



This Week in Ohio EMA



Ted Strickland, Governor ★ Nancy Dragani, Ohio EMA Executive Director ★ Henry Guzmán, ODPS Director
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State of Ohio Contributes to Non-Federal Share of Public Assistance Program

On behalf of Governor Ted Strickland and Ohio EMA Executive Director Nancy Dragani, the state of Ohio announced on Sept. 26 that it will contribute to the non-federal share of the FEMA DR-1720 application of the public assistance program.

Ohio counties eligible for federal public assistance include: Allen, Crawford, Hancock, Hardin, Putnam, Richland and Wyandot.

Agencies within these declared counties are eligible to receive funding on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged from the August 20-28 severe storms and flooding. The state will contribute 12.5 percent, or half of the 25 percent non-federal share of public assistance.



All local governments and political subdivisions, including schools, are eligible for the state contribution. Private, nonprofit organizations, with the exception of volunteer fire departments and emergency medical services, are not eligible for the state contribution. According to the Ohio Revised Code, political subdivisions that are not in good standing with the National Flood Insurance Program are not eligible for the state contribution.

Ohio Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant

The state of Ohio was recently allocated \$29.3 million in federal funds for the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Grant. The period of performance for this competitive grant is from the notice date of the federal grant award to June 30, 2010.

Counties or Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) groups are to submit their project pre-applications to Ohio EMA by 5 p.m., October 12, 2007. The pre-applications will be used to select projects that will be funded. Those selected for funding will need to submit a detailed investment justification, which will become a part of the state's December 3 grant submission.

Grant funds will be awarded to interoperable communications projects in one of the following initiatives:

1. Expansion of existing 700/800 MHz multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional communications systems or the creation of a new 700/800 MHz multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional communications system.
2. Purchase of radios/systems compatible with the 700/800 MHz communications system.
3. Procurement of radio gateway or patching systems to enable entry of existing systems into current 700/800 MHz communications systems.
4. Legacy radio system improvements to link to the 700/800 MHz communications systems.

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

ELEVATED

What To Know about the West Nile Virus



According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the West Nile virus (WNV) is a potentially serious illness that is a seasonal epidemic in North American that flares up in the summer and continues into the fall. Generally, the West Nile virus is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes are WNV carriers that become infected when they feed on infected birds. Infected mosquitoes can then spread the virus to humans and other animals when they bite.

Approximately 80 percent of people who are infected with WNV may not show any ill symptoms. Up to 20 percent of the people who become infected will display mild symptoms that include fever, headache, body aches, nausea, vomiting, and sometimes swollen lymph glands or skin rash on the chest, stomach and back. Symptoms typically last a few days. People can develop symptoms between three and 14 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito.

The best way to avoid catching the West Nile virus is to prevent mosquito bites. Mosquitoes are most active at dusk and dawn. Try avoid going outside during these times. When you do go outside, use insect repellents that contain DEET.

Avoid mosquito breeding sites by emptying standing water from flower pots, buckets and barrels. Change the water in outdoor pet dishes, and replace water in bird baths weekly.

For additional information, visit the CDC Web site at www.cdc.gov/westnile, or call the CDC public response hotline at 888-246-2675.

EMA STATUS REPORT

FEMA-1720-DR-OH

Incident Period: August 20-28, 2007

Individual Assistance for: Allen, Crawford, Hancock, Hardin, Richland, Seneca and Wyandot counties (declared 08/27/07)

Deadline to Apply for FEMA IA: October 26

Public Assistance for: Allen, Crawford, Hancock, Hardin, Putnam, Richland and Wyandot counties (declared 09/11/07)

Cumulative number of registrations for the eight (IA) declared counties: **7,918** (as of COB 09/27).

By county:

Allen	278
Crawford	1,585
Hancock	2,527
Hardin	114
Putnam	850
Richland	1,899
Seneca	112
Wyandot	553

As of September 24:

Housing Assistance	4,531 approved for \$13.2 million
Other Needs Assistance (ONA)	1,774 approved for \$2.6 million
SBA loans	\$10 million

Disaster Loan Outreach Centers

Disaster Recovery Centers positioned in federally declared counties have transitioned to Disaster Loan Outreach Centers (DLOC), offering information and assistance with the SBA loan application process.

DLOCs are operating in Findlay, Mansfield, Ottawa, Bucyrus. DLOCs were opened in Shelby and Mansfield late last week.

Application for Disaster Unemployment Assistance Now Closed

People affected by the August 20-28 severe storms and flooding had until September 26 to apply for Disaster Unemployment Assistance provided by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. The unemployment assistance program was broadened to include people who, as a result of the disaster, no longer have jobs; were unable to reach their place of employment; were to have started new employment, but could not because of the disaster; have become the major supporter for a household because the head of household died in the disaster; or cannot work because of injury. People who are self-employed and farmers not covered by unemployment insurance were also eligible.

