 7:00 a.m. on March 6.
- **Law Enforcement:** Has a perimeter security in place for the Village of Moscow. 4 Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSP) Officers are assigned in Moscow to assist with security operations, including guarding the Post Office that was damaged and controlling access into the area.
- **Damage Assessments:** On Tuesday, 3/6/12 two teams will conduct a Joint Federal/State/Local PDA in the areas listed below. The County has been requested to supply maps and a plan.
- **Curfew:** Overnight March 5, Village of Moscow has a curfew in place from 9:00 p.m. - 6:00 a.m.
- **Shelter:** As of March 5 at 9:00 a.m., the ARC New Richmond High School Shelter closed as there has been no population reported for the last two nights.
- **Mass Care:** Home Depot is supplying tarps and other supplies at incident command post in Moscow. A Family Assistance Center was requested to ARC HQ for the Moscow area. There are 2 ARC Emergency Response Vehicles deployed to the area. Meals are being provided to residents and ICP in Moscow/Washington Township. A Donations Management Center and a Volunteer Hotline has been set up.
- **Power:** As of March 5 all power to area homes are restored, per PUCO from Duke Energy.
- **Facilities:** Moscow Sewage Treatment Plant and the Tate-Monroe Water Plant are now running on normal power. No issue with drinking water.  
**Debris:** Major issue. The County has a Debris Management Plan and the State has organized a Debris Working Group to assist. ODOT and OEPA representatives have assisted with debris missions. A debris staging area has been set up at 30 Wells Street in Moscow.
- **Beetle Quarantine:** USDA inspectors on-site to assist with proper disposal of debris due to Asian Longhorn Beetle. Clermont County Debris Coordinator reported three main areas within Tate Twp. where tree damages were worst: Swope Rd. – Entire Rd., Rudd Rd. – Portions, Jones-Florer Rd. – Portions. All roads are in rural areas and it is estimated that thousands of trees were affected.
- **State Assistance:** Five missions have been accepted by state agencies. A Liaison from the Ohio National Guard is still deployed to the County EOC.
- **Communications:** MARCS tower in Moscow restored to electrical grid. The Verizon tower in southern Clermont County is operational.

### Adams County

- **Injuries:** Three confirmed injuries, one 99-year old transported to Cincinnati hospital.
- **Area Impacted:** Preliminary estimates from the NWS include an eF1 tornado near Seaman; an eF0 tornado southwest of West Union; and an eF2 tornado northeast of West Union.
- **Damage Assessments:** ARC Damage Assessment as follows: 5 - Single family homes with Major Damage and 1 - Mobile Home Destroyed.
- **Communications:** MARCS towers in Blue Creek and West Union have been restored to the electrical grid. No inter-operability requests have been received.

### Scioto County

- **Area Impacted:** Village of Otway.
- **Damage Assessments:** Took place on 3/3. 2 residential homes have structural damages and 2 government buildings have damages (insured; community center and fire department vehicle building previously reported). Otway Fire Department building (not station) has been totally destroyed. One vehicle destroyed. Scioto County has provided a back-up vehicle for their use. NWS estimates the tornado (from Adams County) went through Scioto County as an eF0.

### Pike County

- **Area Impacted:** Southwest of Jasper.
- **Damages:** Local damage assessments took place on March 3. The primary issue in the county is debris management, with one home/trailer destroyed in the Longfork area (Loys Run) due to a tree falling on it.

### Brown County

- **Area Impacted:** Vicinity of Hamersville.
- **Power:** Power has been restored.

## **STATE LEVEL DISASTER ASSISTANCE ACTIONS BY EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION (ESF)**

### **ESF 1 – Transportation**

#### Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT)

All roadways in the tornado impact area have had debris cleared and are open.

ODOT completed a mission this afternoon to deploy two portable message signs to the staging area at the Zimmer Power Plant.

There are three closures in Scioto County due to high water: SR 239 and two points on SR 73. There is a restriction due to high water in Vinton County on SR 328.

### **ESF 2 – Communications**

#### Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA)

All State communications assets in the affected area are fully operational on commercial or non-emergency power. There have been no requests for deployable communications assets. Site visits are scheduled for 3/6 to visit the Georgetown and Otway tower sites for damage inspections.

