



This Week in Ohio EMA



Ted Strickland, Governor ★ Nancy Dragani, Ohio EMA Executive Director ★ Henry Guzmán, ODPS Director
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ESF 6 (Mass Care) and FEMA Individual Assistance Conference Discusses the Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act



Baton Rouge, LA (06/13/06) - Federal, state and local emergency support function leaders gather for a week-long exercise to test the standard operating procedures and new structures relevant to emergency management's response throughout hurricane season (R.Kaufmann/FEMA photo).

Two Ohio EMA staff members participated in the FEMA Individual Assistance/ESF #6 (Mass Care) conference in Baltimore, Maryland, July 23-25. The conference served as an opportunity for Individual Assistance (IA)/National Recovery Plan (NRP) stakeholders to receive important information updates and discuss new national initiatives and policies for IA and Emergency Support Function (ESF) #6. Approximately 300 representatives from state emergency management, federal agencies, voluntary associations and FEMA participated. Topics of discussion included the Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act, new initiatives and policies within IA and ESF #6.

Conference presenters provided information in four tracks (recovery, mass care, human services and housing) that highlighted changes in federal mass care and individual assistance plans and capabilities, including

the national shelter system; case management; pet evacuation and sheltering; emergency assistance to state and local governments; manufactured housing; assistance and support to community service programs; special needs planning; registration/locator programs for families and children; and other topics.

Mass Care (ESF #6) addresses, coordinates and reports emergency mass care activities of state-level organizations responsible for sheltering, feeding, counseling, providing first aid, and related social services and welfare activities required to assist the victims of an emergency. The primary and support organizations of ESF 6 work as a team in the Ohio Emergency Operations Center and at the disaster site to address the emergency mass care needs of Ohio citizens.

Individual assistance is one of the three major categories of disaster aid. Immediately after the declaration, disaster workers arrive and set up a central field office to coordinate the recovery effort. A toll-free telephone number is published for use by affected residents and business owners in registering for assistance, including IA. Disaster recovery centers also become available where disaster victims can meet with program representatives and obtain information about available aid and the recovery process.

For additional information, contact Disaster Recovery Branch Chief Kay Phillips at (614) 9889-7176 or Brad Schwartz, Plans Branch at (614) 799-3839.

**Homeland Security Current Threat Level: ELEVATED - Significant risk of Terrorist Attack
HIGH (or Orange) for Aviation Sector**

ELEVATED

Nuclear Power Plant Updates (from the July 30 Radiological Branch weekly report)

Perry Nuclear Power Plant



As of July 30 the Perry Nuclear Power Plant is operating at full power after successfully replacing the reactor water recirculation pump motor. The plant was shut down for approximately 30 days to replace the motor after one of two recirculation pumps tripped off line on June 27. The plant was operating at only two percent the previous week (July 23), with the expectation of synchronizing to the electrical grid on the next day.

Beaver Valley Power Station



On July 28 the Beaver Valley Power Station, located in Shippingport, Pennsylvania, switch yard experienced a transformer fire (isolated incident). The transformer is associated with a local steel manufacturer, not the Beaver Valley Power Station. Unit 1's operation was not affected; Unit 2 experienced a non-safety related station air compressor trip. A backup air compressor was started manually. Both compressors were reset and restarted without impacting Unit 2. Both units continued to operate at 100 percent. No emergency classification was entered and there was no impact on the public's health and safety. The National Regulatory Commission was notified of the event.



Counties, come support your artists at the 2007 Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest Awards Ceremony! 49 students representing 25 Ohio counties will be honored as regional winners.

*When: Saturday, August 11
12 p.m. to 1 p.m.*

*Where: DiSalle Center, Ohio
State Fairgrounds*

(Then grab a corn dog and walk on down to the Marketplace Building to say, "Hi!" to Ohio EMA and ODPS!)

Ohio EMA Planners Conduct the G235 Emergency Planning Course in Butler County

Four Ohio EMA planners conducted the FEMA-based Emergency Planning course in Butler County on July 19 and 20 at the request of Butler County EMA Director William Turner.

Twenty-one people representing local private industry, utilities, social services, first response organizations, and township/village administrations participated in the course.

The emergency planning course is designed for emergency management personnel who are involved in developing an effective emergency planning system. It offers training in the fundamentals of the emergency planning process, to include the rationale behind planning. During Butler County's second day of training, participants reviewed a variety of planning issues, including the integrated planning approach, the National Incident Management System and Continuity of Operations planning.

The G235 Emergency Planning course will be offered at Ohio EMA in May 2008.



Ohio EMA Planners Rudi Blaser, Brad Schwartz, Patrick Sheehan and Richard Weber are pictured with the 21-student class of the G235 Emergency Planning Course, conducted in Butler County on July 19 and 20.

Ohio EMA Participates in EMAC Strategic Planning



Tammy Little, assistant attorney general and legal counsel for Ohio EMA, and Richard Weber, Ohio EMA planner, traveled to Cincinnati to participate in the Emergency Management

Assistance Compact (EMAC) strategic planning meeting which was took place on July 24. The meeting focused on the creation of a collaborative vision relative to the next five-year strategic plan.

EMAC is a national interstate mutual aid agreement that enables states to share resources during times of disaster. EMAC has grown to become the nation's system for providing mutual aid through operational procedures and protocols that have been validated during disasters where assistance was provided under the compact.

