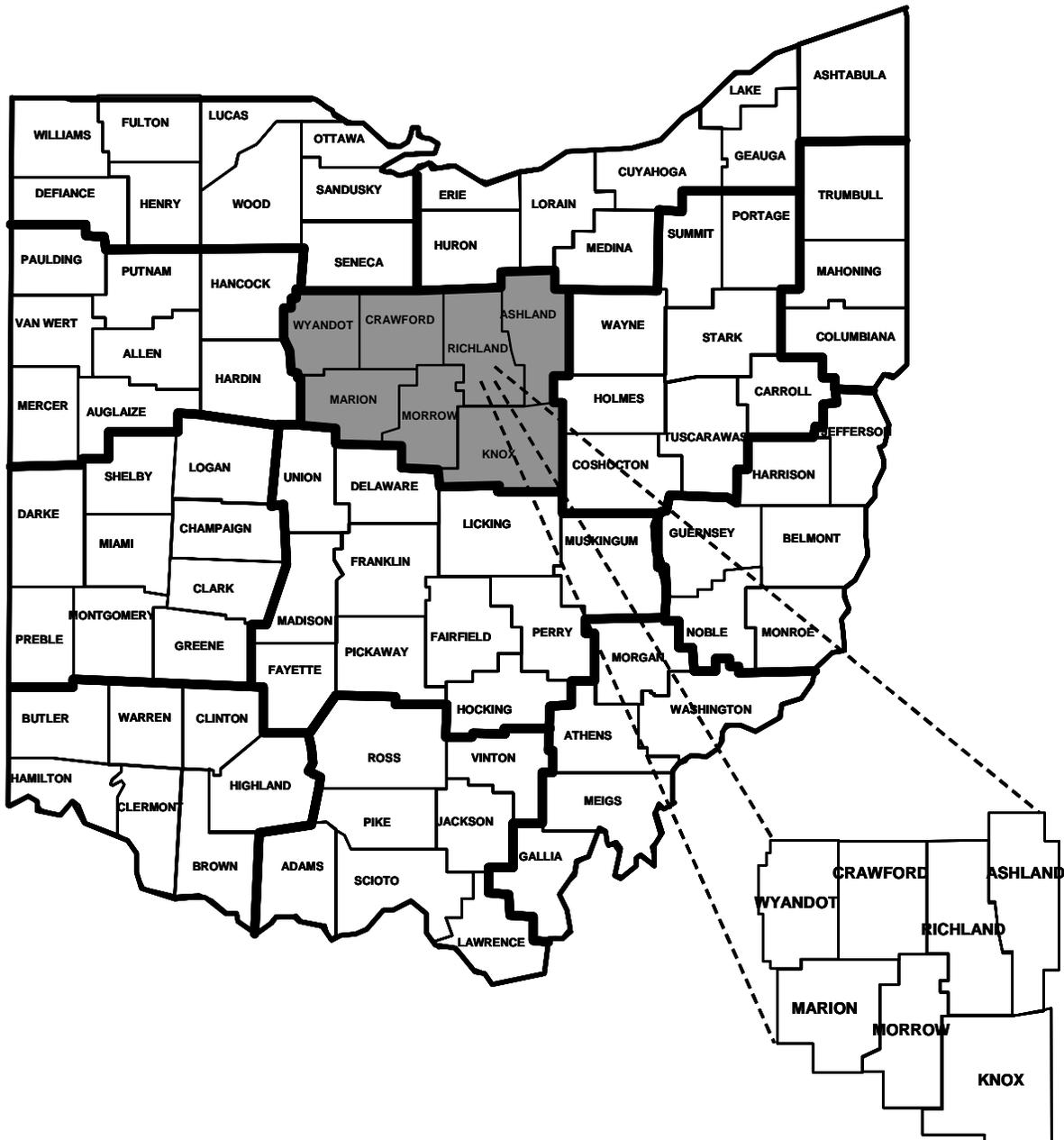


# NORTH CENTRAL OHIO EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM OPERATIONAL AREA PLAN



EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

NORTH CENTRAL OHIO  
OPERATIONAL AREA

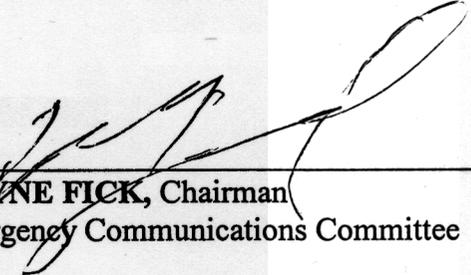
PLAN AND PROCEDURES  
FOR THE FOLLOWING OHIO COUNTIES

ASHLAND  
CRAWFORD  
KNOX  
MARION  
MORROW  
RICHLAND  
WYANDOT

Revised December 2004

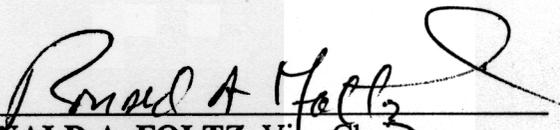
APPROVALS

This North Central Ohio Operational Area EAS Plan was developed and approved by the North Central Ohio Area Emergency Communications Committee, and the National Weather Service in cooperation with the State of Ohio and County Emergency Management Agencies (EMA).



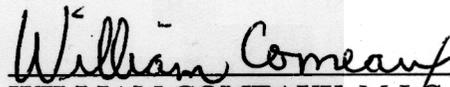
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**WAYNE FICK**, Chairman  
Emergency Communications Committee



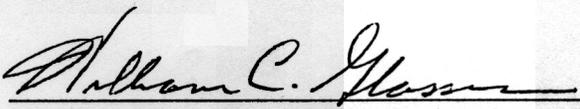
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National Weather Service Office



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**I. PURPOSE**

This document provides procedures agreed upon by the broadcast and cable industry which will permit designated federal, state and local government officials to issue emergency information, instructions and warnings to the general public of the North Central Ohio area by activating the North Central Ohio Operational Area Emergency Alert System (EAS).

**II. AUTHORITY**

Title 47 USC 151, 154(i), (o), 303 (r), 524 (g) and 606. 47 CFR, Part 11, Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Rules and Regulations.

**III. GENERAL INFORMATION**

A. The North Central Ohio area EAS system will utilize digital message encoding/decoding equipment which complies with the standards in the FCC rules, Part 11, and is certified by the Commission.

B. This plan was prepared by members of the North Central Ohio Emergency Alert System (EAS) Emergency Communications Committee (ECC) in cooperation with the State of Ohio Emergency Management Agency (EMA), the National Weather Service (NWS) and County Emergency Management Agencies. The plan provides background data and prescribes specific procedures for the broadcast and cable television media to disseminate emergency information and warnings to the general public throughout the State of Ohio, at the request of designated federal, state and local government officials, known as *Notifiers*. The North Central Ohio Area EAS Plan may be activated on a day-to-day basis in response to such emergencies as; tornadoes, severe storms, flash floods, widespread fires, discharge of toxic chemicals or gases, nuclear incidents, widespread power failures, industrial explosions, civil disturbances, child abductions or any other occurrence which poses an immediate threat to health, life, safety or property.