### **ESF 3 – Engineering and Public Works**

#### Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA)

An OEPA Solid Waste subject-matter expert reports providing technical throughout the day today at the approved debris staging area; debris management operations appear to be going well and are expected to continue. OEPA personnel are planning to return on at least two additional days this week and as needed.

### **ESF 4 – Fire**

#### State Fire Marshal's Office (SFM)

Nothing significant to report.

### **ESF 6 – Mass Care**

#### American Red Cross (ARC)

ARC Shelter located at New Richmond High School has closed. ARC has requested for a Family Assistance Shelter to be established in Clermont County

#### Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)

Ohio VOAD remains available to provide any assistance that may be requested, particularly with Debris Removal, Spiritual Care and Donations Management.

#### Tri-State County Animal Response Team (CART)

Tri-State CART currently has approximately 28 volunteers on standby and ready to deploy for any animal rescue and care needs. There is kennel space at Marjon Kennels in Batavia and limited space at Friends of Noah. Tri-State CART can also offer an enclosed horse trailer and limited space for horses and large livestock. There is also a mobile veterinary first aid kit and additional equipment/supplies that can be made available. The contact for Tri-State CART is Jennifer Drake, President (859-801-5224 or 513-702-8373).

#### Volunteers

Clermont County has established a Volunteer Reception Center. At this time, they are asking for volunteers to call (513) 641-6082 to inquire about volunteering in the area.

#### Donations

A Donations Center has been established at the Clermont County Fairgrounds located at 1000 Locust St., Owensville, Ohio 45160.

### **ESF 8 – Public Health and Medical Services**

#### Ohio Department of Health (ODH)

ODH has reached out to local health departments. There is nothing significant to report.

## **ESF 9 – Search & Rescue**

### Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR)

ODNR is reaching out to Hamilton County to determine involvement in search and rescue missions Friday and Saturday.

## **ESF-10 – Hazardous Materials**

### Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA)

Two OEPA On-scene Coordinators surveyed the impacted area today and observed only one confirmed release (home heating oil). EPA will work with Clermont County EMA on this and any other issues that are identified as debris operations and cleanup continues.

## **ESF 11 – Agriculture**

### Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA)

Today the USDA and Ohio Department of Agriculture have a combined 8 staff members working in quarantined areas of Tate Township impacted by the storm. These employees are meeting with impacted property owners conducting one-on-one outreach on proper disposal practices of regulated material. The departments are also working with commercial maintenance contractors to ensure they are properly trained and under Compliance Agreement to work inside the regulated area. To date, 146.3 cubic yards of regulated debris has been delivered to the Marshalling Yard located at 2896 State Route 232, Bethel, Ohio 45106.

## **ESF 12 – Energy**

### Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO)

Power has been restored to all homes and businesses to which it can be restored.

## **ESF 13 – Law Enforcement**

### Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP)

OSHP is supporting traffic control and access to US 52 in the Moscow, Ohio area. There are also personnel detailed to the Post Office in Moscow, Ohio which was damaged by the tornado.

## **ESF 14 – Recovery**

### Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency and Small Business Administration will be in Clermont County Tuesday, March 6 to conduct a Joint FEMA/State/Local Preliminary Damage Assessment for Individual Assistance. There will be two teams surveying the damage. This survey will allow the State to further assess the damage from the tornados and assist in the decision making process of whether or not to request federal disaster assistance. The Joint Damage Assessment will kick-off from the Clermont County EOC at 8:00. The County EOC is located at 2279 Clermont Center Drive, Batavia, Ohio 45103.

Governor Kasich has authorized implementation of the State Disaster Relief Program (SDRP) for assistance to Clermont County in two categories: 1. Emergency Protective Measures, and 2. Debris.

ESF 14 continues to monitor any potential housing needs and debris management activities.

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

### Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA)

#### **Press Releases:**

**March 5** – (Governor’s Press Office) Gov. Kasich Deploys National Guard to Southern Ohio to Expedite Storm Clean-up

**March 5** – (Governor’s Press Office) Insurance Claim Tips to Help Those Impacted by Severe Weather

EMA Public Affairs responded to three national media calls requesting tornado damage updates. FEMA Region V External Affairs Office provided Ohio EMA Public Affairs with a Media Monitoring Report for the state of Ohio.

#### **BRIEFING/SITREP DATA**

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

The next CAS-1 briefing is scheduled for 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 6.