



This Week in Ohio EMA

A publication of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety

Bob Taft, Governor ♦ Nancy Dragani, Executive Director, Ohio EMA ♦ Kenneth L. Morckel, Director, ODPS
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FEMA Joins State and Local Damage Assessment Teams to Survey Flooded Ohio Infrastructure



(Painesville, OH) This warehouse/storage garage shows extensive flood water damage after more than nine inches of rain fell, July 27. Joint damage assessment teams conducted surveys of infrastructure damage in Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake and Cuyahoga counties this week. (Ohio EMA photo by Vikki Bunting).

Three teams consisting of local, state and federal officials started preliminary damage assessment in Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake and Cuyahoga counties on August 9 to assess damages to infrastructure caused by last month's flooding.

Governor Bob Taft requested FEMA Damage Assessment Teams to assist state and local officials with surveys to determine if northeast Ohio is eligible for federal disaster public assistance.

"I have seen first-hand the sheer destructive force that came as a result of the severe flooding in our northeast Ohio counties," said Taft. "We have been able to secure federal assistance for individuals and businesses that were impacted by severe flooding; now we will try to bring that same level of assistance to the local governments."

The governor will review the damage assessment findings once the teams have completed their reports. Surveys are anticipated to be complete by Friday, August 11. Based upon findings, Taft can make a request for federal public assistance for Ohio's recent disaster. If approved, public assistance can fund the repair, restoration, reconstruction or replacement of a public facility or infrastructure that has been damaged or destroyed by a disaster. Public assistance can also be utilized for debris removal and emergency protective measures. Eligible applicants include local and state governments and certain private, nonprofit organizations.

<p>Team 1 Wednesday, August 9 Willoughby Hills Community Center 35400 Chardon Road Willoughby Hills, OH (Lake County)</p>	<p>Team 2 Wednesday, August 9 Ashtabula County EOC 25 West Jefferson Street Jefferson, OH (Ashtabula County)</p>	<p>Team 3 Wednesday, August 9 Geauga County EOC 12518 Merritt Road Chardon, OH (Gauga County)</p> <p>Thursday, August 10 Euclid Municipal Center/City Hall 585 East 222nd Street Euclid, OH (Cuyahoga County)</p>
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Terrorism Threat Level Raised in Aviation Sector Nationally

Ohio Homeland Security News Release, August 10, 2006

Ohio Public Safety Director Kenneth L. Morckel announced Thursday that Ohio has been in contact with Federal Transportation Security Administration officials regarding the increased aviation alert level. Morckel said the increased threat levels are based on no specific threats to Ohio, but travelers can expect longer wait times as a result of additional security measures implemented at airports in the wake of the increased security level.

The Federal Transportation Security Administration (TSA) raised the nation's threat level to SEVERE (or Red) for commercial flights originating in the United Kingdom bound for the United States. No Ohio airports are under the Red Level, as there are no flights arriving here from the United Kingdom. This adjustment reflects the CRITICAL or highest alert level that has been implemented in the United Kingdom. The threat level has been raised to HIGH (or Orange) for all commercial aviation operating in or destined for the United States, so all Ohio airports are under the Orange threat level.

"There are no specific threats or indication of immediate potential threats here in Ohio," said Morckel. "State officials have been in constant communication overnight and into the morning with the federal agencies, and while we are raising the alert level in the aviation sector, we want Ohioans to remain confident in traveling, but to expect longer wait and screening times at the airport."

In response to these events, state officials are staffing the state's Strategic Analysis and Information Center (SAIC) with additional personnel. The SAIC analyzes intelligence information and watches incidents and reports from local law enforcement to see if there is potential terrorist activity developing in Ohio. The center is staffed by a joint team of federal, state and local officials and law enforcement professionals.

Due to the nature of the threat revealed by this investigation, TSA is prohibiting any liquids, including beverages, hair gels and lotions from being carried on the airplane. This determination will be constantly evaluated and updated when circumstances warrant. These changes took effect at 4 a.m. local time across the county, August 10.



Ohio EMA's Plans Branch staff provided information regarding Ohio Citizen Corps and the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) status to Citizen Corps Territory Manager Jim Opoka of FEMA, Region V. The information will be used to create a status report for the FEMA national office, which will be used in analyzing the effectiveness of council

strategies and making recommendations for the direction of Citizen Corps, as it pertains to the urban areas.

The purpose of the UASI is to provide grant funding and support to regional first responders who are responsible for the prevention, response to and recovery from acts of foreign or domestic terrorism.

Citizen Corps programs build on the successful efforts that are in place in many communities around the country to prevent crime and respond to emergencies. Programs that started through local innovation are the foundation for Citizen Corps and this national approach to citizen participation in community safety.

Citizen Corps is coordinated nationally by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. In this capacity, FEMA works closely with other federal entities, state and local governments, first responders and emergency managers, the volunteer community, and the White House Office of the USA Freedom Corps.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT STATUS REPORT

FEMA DR-1656 - Declared: August 1, 2006

Federal Individual Assistance for Ashtabula, Geauga and Lake counties.

Incident period: July 27 - August 4, 2006

Registrations for IA (as of August 8): **3,269**

Registration Deadline: September 30, 2006

FEMA Individuals & Household Program:

524 applications approved for **\$1,147,938**

(State Share: **\$17,726**)

Disaster Recovery Centers

DRC-1: JFK Senior Center

1580 East 332 Street, Eastlake (Lake County)

DRC-2: First Church Congregational

22 Liberty Street, Painsville, OH (Lake County)

Mobile DRC-3: (Ashtabula County)

Lakeland Community College, 201 Water Tower, Madison, OH (through August 12)

Mentor Senior Center (west entrance)

6313 Center Street

Mentor, OH (August 21-24)

FEMA DR-1651 - Declared: July 2, 2006

Federal IA disaster assistance available for Cuyahoga, Erie, Huron, Lucas, Sandusky and Stark counties.

Emergency Management's Annual Golf Outing

Deadline to Sign Up:

Friday, August 18th

Date: Friday, August 25, 2006

Registration: 8 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.



Oakhaven Golf Course

2871 U.S. Route 23

Delaware, Ohio 43015

Cost: \$50. Price includes 18 holes, golf cart, unlimited use of driving range, and dinner at the end of play. (What a great deal!)

Individual or Team Registration Form

Names: _____

Amount enclosed (\$50/person): _____

POC & Phone #: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Mail forms and checks to:

Dan Winningham, Golf Outing Coordinator

2475 Dunswoth Drive

Columbus, Ohio 43235

(or deliver to Ohio EMA, 2855 W. Dublin-Granville Rd.)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
August 6	7	8	9	10	11	12 <small>OCSWA Poster Contest Awards Ceremony at State Fair - Noon</small>
13 <small>Last day of Ohio State Fair</small>	14	15	16 <small>Ohio Fire Chiefs Association DRILL</small>	17	18	19
20	21 <small>Medical TAC Ohio EMA</small>	22 <small>HazMat TAC Ohio EMA</small>	23	24 <small>Water TAC Ohio EMA</small>	25	26 <small>Corrected Date: Cleveland UASI/ODHR - FS (TICP Validation)</small>
27	28	29	30	31 <small>Ohio Dept of Rehab & Corrections FS Exercise</small>	Sept. 1	2

Register for Ohio EMA courses by visiting <http://ema.state.oh.us/training>

UASI - Urban Area Security Initiative

TICP - Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan

FS - Full Scale Exercise