



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

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Winter's coming. Are you ready? Winter Safety Awareness Week starts Sunday

Last month made Ohio weather history books as one of the wettest and stormiest Octobers. Ohio experienced flooding, tornadoes, hailstorms and even snow. October serviced as a reminder that it's never too early to prepare for severe weather safety. This year, Governor Bob Taft has proclaimed the week of November 12-18 as Winter Severe Weather Awareness Week.

Taft said, "I urge our community leaders and the news media to assist the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness in educating Ohioans about the dangers of severe weather and the safety measures that can be taken in preparation for winter storms and flooding."



A pickup truck was crushed by downed power lines during a February 2003 ice storm.

The Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness recommends Ohio families take the following steps in preparing their vehicles for winter season:

- Get a tune-up to save wear and tear on your vehicle's battery. Have the radiator checked for its coolant level and check the sturdiness of hoses and belts.
- Check and replace all burned out headlights, tail lights and turn signals.
- Ensure that the vehicle's tires are properly inflated and ensure that the tire treads are one-sixteenth-inch deep for adequate traction.
- Ensure that the vehicle's brakes are properly working. Ensure that the wiper blades are in good working order.
- Organize an emergency preparedness kit for the vehicle. Include a flashlight, booster cables, bottled water or juice, nonperishable snack foods, emergency flares, ice scraper and snow brush, tire repair kit, cell phone, extra jackets and blankets.

The Board of Clermont County Commissioners also proclaimed next week as Winter Safety Awareness Week in its county "... in honor and recognition of (their) citizens and the vital contributions they make to the safety and well-being of (their) community."

Visit www.ocswa.ohio.gov for additional information on winter weather preparedness.

Homeland Security Current Threat Level (Domestic & International Flights):

HIGH

Ohio EMA Weekly Report Entries (dated Nov. 7)

Ohio Medical Reserve Corps conducts conference at State EOC

Approximately 75 personnel attended the Ohio Medical Reserve Corps Coordinators' Conference which was held at the State Emergency Operations Center/Joint Dispatch Facility, November 3. The conference was organized by the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Community Service Council.



Attendees included representatives of the Medical Reserve Corps coordinators, Regional Medical Response System coordinators, state and county EMA personnel and Ohio Citizen Corps staff.

The mission of the Ohio Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is to establish teams of local volunteer medical and public health professionals who can contribute their skills and expertise throughout the year, as well as during times of community need. MRC units are made of locally based, medical and public health volunteers who can assist their communities during emergencies, such as an influenza epidemic, a chemical spill, or act of terrorism. The Ohio MRC serves 47 Ohio counties with 41 MRC units. Henry, Huron and Wood counties are Ohio MRC's newest units.

Ohio Executive-Level Pandemic Influenza COOP

The Ohio EMA Plans Branch is preparing for the Ohio Executive-Level State Agency Pandemic Influenza Continuity of Operations Facilitated Discussion which will be conducted at Ohio EMA on November 30. The Ohio Department of Health will be the primary facilitator. Goals and objectives of the meeting include:

- Discussing how every state agency will be able to provide uninterrupted essential services to the public and perform their essential functions during a pandemic influenza event.
- Identifying opportunities, strategies and plans for collaboration and resource-sharing among state agencies to provide essential services and to protect essential facilities, equipment, vital records and other assets.
- Discussing how to achieve a timely and orderly reconstitution from a pandemic influenza emergency and resume full service to internal and external customers.

Nuclear Power Plants Update

Unit 2 of the Beaver Valley Power Station entered a refueling outage on October 2 and was expected to remain in outage status for 25 days. The outage is running behind schedule by 10 days, partly because of a flaw in the reactor head nozzle weld area, which must be repaired prior to start up.

Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Perry Nuclear Power Plant and Unit 1 of the Beaver Valley Power Station continue to operate at 100 percent power.

Including People with Disabilities in Emergency Planning

The workshop "Including People with Disabilities in Emergency Planning" is intended for individuals planning prior to an incident, first responders, shelter staff and people with disabilities.

December 7, 2006: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Presentation by Hilary Styron, director for the National Organization on Disability's Emergency Preparedness Initiative.

December 7, 2006: 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Tabletop exercise that involves first responders and people with functional needs.

Fee: No charge, but pre-registration is required. Call 614-287-5997. Visit www.olrs.ohio.gov/ASP/CSCCEM.asp for more information.



Veterans' Day is Remembrance Day

November 11th, 2006

Emergency Management Incident Status Report

The Small Business Administration (SBA) approved the governor's request for an SBA disaster declaration for Pike County and its contiguous counties on October 26. An SBA Disaster Loan Center opened in Waverly, Ohio on October 27. The center was opened Monday - Saturday, through November 9.

The Ohio EMA Disaster Recovery Branch was co-located in Waverly to accept State Individual Assistance (IA) grant applications and provide information about the State IA Program.

As of close-of-business November 4, the State IA Program received 16 applications and approved seven, for a total of **\$48,066**. This total included one maximum grant approval of **\$16,800**.

FEMA DR-1656 Disaster period: July 27 - Aug. 4
Total Individual Assistance provided (as of Nov. 6):
\$24,161,922 for Ashtabula, Geauga and Lake counties.

Public Assistance was granted for Ashtabula, Geauga and Lake counties. As of October 30, FEMA reported closing 44 of 52 applicants for this event at an estimated program cost of **\$13,734,531**.



FEMA NIMS Alert

Fiscal Year 2006 NIMS Compliance Metrics

By September 30, 2007, jurisdictions will be required to comply with the FY07 National Incident Management System (NIMS) requirements to receive FY08 emergency preparedness grants. By FY07, all jurisdictions must comply with specific performance-based metrics. These metrics were derived, in part, from the FY06 required compliance activities and includes some new performance measures.

Metrics will be used to:

- ✓ Gather information on the current state of NIMS compliance;
- ✓ Identify best practices and areas that may require further technical assistance;
- ✓ Provide continued guidance and feedback; and
- ✓ Assist with the refinement of metrics and/or data-gathering tools.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		<i>Election Day</i>	Emergency Management Assistance Compact Ohio EMA		<i>Holiday Observed</i>	 <i>Veterans Day</i>
 12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness - Winter Safety Awareness Week						
			Incident Mgmt TAC Ohio EMA	Water TAC Ohio EMA		
19	Medical TAC Ohio EMA Canine TAC Ohio EMA	21	22	 23 Thanksgiving	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	December 1	2
			Behavioral Health TAC - Ohio EMA			

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

TAC: Technical Advisory Committee