



Yellowbud, Ohio - January 2005

Decatur Township, Ohio - February 2003



This Week in Ohio EMA

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

Ted Strickland, Governor
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FEMA Urges U.S. Residents to Purchase Flood Insurance and Prepare for Winter Flooding (FEMA News Release HQ-06-158, dated December 5, 2006 contributed to this story.)

Spring and summer months are typically the wet and rainy months in many regions of the United States. But over the past few years, it is winter storms and winter flooding that create the most havoc. For many states, winter months produce the majority of annual rainfall. In fact, winter rains can often lead to intense flooding and mudflows, causing millions of dollars in property damage year after year.

Ohio endured four days of nonstop rain last Friday through Monday, many areas receiving approximately 2.5 inches of rain. Creeks overflowed to farmlands and roadways. The Scioto, Muskingum and Hocking rivers flooded low-lying areas; and on Tuesday, the Ohio River was merely three feet below flood stage in Marietta. Ohio was fortunate this time. There were no county declarations and no requests for state assistance.



Yellowbud, Ohio (Ross County) - January 2005

From November 2005 to April 2006, widespread flooding occurred in California, Oregon, Nevada, Idaho, Missouri, Minnesota, North Dakota and Washington. American homeowners, businesses and renters filed more than 4,000 flood insurance claims and received more than \$122.8 million in flood insurance claims during that time period. (Ohio's last winter federal declaration was DR-1580, disaster period December 22, 2004 through February 1, 2005, severe winter snow, ice storms and flooding. Thirty-two Ohio counties were eligible for federal individual assistance, which totaled \$10 million under the Individuals and Households Program; \$3.8 million in Small Business Administration Home/Personal Property and Business loans.)

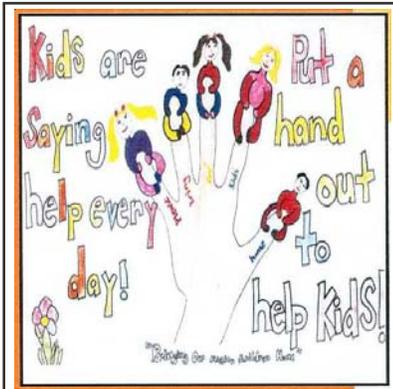
According to the Ohio Insurance Institute, most Ohio communities qualify for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). According to FEMA, approximately 280,000 structures are located in Ohio's mapped floodplain areas, with a value of \$11 billion. About 10 percent of these structures are protected by flood insurance. As of June 2006, the average Ohio premium for a NFIP policy was \$605 annually. For additional information on flood insurance and how to protect your property, visit www.floodsmart.gov.

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

HIGH

Ohio's Fifth-Graders to Participate in National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest

Ohio AMBER Alert Steering Committee promotes Department of Justice's Annual Contest



Winning Poster for 2007.

The Ohio AMBER Alert Steering Committee is encouraging Ohio's fifth-grade students to participate in the U.S. Department of Justice's national poster contest "Bringing Our Missing Children Home." The goal of the annual contest is for America's fifth-grade students to develop the artwork that will represent America's united goal to bring missing children home safely.

More than 1.3 million children are reported missing each year. Fortunately, through collective efforts and partnerships between law enforcement, government agencies and individual citizens, most of these children return home safely. Sadly, though, many do not.

"This contest is an opportunity for children to have fun creating posters while also learning valuable lessons about their safety," said Mark

Patchen, chairperson of Ohio's AMBER Alert Steering Committee.

The Ohio AMBER Alert Steering Committee will select three winning posters from all of the submissions, two runners up and the overall statewide winner. The three winning students will receive certificates from the Ohio AMBER Alert Steering Committee and have their posters displayed on the Ohio AMBER Plan Web site.

The overall statewide winning poster will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Justice for final judging, which will result in the selection of one overall national poster contest winner. The national winner will travel to Washington, D.C. with his/her teacher and parents to receive an award at the National Missing Children's Day Ceremony. This year's winning poster will represent child safety for the U.S. Department of Justice for 2008. National AMBER Awareness Day was Saturday, January 13.

The complete packet of information relating to the poster contest is available on the Ohio AMBER Alert Web site: www.ohioamberplan.org. Click the [Press Room](#) link, then click on the heading, "2007 National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest."

Ohio EMA Communications Branch Update

Radio technicians performed the following:

- Programmed four UHF radios and four MARCS radios for the Buckeye State Sheriffs' Association Franklin County command vehicle.
- Performed preventive maintenance on six STORMS gauges in Washington, Warren, Coshocton and Pike counties.
- Conducted MARCS training at Fairfield County EMA.
- Performed repairs and preventive maintenance on High Hills and New Philadelphia NWS transmitters.

When the Weather Outside is Frightful...

To help citizens prepare for winter weather, the Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency and the Fairfield County Chapter of the American Red Cross are coordinating efforts and offering a winter safety program at the Fairfield County District Library.

This informative program will take place on the third floor of the main library: 219 North Broad Street, Lancaster. It will be offered on Thursday, January 25 at 6:30 p.m. and Monday, January 29 at 10:30 a.m.

Some topics of discussion will include: Winter Storm Watch vs. Winter Storm Warning; power outages; fire and fireplace safety; and what to do before and during winter storms.

Program participants can register to win a variety of prizes: a black and white five-inch emergency preparedness television that includes an AM/FM weather band radio; a removable emergency flashlight; an emergency siren; a recharging socket for a mobile phone; and dual fluorescent lanterns. The emergency preparedness items are provided by the Friends of the Library.

Registration is requested. Call the Main Library at (740) 653-2745, extension 101.

EMA Update

Hardin County EMA

Max Trachsel, Director

E-mail: ema@co.hardin.oh.us

Judy Hatfield, Director - resigned

Muskingum County EMA

Joe Gakenheimer, Ohio EMA Data Base

Administrator - transferred to ODPS, Information Technology Section

Amy Green, Planner

Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security



Fairfield County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security is hosting FREE Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training throughout the month of March at the Pleasant Township Firestation, 188 and Coonpath Road, SW.

March 8 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

March 15 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

March 22 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

March 29 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Call **(740) 654-4357** for registration information.

OHIO PANDEMIC FLU www.ohiopandemicflu.gov

Preparing for a pandemic - Here are some steps you can take to prepare your household for an influenza pandemic emergency kit:

Water - If water service is disrupted, you should have a two-week supply stored. Plan for one gallon per day for each person in the household.

Food - At least a two-week supply of non-perishable foods should be kept on hand. Canned foods (and manual can opener), soups, crackers and fruit bars are good choices.

Supplies - A first aid kit, battery powered radio, flashlights, extra batteries, charged cell phone, personal hygiene items and baby supplies (if needed) are just a few items you should have. Also, have masks, gloves, tissues, etc. for taking care of sick family members.

Medications - Keep a list of all prescribed medicines and ensure prescriptions are filled.

Contact Information - Have phone numbers of local police, fire and EMS.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
14	15  <i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday</i>	16 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">HazMat TAC Ohio EMA</div>	17 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">Incident Mgmt TAC Ohio EMA</div>	18 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">Water TAC Ohio EMA</div>	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31	February 1	2	3	
4	5	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: 100%;">CAMEO Course -Ohio EMA (Feb. 6-9)</div>			8	9	10
11	12 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">Medical TAC Ohio EMA</div>	13	14 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">Communications TAC Ohio EMA</div>	15	16	17	

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