



*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*

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**OCSWA Has New Web Address That Is Easier to Remember: [www.weathersafety.ohio.gov](http://www.weathersafety.ohio.gov)**



## **Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness**

*Teaching Ohioans Severe Weather Safety and Preparedness*

Be Prepared.



Over the last year, Ohio's citizens, teachers and public safety officials have turned to the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness's (OCSWA) Web site for safety and preparedness information. Feedback on the Web site praised the content of information, but suggested that the Internet address change to something easier to remember. The new address is [www.weathersafety.ohio.gov](http://www.weathersafety.ohio.gov).

Have a Plan.



Information on the site is updated at least three times a year. The site includes dates of Ohio's Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week, Lightning Safety Awareness Week, and Winter Severe Weather Awareness Week. Also included: making disaster plans for the home; making preparedness kits for the home, for vehicles, for animals/pets, and for people with special needs; and safety tips for tornadoes, floods, thunder and lightning storms, extreme heat, winter storms and home fires.

Keep Safe.



Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week this year is March 25-31, with the statewide tornado drill scheduled for Wednesday, March 28, at 9:50 a.m.

The site also contains activities to increase severe weather awareness and preparedness among school-aged students, to include information on the committee's annual severe weather awareness poster contest and links to Ohio EMA's kids' page, the Disaster Detectives.

OCSWA members represent the American Red Cross; National Weather Service; Ohio Emergency Management Agency; Ohio Citizen Corps; Ohio Insurance Institute; Ohio News Network; Emergency Management Association of Ohio; State Fire Marshal; and the Ohio departments of Aging, Education, Health, Insurance and Natural Resources.

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

**HIGH**

## **National Incident Management System Implementation and Compliance**

Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5), Management of Domestic Incidents, called for the establishment of a single, comprehensive National Incident Management Systems (NIMS). HSPD-5 dictates that federal departments and agencies shall make adoption of the NIMS a requirement for the provision of federal preparedness assistance funds.

### **Goal of NIMS Implementation**

As NIMS becomes more incorporated into incident management, state/territorial and tribal/local jurisdictions will be able to:

- Ensure common and proven incident management doctrine, practices and principles are used to plan for, protect against, respond to and recover from emergency incidents and pre-planned events;
- Maintain a response operation capable of expanding to meet an escalating situation and the ability to integrate resources and equipment from intrastate and interstate mutual aid agreements, state-provided assistance and federal government response;
- Order and track response assets using common resource typing and definitions and draw on mutual aid agreements for additional assistance;
- Establish staging and allocation plans for the redistribution of equipment, supplies and aid coming into the area from other localities, states or the federal government through mutual aid agreements;
- Conduct situational assessments and establish the appropriate ICS organizational structure to effectively management the incident; and
- Establish communication processes, procedures and protocols that will ensure effective interoperable communications among emergency responders, 9-1-1 center and multi-agency coordination systems such as emergency operations centers.

The long-term goal of NIMS is to provide state, territorial, local and tribal jurisdictions with a consistent operational framework for all aspects of incident management. This framework should be sustainable, flexible and scalable to meet changing incident needs and allow for integration of other resources from various partners through mutual aid agreements.

U.S. Fire  
Administration



Homeland  
Security

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### **Assistance to Firefighters Grant**

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) is a competitive grant opportunity for local fire departments and emergency medical services (EMS) organizations not affiliated with a hospital. The AFG funds activities such as purchasing firefighting equipment, personal protective equipment, training, firefighting and EMS vehicles, as well as firefighter/first responder safety projects.

Each year the AFG regional staff conducts hundreds of workshops nationwide to provide up to date grant information to applicants. On January 25, the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program began posting the fiscal year (FY) 2007 AFG workshop schedule on its Web site: [www.firegrantsupport.com](http://www.firegrantsupport.com). The workshops are scheduled and conducted by AFG regional representatives and offer current program information for any fire and/or EMS organization that wishes to submit a 2007 AFG application. The workshop schedule can be added to or revised over the next six weeks; users are encouraged to visit the Web site more than once to verify dates, locations and times.

There is no admittance charge to any AFG workshop. The schedule provides important information about the conduct of the workshops, including points of contact. If you are unable to attend a workshop offered in your area, the program office will be providing an electronic copy of the PowerPoint presentation used at the workshops on the AFG Web site. In addition, by mid-February, the applicant tutorial, the FY 2007 AFG Program Guidance, and a list of "Frequently Asked Questions" will be available on the site. Potential applicants are also encouraged to utilize the AFG Help Desk at 1-866-274-0960 and at [www.firegrants@dhs.gov](mailto:www.firegrants@dhs.gov).

## Ohio EMA Weekly Report Entries (from Jan. 23)

### Communications Branch Update

The Communications Branch performed the following:

- Briefed Governor Strickland on the use of his secure communications equipment
- Performed preventive maintenance of six STORMS gauges in Lucas, Tuscarawas, Stark and Warren counties
- Performed MARCS programming on 11 portable radios for Scioto County
- Performed preventive maintenance at Chillicothe and Cridersville National Weather Service transmitter sites

### RIM&C Facility Update

The Radiological Instrument Maintenance and Calibration facility calibrated equipment for Geauga County; the Cleveland Clinic; Monroe County in New York; and the Indiana Emergency Management Agency.

### Nuclear Power Plant Status

The Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2 of the Beaver Valley Power Station and the Perry Nuclear Power Plant are all operating at 100 percent.

Ohio EMA extends a huge "Get Well Soon" to Bob Clark of Fairfield County EMA. Bob suffered a heart attack last Thursday. He is recovering from stint-placement surgery and is now doing well, recuperating at home.



The Fairfield County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security hosted an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) course on January 12. Thirty-nine people participated in the course.

The EOC Course is designed to introduce new emergency program managers, emergency response officials and elected officials with the necessary tools to properly select and operate an emergency operations center.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>January 21</b>	<b>22</b> Medical TAC Ohio EMA Canine TAC ODOT	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>February 1</b> Emergency Management Assistance Companct (EMAC) - Ohio EMA	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
		CAMEO Course - Ohio EMA (Feb. 6-9)				
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Medical TAC Ohio EMA	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  Presidents' Day	<b>20</b> HazMat TAC Ohio EMA	<b>21</b> Incident Mgmt TAC Ohio EMA	<b>22</b> EOC Management & Operations - Ohio EMA Water TAC Ohio EMA	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>

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