C. The plan provides for access to the EAS by designated officials (notifiers) working in conjunction with the Local Primary (LP) stations. They are: WVNO-FM, Mansfield (LP-1) and WNCO-FM, Ashland (LP-2). The North Central Ohio EAS Operational Area consists of the following seven (7) counties: Ashland, Crawford, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, and Wyandot.

D. Acceptance of or participation in this plan shall not be deemed to prohibit a broadcast licensee or cable TV operator from exercising independent discretion and responsibility in any given situation. Stations originating EAS emergency communications shall be deemed to have conferred rebroadcast authority.

E. This plan shall be considered an appendix to, and part of, the Ohio State EAS Plan.

F. EAS Designations: The FCC has provided for EAS Station Designations which reflect the EAS status of every broadcaster and cable operator. Below is a listing of these designations. Consult the State of Ohio EAS Plan, the “FCC Map Book” or Attachment II of this plan to determine your EAS designation.

**NP** (National Primary) = Sole source of national EAS alerts. In Ohio, WTAM and WLW are NP stations. These stations will feed national level alerts to the State Primary stations.

**SP** (State Primary) = The entry point for statewide Ohio EAS announcements. WNCI, Columbus, serves as the State Primary station. The Alternate State Primary station is WLWQ.

**SR** (State Relay) = In Ohio, several public broadcasting TV and radio stations serve in this capacity to deliver statewide emergency announcements to other LP stations in the state. The Ohio ETV network distributes WNCI audio to these stations via their fiber optic system.

**LP-1 and LP-2** (Local Primary) = EAS entry point stations for activating the EAS in each operational area. There will be at least two in each area. The LP-1 is the primary Local Primary

station. The LP-2 is the alternate Local Primary station. Local Primary 1 and 2 stations are to be monitored by all participating stations in the area.

**LP-3** (Local Primary 3) = In Ohio several stations serve as relay stations to deliver station emergency announcements to LP-1 and LP-2 stations throughout the state. LP-3 stations also serve as monitoring points for stations that cannot pickup a signal from an LP-1 or LP-2.

**PN** (Participating National) = Most broadcasters and cable operators are designated as PN. They monitor the area LP stations and deliver EAS alerts directly to the general public.

**NN** (Non-participating National) = Broadcasters who hold an “NN Authorization” from the FCC are required to sign off during a national EAS activation. There are very few of these in Ohio.

#### **IV. OHIO EAS CONFIGURATION**

The Ohio EAS is a fully automated system allowing notifiers through dedicated encoders to selectively provide Ohio citizens with timely emergency information and warnings.

This operational area plan outlines general guidelines for EAS configuration, activation and use. Notifiers must have EAS encoder equipment to activate the EAS. Notifiers without EAS equipment must activate the EAS through a notifier with the proper EAS encoder. LP stations serve as the primary contact point for EAS entry and therefore, carry an extra EAS responsibility. With this in mind, a key criteria for the selection of Ohio State Primary (SP) and Local Primary (LP) stations was their ability to provide 24-hour staffing.

The process of selecting monitoring assignments in the Ohio EAS structure was based on station coverage areas with an emphasis on the ability to span state, local area and county boundaries. This focus provides Ohio with an approach for disseminating EAS messages over all stations with broadcast coverage serving an impacted area regardless of the physical location of the transmitter or cable head-end equipment. To achieve this capability, cross monitoring and

multiple Local Primary (LP) monitoring assignments are required. While this monitoring scheme creates some additional burden on LP stations in hardware procurement and configuration, the benefits of specific and thorough coverage far outweighs these burdens.

The ability to fully utilize the automated technology of the new EAS to assure 24-hour system reliability and selective signaling was key to the setting of our Ohio EAS goal.

Throughout the life of the Ohio EAS, emphasis will be placed on configuring a fully automated but interruptible system. Emphasis will be placed on notifiers having EAS encoders and on the reliable interface of the National Weather Service's Specific Area Message Encoder (SAME) into the Ohio EAS structure. Ohio EAS monitoring assignments *specify* the monitoring of the Local Area LP-1 and LP-2 stations by all broadcasters and cable operators and *strongly recommend* the monitoring of the NOAA weather radio station issuing weather warnings for counties within their coverage area. Monitor assignments for LP-3 stations are granted when difficulties are encountered in receiving any LP-1 or LP-2 stations.

## V. **ORIGINATING STATIONS**

A. The originating station for the North Central Ohio Local Area is WVNO (FM), Mansfield, Ohio (106.1 MHz), designated the Local Primary (LP). EAS emergency numbers for direct interface to WVNO EAS equipment and as a means to contact WVNO personnel have been given to notifiers.

B. The North Central Ohio Operational Area *alternate* originating station is WNCO-FM, Ashland, Ohio (101.3 MHz), designated the alternate Local Primary (LP) station. If WVNO cannot be contacted, WNCO should be notified and requested to activate the North Central Ohio Operational Area EAS. The emergency numbers for direct access to WNCO EAS equipment and personnel have been provided to notifiers.

## VI. EAS MESSAGE PROTOCOL

A. The EAS system uses a four part message structure for emergency activation. The four parts are: (1) *The preamble and EAS header codes*; (2) *The audio attention signal*; (3) *The EAS message audio text* and (4) *The preamble and end-of-message code*. The description of the protocol that follows is provided for informational purposes only. The actual generation of EAS messages is accomplished through the use of Encoder/Decoder equipment. EAS Encoder/Decoder equipment software generates the header and end-of- message codes using plain English entries, through menu prompts. The equipment user interface works much like a bank ATM machine. The FCC protocol is as follows:

### (1) The Preamble and EAS Header

The preamble and EAS header code contains specific information related to the origination, handling and routing of the EAS message. The code is transmitted by an EAS encoder three times with a one second pause between transmissions.

The Originator Code part of the EAS header is pre-set once by the user. The code is then sent automatically by the encoder as part of each-message-activation. The following Originator Codes will be used as part of the Ohio EAS:

<u>ORIGINATOR</u>	<u>CODE</u>
Broadcast station or cable system	EAS
Civil authorities	CIV
Emergency Action Notification network	EAN (National use only)
National Weather Service	WXR
Primary Entry Point system	PEP (National use only)

Within the EAS header is an eight-character identification or Location Code. This eight-character ID identifies the broadcaster, cable operator, NWS office, or civil authority sending or relaying the message. After initial programming, the EAS encoder will automatically affix this code to all outgoing EAS messages. The location identifier codes in Ohio will follow the convention shown in the examples given below:

**WHBCAMFM** - Broadcast station combo

**WNCI(FM)** - Single broadcast station

**WLW/(AM)** - Single broadcast station

**NWS/KILN** - NWS, NOAA weather radio

**STARCOEM** - County Emergency Management. (Example, Stark County)

**STARCOSO** - County Sheriff. (Example, Stark County)

**OHIOSTEM** - State EOC/Emergency Management Agency

**LOROHAD** - Lorain Adelphia Cable Company

Location identifier codes for county notifier encoders can be found in Attachment IV to this plan.