EMAC acts as a complement to the national disaster response system, providing timely and cost-effective relief to states requesting assistance from compact members who understand the needs of jurisdictions that are struggling to preserve life, the economy and the environment. The compact does not replace federal assistance, but can be used when federal assistance is not warranted, thus providing a seamless flow of needed goods and services to an affected state, and is a valuable tool for mitigating resource deficiencies by ensuring the maximum use of all available resources within member states' inventories.

Ohio EMA Updates

Julie Hinds, Public Information Officer

transferring back to the Communications Office of the Ohio Department of Public Safety. Last day at Ohio EMA: August 17.

Joni Palumbo, West-Central Ohio Field Liaison

retiring from Ohio EMA after 31 years of dedicated state service. Last day at Ohio EMA: August 31.

Eddy Edwards, Radiological Analyst

retiring from Ohio EMA after 13 years of dedicated state service. Last day at Ohio EMA: August 31.

Drought Developing in Northern Ohio and Northwestern Pennsylvania

(Hydrologic Outlook Statement - NWS, Cleveland/ 7/26/07)

Conditions across northern Ohio and northwest Pennsylvania have been extremely dry since early May. Scattered showers and thunderstorms during the week have provided some spotty relief, but have not brought widespread rains needed to erase the precipitation deficits that have been building for the past three months.

The National Drought Monitor, issued every Thursday as a collaborative effort between several state and federal agencies, including NOAA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, combines precipitation data with subjective information on local impacts to assign a drought level to dry areas throughout the country.

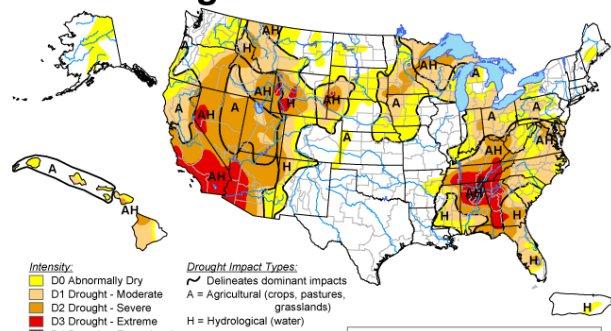
As of July 26, areas south of I-76 and east of I-71 in east-central Ohio were designated as abnormally dry. Areas north and west of these interstates in northern Ohio and northwest Pennsylvania have been much drier overall this summer, and are now classified as experiencing a moderate drought.

Since this drought has followed an extremely wet 12-month period across the area and coincided with the start of the growing season, impacts have largely been limited to agricultural interests. Stream flows and groundwater levels are running near-to-slightly below normal for this time of year. Area reservoirs have been declining this summer, but water supplies are not in danger at this time.

The NWS Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service provides an interactive display of precipitation maps at <http://water.weather.gov>.

U.S. Drought Monitor

July 24, 2007
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:
D0 Abnormally Dry
D1 Drought - Moderate
D2 Drought - Severe
D3 Drought - Extreme
D4 Drought - Exceptional

Drought Impact Types:
~ Delineates dominant impacts
A = Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
H = Hydrological (water)

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



Released Thursday, July 26, 2007

Author: Richard Heim/Liz Love-Brotak, NOAA/NESDIS/NCDC



Be Informed About What Might Happen. Some of the things you can do to prepare for the unexpected, such as assembling a supply kit and developing a family communications plan, are the same for both a natural or man-made emergency. However, there are significant differences among potential terrorist threats, such as biological, chemical, explosive, nuclear and radiological, which will impact the decisions you make and the actions you take. By beginning a process of learning about these specific threats, you are preparing yourself to react in an emergency.

Go to www.ready.gov to learn more about potential terrorist threats and other emergencies, or call 1-800-BE-READY for a free brochure.

Get Involved in Preparing Your Community. After preparing yourself and your family for possible emergencies, take the next step and get involved in preparing your community. Join **Citizen Corps**, which actively involves citizens in making our communities and our nation safer, stronger and better prepared.

We all have a role to play in keeping our hometowns secure from emergencies of all kinds. Citizen Corps works hard to help people prepare, train and volunteer in their communities. Go to www.citizencorps.gov (or www.serveohio.org) for more information and to get involved.

Ohio's Activities for National Preparedness Month:

Week One: Back to School and READY Kids - Kickoff events in Cuyahoga and Scioto counties

Week Two: Business Preparedness and READY Business - Kickoff event in Franklin County

Week Three: Multi-Cultural Awareness - Kickoff event in Lucas County

Week Four: Home and Family Preparedness and READY America - Kickoff event in Butler County

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>August</i> 5	6	7	8	9 LEPC Annual Conf. Ohio Fire Academy	10	11  OCSWA Poster Contest Ceremony - State Fair
12 <i>Last Day of Ohio State Fair</i>	13	14 WMD Threat & Risk Assessment Course Crawford County EMA	15 Incident Mgmt. TAC Ohio EMA	16	17	18
19	20 Medical TAC Ohio EMA	21 HazMat TAC Ohio EMA	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Water TAC Ohio EMA	30	31	<i>September 1</i>

Register for Ohio EMA courses by visiting <http://ema.state.oh.us/training>
TAC - Technical Advisory Committee