For additional information, contact ODJFS at 1-877-OHIO-JOB (644-6562).



Butler County EMA: Active Participant in National Preparedness Month Activities

Week Four: Home and Family Preparedness



The Butler County Emergency Management Agency is a proud participant in National Preparedness Month 2007 activities. Since 2003, National Preparedness Month has been a nationwide effort held in September, to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools.

During the four week of National Preparedness Month, Butler County EMA has hosted a week-long schedule of events focusing on home and family preparedness:

Sunday, Sept. 23	Hidden Hazards in the Home
Monday, Sept. 24	Family Emergency Plan and Emergency Supplies Kit
Tuesday, Sept. 25	Disaster Preparedness for People with Special Needs
Wednesday, Sept. 26	Preparing Pets for Disasters
Thursday, Sept. 27	Disaster Preparedness for Children
Friday, Sept. 28	Fire Safety in the Home
Saturday, Sept. 29	First Aid and CPR Day



The Family Emergency Plan

Your family may not be together when a disaster occurs, so it is important to plan in advance how to contact one another, how and where to meet each other, and what to do in different situations.

Have an emergency contact person. It might be easier to make a long-distance phone call than to call across town. It might be better to have an out-of-town contact person who would be able to communicate among separated family members. Make sure everyone involved has the emergency contact phone number programmed into their cell phones, or has money or a prepaid phone card to call the emergency contact.

Stay Informed. Know what kinds of disasters (both natural and man-made) are most likely to occur in your area. Invest in a NOAA tone-alert radio. Ensure that everyone in the household knows what weather watches and warnings are.

Have an emergency plan. You may want to inquire about emergency plans at places where your family spends the majority of their time: at work, daycare and school. If no plan exists, consider volunteering to help create one. Talk to your neighbors about how you can work together in the event of an emergency. You will be better prepared to safely reunite your family and loved ones during an emergency if you think ahead and communicate with others in advance.

For additional information, visit www.butlercountyohio.org/ema/ and www.ready.ohio.gov.



September is... National Preparedness Month

Campus Safety and Emergency Response Planning Workshops Available Throughout Ohio

The Ohio Department of Public Safety, in cooperation with The Ohio State University and the Ohio Board of Regents, is offering two training modules in each of the Ohio Department of Homeland Security's eight regions.

Campus Safety and Emergency Response Planning introduces multi-disciplinary teams from Ohio's campuses to emergency planning guidelines and resources necessary to implement a comprehensive emergency response plan on a college campus.

Campus Safety and Emergency Response Planning - Facilitated Discussion is a follow-up to the planning workshop and will take the campus multi-disciplinary teams through possible disaster scenarios in which teams can exercise their particular campus response plan. This training program will allow campuses to identify areas that are successful and areas that may need more planning and preparation to respond to a critical incident.

To register for the training sessions, go to <http://regents.ohio.gov/cstf/regmap.php>.

Ohio EMA's Web Site calendar will reflect the training. Visit www.ema.ohio.gov. Click on [EMA Calendar](#) under Quick Links.

EMA UPDATES

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A Special "Welcome Home!" is extended to 1LT Robert Glenn, after serving a year's tour in Iraq. Rob is expected to return to Ohio EMA in late October or early November.



Continued Prayers and Get Well Wishes are extended to Lois Ventresca, executive secretary with Ohio EMA, as she continues to battle a prolonged illness. Her retirement became effective on August 1, after nearly 25 years of dedicated service with the state of Ohio.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sept. 30	October 1	2 Campus Safety and Emerg. Planning, Reg. 6 Univ. of Cincinnati	3	4	5 Campus Safety and Emerg. Planning, Reg. 4 Columbus State Univ.	6
		Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program Course (HSEEP) CORRECTION: Quest Business Center - Polaris				
7	8 	9 Campus Safety and Emerg. Planning, Reg. 5 Univ. of Akron URSB Meeting Ohio EMA	10	11 Campus Safety and Emerg. Planning, Reg. 2 Lakeland Comm. College	12 Campus Safety and Emerg. Planning, Reg. 8 Belmont Tech College	13
14	15 Campus Safety and Emerg. Planning, Reg. 1 Owens State Community Medical TAC Ohio EMA	16 Campus Safety and Emerg. Planning, Reg. 7 Ohio University HazMat TAC Ohio EMA	17 Rapid Assessment Ohio EMA Incident Mgmt. TAC Ohio EMA	18	19 Campus Safety and Emerg. Planning, Reg. 3 Sinclair Comm. College	20
21	22	23	24 Water TAC Ohio EMA Senior TAC ODOT Auditorium	25	26 Campus Safety and Emerg. Planning, Reg. 4 Ohio State University	27

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