Location identifier codes for cable systems will consist of the first three letters of the city of the cable head end, followed by the OH for Ohio, followed by a three-letter designator for the cable company name.

Cable company name designators are as follows:

Adelphia Cable Communications	ADE
Americable USA	AMU
Ameritech New Media	AME
Armstrong Cable Services	ARM
ATT Broadband	ATT
B. R. Cablevision, Inc.	BRC
Buckeye Cablevision	BUC
Cable Co-op	CAC

Cable One	CAO
Cablevision Communications (Woodsfield)	CCM
Century Ohio Cable Television	CEN
Charter Communications	CHA
Classic Cable	CLA
Clear Picture, Inc.	CLE
Comcast Cablevision	COM
Cox Communications	COX
East Cleveland Cable	ECC
Erie County Cablevision	ERI
Fremont Cablevision	FRC
FrontierVision Operating Partners	FRO
Grafton Cable Communications	GRA
Insight Communications, Inc.	INS
Jefferson County Cable	JEF
Kalida Telephone Company	KAI
KAS Cable TV, Inc.	KAS
Lowell Community Cable TV	LOW
Massillon Cable TV, Inc.	MAS
MediaOne, Inc.	MED
Nelsenville Cable TV	NEL
NK Telco	NKT
Orwell Cable Television Company	ORW
OTEC Communications Company	OTE
Richards Cable TV Co., Inc.	RIC
Riley Video Services	RIL
Telephone Service Company	TSC
Time Warner Cable	TWC
Watch TV	WAT
Wellington Cable Communications	WCA
Wide Open West	WID

(2) Audio Attention Signal

The audio attention signal is a two-tone signal transmitted after the EAS header code.

This signal is 8 seconds in duration and serves to alert listeners to an upcoming emergency broadcast.

(3) EAS Message Text

The EAS message text is the actual text of the emergency message to be transmitted. All North Central Ohio Operational Area EAS messages will begin with the statement: **“WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM TO ACTIVATE THE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM”** and end with the statement: **“THIS CONCLUDES THIS EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM MESSAGE.”** This audio message, including open, close and body must be limited to two minutes in order to fit within the recording space provided in the EAS Decoders.

(4) End of Message Code

The end-of-message code is transmitted by the encoder three times with one second pauses between transmissions. Its purpose is to return automated broadcast programming equipment to normal programming after an EAS interruption.

- B. The EAS Protocol described above is taken from the FCC Rules, Part 11, and shall be used exclusively by the Ohio EAS System. Each participating station, subject cable system and notifier in the state shall program their EAS Decoder/Encoder to facilitate the proper functioning of the system as described in this Operational Area Plan.

C. Ohio EAS Event Codes:

Whether used under the authority of the Ohio State EAS Plan, or any of the 12 Local Operational Area EAS Plans, the following are the *only* EAS Event Codes to be used in Ohio by anyone for any purpose. No codes can be added without SECC/FCC approval. This list will be maintained as a “Master List” for all event codes used in the State of Ohio.

Warning Codes – These are codes critical to the rapid dissemination of emergency information. This entire list must be programmed into your EAS Encoder/Decoder.

Emergency Action Notification	EAN
Emergency Action Termination	EAT
Required Monthly Test	RMT
Required Weekly Test	RWT
Child Abduction Emergency	CAE
Civil Danger Warning	CDW
Civil Emergency Message	CEM
Earthquake Warning	EQW
Evacuation Immediate	EVI
Fire Warning	FRW
Flash Flood Warning	FFW
Hazardous Materials Warning	HMW
Law Enforcement Warning	LEW
9-1-1 Telephone Outage Emergency	TOE
Nuclear Power Plant Warning	NUW
Radiological Hazard Warning	RHW
Shelter In Place Warning	SPW
Tornado Warning	TOR

Optional Codes – These codes are authorized for use by station on an as needed or optional basis. The programming of these codes into station EAS equipment is at the discretion of each EAS station.

National Information Center	NIC
National Periodic Test	NPT
Blizzard Warning	BZW
Flash Flood Watch	FFA
Flash Flood Statement	FFS
Flood Warning	FLW
Flood Watch	FLA
Flood Statement	FLS
High Wind Warning	HWW
High Wind Watch	HWA
Network Message Notification	NMN
Practice/Demo Warning	DMO
Severe Thunderstorm Warning	SVR
Severe Thunderstorm Watch	SVA
Severe Weather Statement	SVS
Special Marine Warning	SMW
Special Weather Statement	SPS
Tornado Watch	TOA
Winter Storm Warning	WSW
Winter Storm Watch	WSA

## **VII. MONITORING ASSIGNMENTS**

A. As indicated in Paragraph V, WVNO is the North Central Ohio Operational Area Primary station and will be the *originator* for North Central Ohio Operational Area EAS messages. WNCO, the alternate Local Primary station will serve as the *alternate originator* for the North Central Ohio Operational Area EAS and will monitor WVNO. All North Central Ohio Operational Area stations and cable systems shall monitor WVNO and WNCO. In addition to these LP stations, all participating stations and cable systems are encouraged to monitor the appropriate National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio station serving their area. A list of these stations is outlined in Attachment V.

B. The specific monitoring assignment for each of the North Central Ohio Operational Area participating stations are detailed in the Attachment I and III of this plan. If monitoring difficulties are experienced, the operational area chairman should be consulted in resolving the problem. The operational area chairman will coordinate any waiver necessary with the SECC chairman and the FCC. A letter will be sent by the SECC or vice SECC to the requesting station outlining the monitoring assignments change.

## **VIII. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTICIPATING STATIONS**

A. Stations serving the Ohio EAS system are the key to the effective dissemination of emergency information to the public.

B. Local Primary (LP) stations serving the Ohio EAS are chosen on the basis of signal coverage and their ability and willingness to serve in this important key capacity. LP stations are normally required to operate 24 hours per day and if possible, be attended operations.

C. In accepting this plan, all LP stations agree to transmit any EAS messages requested by official EAS notifiers identified in this Operational Area Plan. Additionally, LP stations agree to

re-transmit any received message carrying any of the warning event codes specified in Paragraph VI, C, which are originated in their or any adjoining local areas. This will ensure message dissemination through all broadcast and cable media, which may have listeners, viewers or subscribers in the area affected by the emergency. This will require effort and attention to detail in EAS decoder programming, station operational planning and staff training. LP station engineers or other responsible personnel should consult with their operational area chairman, adjoining area chairmen and the state chairman in coordinating this important function.

D. All stations should re-transmit as a minimum any emergency message carrying the warning event codes in Paragraph VI, C, which are originated in the North Central Ohio Operational Area. This will ensure message dissemination through all broadcast and cable media which may have listeners, viewers or subscribers in the area affected by the emergency. This will require effort and attention to detail in EAS decoder programming, station operational planning and staff training. Station engineers or other responsible personnel should be sure that their station procedures and encoder/decoder programming adhere to this plan. Your operational area chairman, adjoining area chairman and the state chairman will assist you if questions arise regarding the implementation of this plan.

E. Stations and cable systems must program their EAS decoders to accept emergency messages carrying location codes for all counties which are covered, in whole or in part by their secondary coverage contour or cable system. Attachment III of this plan provides a listing of counties that should be programmed for your station. Additional counties may apply to LP stations.

## **IX. NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES**

A. Notifiers: The Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Director and the County Sheriff of each of the seven (7) counties in the North Central Ohio Operational Area are designated officials authorized to request activation of the EAS and are known as notifiers. Other local officials must request EAS activation through the authorized notifiers.

B. EAS activation is accomplished through notifier-owned EAS Encoder equipment at Sheriff Offices or county Emergency Operations Centers (EOC). Each notifier has been given contact telephone numbers for accessing the automated EAS equipment at the LP-1 and LP-2 station. Station staff assistance numbers have also been provided. Notifiers are listed in Attachment IV of this plan.

C. Requests for Activation: Requests for activation of the North Central Ohio Operational Area EAS will be made by contacting WVNO, the Local Primary station control room. If WVNO cannot be contacted, WNCO, the alternate LP, shall be contacted. EAS telephone numbers have been provided to all notifiers. Emergency communications from designated notifiers will be handled immediately. Notifiers should have all information to be broadcast loaded in their EAS Encoder prior to connecting to station EAS equipment. EAS messages should contain the type of emergency, area affected and action that should be taken. Messages must be less than 2-minutes in length.

D. All North Central Ohio Operational Area EAS messages will be formatted to begin and end with the following statements:

**“WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM TO ACTIVATE THE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM.”** (text of emergency announcement) **“THIS CONCLUDES THIS EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM MESSAGE.”**

E. Severe Weather Warnings: The National Weather Service (NWS) will serve as the primary notifier for severe weather warnings and subsequent weather information. Detailed activation procedures have been agreed upon by the NWS, WVNO and WNCO. The primary means of NWS activation of the Ohio EAS will be over NOAA Weather Radio Specific Area Message Encoder (NWR-SAME) through station monitoring of the NOAA weather radio system. The NWS will verify that the transmission of all weather warnings sent over the NOAA weather radio system occurred. No verification of EAS activation will be made by the NWS. The NWS may, through agreements with LP stations, contact those stations directly by telephone for EAS activation in severe weather situations.

**X. BROADCASTERS' PROCEDURE**

- A. Pre-formatted Alert: Upon receipt of a pre-formatted EAS alert from an authorized notifier, the LP-1 or LP-2 station shall re-transmit that alert immediately.
- B. All broadcast stations and cable systems in the North Central Ohio Operational Area monitoring the key LP stations will be alerted by their EAS decoders based on the event and location codes contained in the EAS digital header. Upon receipt of a valid EAS message each station or cable system should re-transmit the message within 15 minutes of receipt.
- C. To avoid unnecessary escalation of public confusion, all broadcast stations must be cautious in providing information and news pertaining to the emergency. All messages must be based on definite and confirmed facts. This can best be assured by using the notifier's or originating station's own audio as transmitted through the EAS decoder/encoder equipment. Discussion of unconfirmed facts can lead to public confusion and heightened anxiety.
- D. Upon completion of the EAS transmission, appropriate notations must be entered into the station log.

## **XI. LEGAL MATTERS**

- A. As a reminder to broadcasters and cable systems, the following legal points are made regarding emergency alert operations. (For complete information, consult FCC Rules and Regulations, Part 11)
- B. While the broadcast of EAS messages is encouraged, use of Ohio EAS material is solely up to the discretion of individual station or cable system management. Although the activation of the EAS is discretionary at the state and local levels, *if it is activated*, all communications facilities within the affected area that are participating in the EAS at the state or local level are expected to take part in the activation and to follow the requirements of the FCC's rules, the EAS Operating Handbook, the State EAS Plan and this Operational Area Plan. (See FCC Rules, Part 11, Sections. 11.21, 11.41 and 11.55.)
- C. All participating stations and cable systems have permission to rebroadcast Ohio EAS messages. Such rebroadcast permission begins with issuance of the EAS signaling and alert tones, and ends with the EAS end-of- message code. Stations and cable systems are encouraged to configure their EAS encoders for automatic relay of EAS messages. Unattended stations must operate EAS encoders in automatic mode.
- D. In the event of an EAS activation, stations with certain power, pattern and operating hour limitations may forego those limitations subject to FCC Rules and Regulations.

**XII. STEPS STATIONS AND CABLE OPERATORS SHOULD TAKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NORTH CENTRAL OHIO OPERATIONAL AREA EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM**

A. The success of the North Central Ohio Operational Area EAS will hinge entirely upon the operating staff readiness and equipment configuration of each broadcast station and cable system at the time of a weather warning or other emergency which justifies activation of the Ohio EAS.

B. All stations and cable systems must have an EAS Encoder/Decoder installed with audio inputs from their LP-1 and LP-2 or LP-3 monitoring assignments serving their operational area. In addition, input from the appropriate NWS weather radio source is strongly encouraged. A list of NOAA radio stations covering Ohio is provided in Attachment V.

C. The following decoder/encoder programming must be accomplished in order to participate in the plan:

**For Radio and TV Stations:** Decoders must be programmed to accept alerts using all the warning event codes given in Paragraph VI, C. As a minimum, decoders must be programmed to accept alerts containing county location codes for all counties covered, in whole or in part, by the station. The EAS station specification sheets, Attachment III to this plan, should be used as a guide. Stations must transmit all received alerts in accordance with FCC Rules in Paragraph 11.51 (g) and 11.51 (h).

**For Cable System Head Ends:** Decoders must be programmed to accept alerts for all warning event codes given in Paragraph VI, C. As a minimum, decoders must be programmed to accept alerts containing county location codes for all counties covered, in whole or in part, by

the system. Cable systems must transmit all received alerts in accordance with FCC Rules in Paragraph 11.51 (g) and 11.51 (h).

**All Stations and Cable Systems:** EAS equipment should be configured to notify station personnel of any EAS activation. LP stations must program their decoders for additional location codes as prescribed in this and the State EAS Plan. Unless a facility is attended 24 hours by operators trained in EAS operation, encoder/decoder equipment should be configured to automatically rebroadcast properly addressed EAS messages.

**NOTE:** *(The SECC recognizes the problems encountered in large cable systems, where selective delivery to specific areas may not be possible, resulting in alerts being received by subscribers, which may not be affected by the alert. However, the SECC expects that all alerts be sent. The information contained in the alert itself is sufficient to allow subscribers to determine if the alert applies to them.)*

- D. Placement of the EAS equipment is critical. It must be placed where regular station personnel can hear it and observe the message printer on the decoder, at any time.
- E. Each station and cable system is unique in the role that it plays in the EAS system. Questions related to this plan or on the specific details and requirements for fulfilling the needs of your specific area should be addressed to the North Central Ohio Operational Area EAS chairman or vice chairman.
- F. Stations and cable systems should, based on this plan, develop their own Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). Operating personnel should post those procedures at the EAS equipment for quick reference. A copy of this plan alone cannot possibly be considered adequate for operating personnel to use as a guide at the time of activation, nor can operating personnel be expected to remember what to do after studying this plan. This plan must be

applied to each facility. Therefore a clear, concise step-by-step operating procedure, readily available, for your operating personnel to use at the time of an emergency, is absolutely necessary if the EAS is to be successful.

G. The state EAS has both audio and video capabilities. Television stations and cable TV systems participating in the Ohio EAS should have systems configured at all times to air the EAS message crawler as well as audio during EAS messages. All participating stations and cable systems are encouraged to purchase EAS equipment with multiple monitoring capabilities. This should include as a minimum the ability to monitor two assigned over-the-air LP broadcast stations plus a NOAA weather radio station. For LP-1 and LP-2 stations, equipment should also allow for the telephone interface of notifiers' encoders or the interface of existing remote pickup unit equipment, if appropriate. Local Primary stations should pay particular attention to their multiple monitoring responsibilities when selecting EAS equipment.

H. All participating stations and cable systems should assign a permanent input on their master control console to receive program audio from the LP station sources as shown on the station monitoring chart on Pages 23 - 25, Attachment III.

### **XIII. TEST PROCEDURES**

A. EAS weekly tests of the EAS header and end-of-message codes must be conducted by all stations and cable systems in accordance with FCC Rules. This is known as the Required Weekly Test (RWT).

B. North Central Ohio Local Area monthly tests will originate from the North Central Ohio Local Primary (LP) station or from county Emergency Operations Centers on the following schedule. Tests will be conducted in accordance with the FCC Rules and Regulations. Tests must be re-transmitted within 60 minutes of receipt by all participating EAS stations and cable

systems. Tests originating from County Emergency Operations Centers will be initiated by the county Emergency Management Agency on a rotational basis.

MONTH	TIME FRAME	STATION	ORIGINATING SOURCE
January	Daytime / 8:30 AM to Local Sunset	LP-1	Station Staff or County EOC
February	Nighttime / Local Sunset to 8:30 AM	LP-2	Station Staff or County EOC
March	Daytime / Statewide Tornado Test	SP	State EOC/JDF Staff
April	Nighttime / Local Sunset to 8:30 AM	LP-1	Station Staff or County EOC
May	Daytime / 8:30 AM to Local Sunset	LP-2	Station Staff or County EOC
June	Nighttime / Local Sunset to 8:30 AM	LP-2	Station Staff or County EOC
July	Daytime / 8:30 AM to Local Sunset	LP-1	Station Staff or County EOC
August	Nighttime / Local Sunset to 8:30 AM	LP-1	Station Staff or County EOC
September	Daytime / 8:30 AM to Local Sunset	LP-2	Station Staff or County EOC
October	Nighttime / Local Sunset to 8:30 AM	SP	State EOC/JDF Staff
November	Daytime / 8:30 AM to Local Sunset	LP-1	Station Staff or County EOC
December	Nighttime / Local Sunset to 8:30 AM	LP-2	Station Staff or County EOC

C. Local closed circuit tests will be scheduled by the LP-1 and LP-2 station with notifiers.

The event code Practice/Demo Warning (DMO) will be used for these tests.

D. Statewide EAS tests will be conducted twice each year and will count as the required monthly test for the month in which it runs. One of these tests will take place as part of the Ohio “Severe Weather Awareness Week” activities, held in March of each year. This test will be conducted on a Wednesday in March at 9:50 A.M. A second statewide EAS test will be conducted in October at 4:50 A.M. Statewide EAS tests will be originated by the Ohio EMA from the State Emergency Operations Center/Joint Dispatch Facility (EOC/JDF).

E. The following script will be used for Operational Area or statewide tests:

**“THIS IS A (STATEWIDE/OPERATIONAL AREA) TEST OF THE (OHIO/NORTH CENTRAL OHIO AREA) EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM, ORIGINATING FROM THE [STATE/COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER/STUDIOS OF THE (LP-1/LP-2) STATION] IN (COLUMBUS/COUNTY). THIS IS ONLY A TEST. THE OHIO EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO PROVIDE THE**

**PUBLIC WITH TIMELY WARNINGS AND EMERGENCY INFORMATION. HAD THIS BEEN AN ACTUAL EMERGENCY, YOU WOULD HAVE RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION RELATED TO THAT EMERGENCY OVER THIS AND OTHER STATIONS IN YOUR AREA. THIS CONCLUDES THIS TEST OF THE (OHIO/NORTH CENTRAL OHIO AREA) EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM.”**

**XIV. OHIO EAS EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE (ECC)**

A. The State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC) Chairman, Vice Chairman and cable Co-Chairman are appointed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). SECC members include a state Chairman, a state Vice Chairman, a cable Co-Chairman, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the 12 Ohio Operational Areas and other voluntary members appointed by the SECC Chairman.

B. Operational Area ECC members include a Chairman and Vice Chairman appointed by the State Emergency Communications Committee Chairman (SECC) and other volunteer members appointed by the Operational Area ECC Chairman. The Operational Area ECCs are sub-committees of the SECC and all Operational Area ECC Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen are members of the SECC.

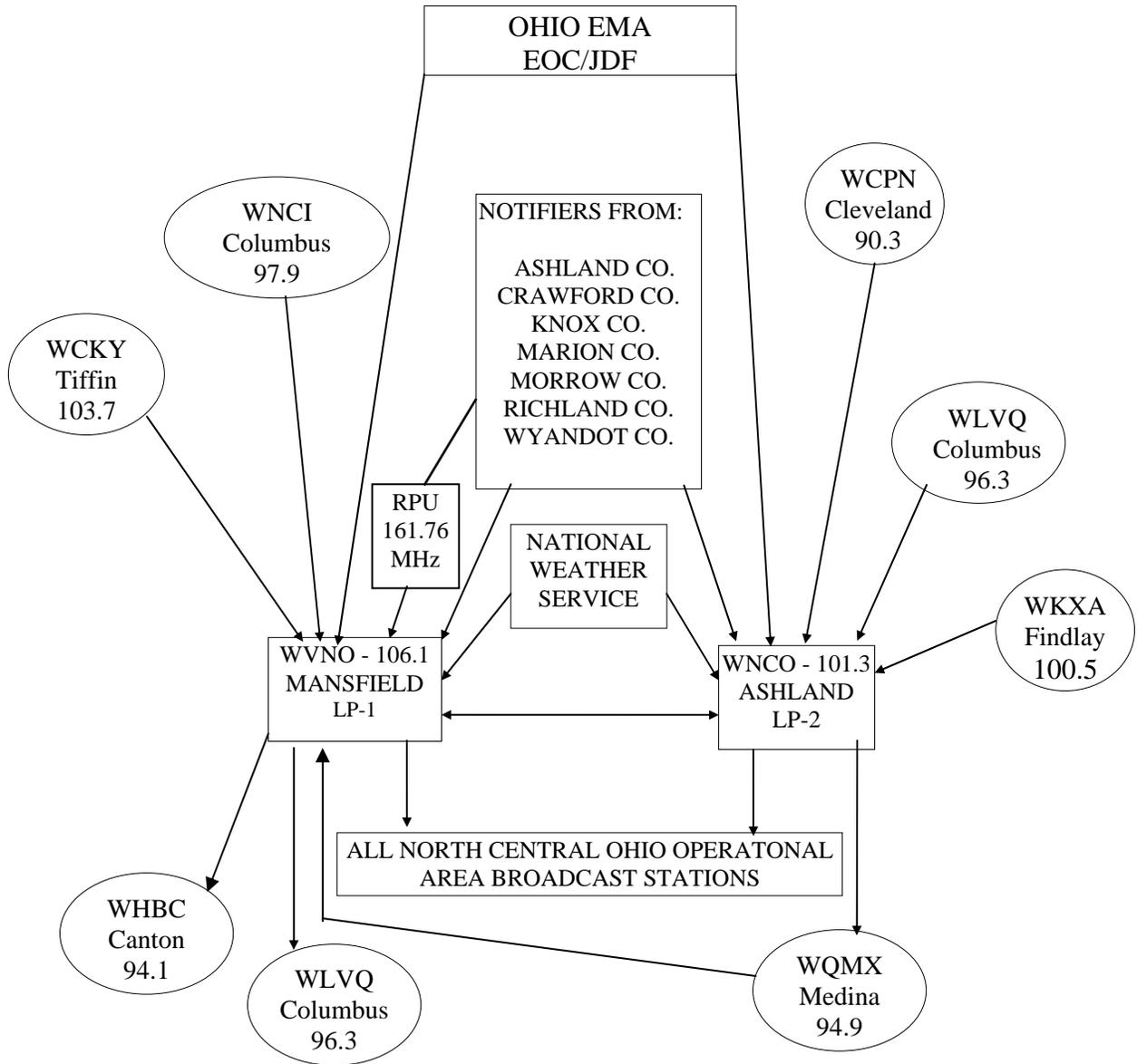
C. Your ECC Chairman and Vice Chairman welcome your questions and comments concerning this plan. The North Central Ohio and State ECC Chairman and Vice Chairman are listed in Attachment VI.

**XV. ACRONYMS**

EAS	Emergency Alert System
EMA	Emergency Management Agency
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
LP-1	Local Primary Station
LP-2	Local Primary Station, alternate
LP-3	Local Primary Station, alternate, relay
LECC	Local Emergency Communications Committee
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NWS	National Weather Service
RPU	Remote Pickup Unit
SAME	Specific Area Message Encoder
SECC	State Emergency Communications Committee
EOC/JDF	Emergency Operations Center/Joint Dispatch Facility

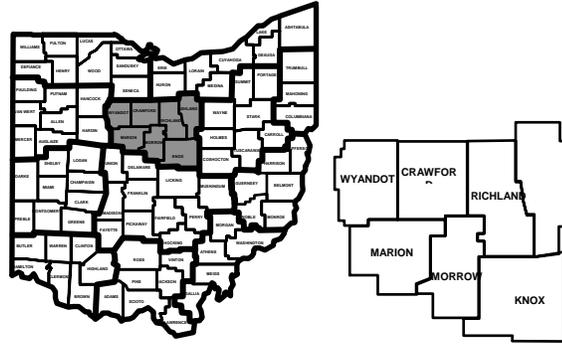
ATTACHMENT I

NORTH CENTRAL OHIO OPERATIONAL AREA  
COMMUNICATIONS AND EAS MONITORING CHART



**RADIO AND TV STATIONS IN THE  
NORTH CENTRAL OHIO OPERATIONAL AREA**

Attachment II



<u>STATION</u>	<u>FREQUENCY</u>	<u>EAS DESIGNATION</u>
	<b><u>AM</u></b>	
WBCO Bucyrus	1540	Participating
WMAN Mansfield	1400	Participating
WMVO Mount Vernon	1300	Participating
WNCO Ashland	1340	Participating
WRGM Ontario	1440	Participating
WMRN Marion	1490	Participating
	<b><u>FM</u></b>	
WMRN Marion	106.9	Participating
WQEL Bucyrus	92.7	Participating
WYHT Mansfield	105.3	Participating
WQIO Mount Vernon	93.7	Participating
WYNT Upper Sandusky	95.9	Participating
<b>WNCO Ashland</b>	<b>101.3</b>	<b>Local Primary-2</b>
WFXN Galion	102.3	Participating
WRDL Ashland	88.9	Participating
WXML Upper Sandusky	90.1	Participating
WSWR Shelby	100.1	Participating
<b>WVNO Mansfield</b>	<b>106.1</b>	<b>State Relay/Local Primary-1</b>
WYKL Crestline	98.7	Participating
WVBK Fredericktown	98.3	Participating
WNZR Mount Vernon	90.9	Participating
WKCO Gambier	91.9	Participating
WBZW Loudonville	107.7	Participating
WOSV Mansfield	91.7	Participating
WVXG Mount Gilead	95.1	Participating
WDIF Marion	94.3	Participating
WAUI Shelby	88.3	Participating
WVMC Mansfield	90.7	Participating
WNCG Mansfield	95.7	Participating
	<b><u>TV</u></b>	
WMFD Mansfield	CH 68/12	Participating
WBKA Bucyrus	CH 22	Participating
WOCB Marion	CH 39	Participating
WOHZ Mansfield	CH 50	Participating
	<b><u>Cable TV</u></b>	
Armstrong Cable Service		Participating
Time Warner Cable		Participating

PARTICIPATING STATION SPECIFICATIONS																							
NORTH CENTRAL OHIO AREA																							
FM STATIONS																							
Monitoring Assignments	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	SEE ATT. I	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	SEE ATT. I	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO						
PN Stations	WVRN	WQEL	WYHT	WQIO	WYNT	WNCO	WFXN	WRDL	WXML	WSWR	WVNO	WYKL	WVNBK	WNZR	WKCO	WBZW	WOSV	WVXG	WDIF	WAUI	WVMC	WVNCG	
COUNTIES																							
ASHLAND			X	X		X	X	X		X	X		X			X	X			X	X		
COSHOCTON			X	X		X					X					X							
CRAWFORD	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X
CUYAHOGA																							
DELAWARE	X		X	X		X	X				X							X	X				
ERIE			X								X												
FAIRFIELD				X																			
FRANKLIN	X			X																			
HANCOCK	X				X				X		X												
HARDIN	X				X				X		X									X			
HOLMES			X	X		X					X		X			X	X						
HURON		X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X									X		
KNOX	X		X	X		X	X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
LICKING	X		X	X		X					X		X	X				X					
LORAIN			X			X		X			X												
LOGAN	X																						
MADISON	X																						
MARION	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X						X	X				
MEDINA			X	X		X					X												
MORROW	X	X	X	X		X	X			X	X	X	X				X	X	X				
MUSKINGUM				X																			
PERRY				X																			
RICHLAND	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	X
SANDUSKY			X								X												
SENECA	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X									X		
TUSCARAWAS																X							
UNION	X					X					X									X			
WAYNE			X	X		X		X			X					X							
WYANDOT	X	X	X		X	X	X		X		X							X	X				

<b>PARTICIPATING STATION SPECIFICATIONS</b>													
<b>NORTH CENTRAL OHIO AREA</b>													
<b>AM STATIONS</b>													
Monitoring Assignments	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO							
PN Stations	WBCO	WMAN	WMVO	WNCO	WRGM	WMRN							
COUNTIES													
ASHLAND		X	X	X	X								
COSHOCTON			X										
CRAWFORD	X	X			X	X							
DELAWARE						X							
HANCOCK						X							
HARDIN						X							
HOLMES			X	X									
HURON		X		X	X								
KNOX		X	X	X	X								
LICKING			X										
LORAIN				X									
LOGAN						X							
MARION	X					X							
MEDINA				X									
MORROW	X	X			X	X							
RICHLAND	X	X	X	X	X	X							
SENECA	X					X							
UNION						X							
WAYNE				X									
WYANDOT	X					X							

<b>PARTICIPATING STATION SPECIFICATIONS</b>													
<b>NORTH CENTRAL OHIO AREA</b>													
<b>TV STATIONS</b>													
Monitoring Assignments	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO	WVNO-WNCO									
PN Stations	WMFD	WBKA	WOCB	WOHZ									
COUNTIES													
ASHLAND	X			X									
COSHOCTON	X												
CRAWFORD	X	X	X	X									
DELAWARE	X		X										
ERIE	X												
HARDIN			X										
HOLMES	X												
HURON	X			X									
KNOX	X			X									
LICKING	X												
LORAIN	X												
MARION	X	X	X										
MEDINA	X												
MORROW	X	X	X	X									
RICHLAND	X	X		X									
SENECA	X	X											
UNION			X										
WAYNE	X												
WYANDOT	X	X	X										

NORTH CENTRAL OHIO EAS OPERATIONAL AREA NOTIFIER LIST

**ASHLAND COUNTY**

**“L” CODE**

Floyd Poland, Director  
 110 Cottage Street  
 Ashland, Ohio 44805  
 (419) 282-4272

ASHLCOEM

Estel W. Risner, Sheriff  
 1294 State Route 96  
 Ashland, Ohio 44805  
 (419) 289-3911

ASHLCOSO

**CRAWFORD COUNTY**

Tim Flock, Director  
 112 East Mansfield Street  
 Bucyrus, Ohio 44820  
 (419) 562-6009

CRAWCOEM

Ronny J. Shawber, Sheriff  
 3613 Stetzer Road  
 Bucyrus, Ohio 44820  
 (419) 562-7906

CRAWCOSO

**KNOX COUNTY**

Larry J. Hatton, Director  
 11540 Upper Gilchrist Road  
 Mt. Vernon, Ohio 43050  
 (740) 393-6772

KNOXCOEM

David B. Barber, Sheriff  
 116 East Chestnut Street  
 Mt. Vernon, Ohio 43050  
 (740) 397-3333

KNOXCOSO

**MARION COUNTY**

Harry Burdick, Director  
 Marion County Courthouse  
 Marion, Ohio 43302  
 (740) 494-9911

**“L” CODE**

MARICOEM

John H. Butterworth, Sheriff  
 888 Marion-Williamsport Road  
 Marion, Ohio 43302  
 (740) 382-8244

MARICOSO

**MORROW COUNTY**

Joseph A. Edwards, Director  
 47 East Center Street  
 Mount Gilead, Ohio 43338  
 (419) 947-4041

MORRCOEM

Tom E. Harden, Sheriff  
 101 Home Road  
 P. O. Box 359  
 Mt. Gilead, Ohio 43338  
 (419) 946-4444

MORRCOSO

**RICHLAND COUNTY**

Keith H. Markley, Director  
 38 South Park Street  
 Mansfield, Ohio 44902  
 (419) 774-5686

RICHCOEM

James A. Steirhoff, Sheriff  
 55 East Second Street  
 Mansfield, Ohio 44902  
 (419) 774-5678

RICHCOSO

**WYANDOT COUNTY**

**“L” CODE**

Rodger Brodman, Director  
125 East Wyandot Avenue  
Upper Sandusky, Ohio 43351  
(419) 294-6406

WYANCOEM

Michael R. Hetzel, Sheriff  
125 East Wyandot Avenue  
Upper Sandusky, Ohio 43351  
(419) 294-2362

WYANCOSO

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Mark A. Patchen, Director  
Technical Support Division  
Ohio Emergency Management Agency  
2855 West Dublin Granville Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43235-2206  
(614) 889-7150

OHIOSTEM

William Comeaux, M-I-C  
National Weather Service Office  
Cleveland-Hopkins International Airport  
Federal Facility Building  
Cleveland, Ohio 44135  
(216) 265-2382

NWS/KCLE

**ATTACHMENT V**  
**NOAA WEATHER STATIONS SERVING OHIO COUNTIES**

The following is a listing of all NOAA weather station outlets serving Ohio points along with the counties for which SAME encoded warnings will be carried. Warnings for some counties are carried on more than one station:

City, Call Sign, Radar Site, Frequency

Akron, KDO-94, CLE, 162.40, Counties: Ashland, Carroll, Columbiana, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, Wayne, Stark

Angola, IN, KXI-94, IWX, 162.425, Counties: Defiance, Fulton, Williams, Henry

Ashland, KY, KIH-39, RLX, 162.55, Counties: Lawrence, Scioto, Gallia

Athens, KZZ-46, RLX, 162.425, Counties: Athens, Gallia, Hocking, Jackson, Meigs, Morgan, Perry, Vinton, Washington

Bridgeport, WWF-35, PBZ, 162.525, Counties: Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Tuscarawas, Washington

Cambridge, (High Hill) WXJ-47, PBZ, 162.475, Counties: Belmont, Carroll, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Licking, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Tuscarawas, Washington

Carey-KZZ47, CLE, 162.525, Counties: Crawford, Hancock, Hardin, Marion, Seneca, Wyandot

Castalia, KHB-97, CLE, 162.40, Counties: Ashland, Crawford, Erie, Hancock, Huron, Lorain, Ottawa, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Wood, Wyandot

Chesterland, KHB-59, CLE, 162.55, Counties: Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Erie, Geauga, Huron, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, Summit

Columbus, KIG-86, ILN, 162.55, Counties: Athens, Champaign, Clark, Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Greene, Hocking, Knox, Licking, Madison, Marion, Morgan, Morrow, Muskingum, Perry, Pickaway, Ross, Union, Vinton

Covington, KY, KIH-42, ILN, 162.55, Counties: Butler, Warren, Clermont, Brown, Clinton, Hamilton, Highland

Erie, PA, KEC-58, CLE, 162.40, Counties: Ashtabula

Ft. Wayne, IN, WXJ-58, IWX, 162.55, Counties: Defiance, Paulding, Van Wert

Holland, WXL-51, CLE, 162.55, Counties: Fulton, Hancock, Henry, Lucas, Ottawa, Sandusky, Seneca, Wood  
Warnings for Defiance and Williams Counties will be aired for the purpose of relay to the EAS.

Lima, WXJ-93, ILN, 162.40, Counties: Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Logan, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Shelby, Van Wert, Wyandot

Mansfield: WWG-57, CLE, 162.450, Counties: Ashland, Crawford, Holmes, Knox, Licking, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Wayne, Wyandot

Mayesville, KY, KZZ-49, ILN, 162.425, Counties: Adams, Brown

Meadville, PA, KZZ-32, CLE, 162-475, Counties: Ashtabula, Trumbull

Miamisburg, WXJ-46, ILN, 162.475, Counties: Butler, Champaign, Clark, Clinton, Darke, Greene, Logan, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby, Warren

Otway, WXM-69, ILN, 162.525, Counties: Adams, Brown, Highland, Jackson, Pike, Ross, Scioto

Pittsburgh, PA, KEH-35, PBZ, 162.55, Counties: Columbiana

Richmond, IN, KHB-52, ILN, 162.50, Counties: Butler Darke, Montgomery, Preble

Youngstown, WWG-56, CLE, 162.500, Counties: Carroll, Columbiana, Lawrence, Mahoning, Portage, Stark, Trumbull

Adrian, MI, WNG-647, OTX, 162.450, Counties: Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Williams

Grafton, OH, WNG-698, CLE, 162.500, Counties: Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Erie, Geauga, Huron, Lorain, Medina, Portage, Summit

**NORTH CENTRAL OHIO LOCAL AREA  
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE (ECC)**

**Chairman**

Mr. Wayne Fick  
Radio Station WVNO  
2900 Park Avenue, West  
Mansfield, Ohio 44906  
(419) 529-5900, Ext. 227  
(419) 529-2319 (Fax)  
e-mail – [waynef@wvno.com](mailto:waynef@wvno.com)

**Vice Chairman**

Mr. Ronald A. Foltz  
Radio Station WYHT - FM  
1400 Radio Lane  
Mansfield, Ohio 44901  
(419) 529-2211  
(419) 529-2516 (Fax)  
e-mail – [ronallen@clearchannel.com](mailto:ronallen@clearchannel.com)

**STATE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE (SECC)**

**Chairman**

Mr. William C. Glasser  
Radio Station WHBC  
P.O Box 9917  
Canton, Ohio 44711  
(330) 456-7166  
(330) 456-7199 (Fax)  
e-mail – [bglasser@whbc.com](mailto:bglasser@whbc.com)

**Vice Chairman**

Mr. Mark A. Patchen  
Ohio Emerg. Mgmt. Agcy.  
2855 W. Dublin Granville Rd.  
Columbus, Ohio 43235-2206  
(614) 889-7155  
(614) 889-7183 (Fax)  
e-mail – [mpatchen@dps.state.oh.us](mailto:mpatchen@dps.state.oh.us)

**Cable Co-Chairman**

Ed Kozelek, Exec. VP  
OH Cable Telecom Assoc.  
50 W. Broad St., Suite 1118  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
(614) 461-4014  
(614) 461-9326 (Fax)  
e-mail - None

EAS RADIO AND TV STATIONS  
ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

WBCO-AM & WQEL-FM  
403 East Rensselaer Street  
P. O. Box 1140  
Bucyrus, Ohio 44820-1140  
419-562-2222  
419-562-0520 (fax)

WMAN-AM & WSWR/WYHT-FM  
1400 Radio Lane  
Mansfield, Ohio 44906  
419-529-2211  
419-529-2516 (fax)

WRGM-AM & WVNO-FM  
2900 Park Avenue, West  
Mansfield, Ohio 44906-1099  
419-529-5900  
419-529-2319 (fax)

WMVO-AM & WBZW/WQIO/WWBK-FM  
17421 Coshocton Road  
P. O. Box 348  
Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050-0348  
740-397-1000  
740-392-9300 (fax)

WNCO-AM/FM & WFXN-FM  
2435 Mansfield Road  
P. O. Box 311  
Ashland, Ohio 44805-0311  
419-289-2605  
419-289-0304 (fax)

WMRN-AM/FM & WDIF-FM  
1330 North Main Street  
Marion, Ohio 43302-1500  
740-383-1131  
740-387-3697 (fax)

WRDL-FM  
Ashland University  
401 College Avenue  
Ashland, Ohio 44805  
419-289-5140  
419-289-5329 (fax)

WXML-FM  
1800 East Wyandot Avenue  
P. O. Box 158  
Upper Sandusky, Ohio 43351  
419-294-2900

WNZR-FM  
800 Martinsburg Road  
Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050  
740-392-9090  
740-392-9155 (fax)

WYKL-FM  
Crestline, Ohio  
(no phone/mail listing)

WKCO-FM  
50 College Boulevard  
P. O. Box 312  
Gambier, Ohio 43022  
740-427-5412  
740-427-5413 (fax)

WOSV-FM  
2400 Olentangy River Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43210-1027  
614-292-9678  
614-292-7625 (fax)

WVXG-FM  
Xavier University  
3800 Victory Parkway  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45207-7211  
513-731-9898

WAUI-FM  
American Family Association  
107 Parkgate  
P. O. Drawer 3206  
Tupelo, Mississippi 38803

WVMC-FM  
Mansfield Christian School  
500 Logan Road  
Mansfield, Ohio 44907-2819

WNCG-FM  
North Central State College  
2441 Kenwood Circle  
P. O. Box 698  
Mansfield, Ohio 44901

WMFD-TV, Channel 68/12  
WOHZ-TV, Channel 50  
2900 Park Avenue, West  
Mansfield, Ohio 44906-1099  
419-529-5900  
419-529-2319 (fax)

WOCB-TV, Channel 39  
1282 North Main Street  
Marion, Ohio 43302-1523  
800-852-8199  
740-387-6647 (fax)

WBKA-TV, Channel 22  
3333 Parcher Road  
P. O. Box 839  
Bucyrus, Ohio 44820  
419-562-3830  
419-562-7444 (fax)

Armstrong Cable Service  
100 East Second Street  
Ashland, Ohio 44805  
491-289-1343  
491-289-3508 (fax)

Time Warner Communications  
114 West Warren Street  
P. O. Box 581  
Bucyrus, Ohio 44820  
419-562-8068  
419-562-4066 (fax)

Time Warner Communications  
1575 Lexington Avenue  
P. O. Box 576  
Mansfield, Ohio 44907  
419-756-3333  
419-756-6091 (fax)

Time Warner Communications  
111 South Mulberry Street  
P. O. Box 191  
Mt. Vernon, Ohio 43050  
740-397-2288  
740-397-3730 (fax)

Time Warner Communications  
1200 Brownstone Avenue  
Akron, Ohio 44310  
330-630-7969