



# This Week in Ohio EMA



Ted Strickland, Governor ★ Nancy Dragani, Ohio EMA Executive Director ★ Henry Guzmán, ODPS Director  
Ohio EMA Public Affairs (614) 799-3695 [www.ema.ohio.gov](http://www.ema.ohio.gov)

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## Hundreds of homes flooded during February storms; uninsured losses per county not enough for federal assistance

On February 4 and 5, heavy rains and high winds pummeled northern Ohio, resulting in hundreds of flooded homes and five county declarations. County and state EMA officials conducted damage assessments last week in Auglaize, Defiance, Hancock, Henry, Logan, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam and Seneca counties.

Based on FEMA's flood insurance data and the conducted damage assessments, the uninsured totals resulted in: 652 affected; 381 minors; 44 majors; and nine destroyed. There were a total of 53 major and destroyed structures, but not more than 25 in a single county.



*A flooded residential area taken by a Lima, Ohio resident. Citizens' photos were posted on [www.limaohio.com](http://www.limaohio.com).*

In order for a state to be able to request Individual Assistance from FEMA or SBA, a county must have a minimum of 25 homes and/or businesses with 40 percent uninsured damages.

Breakdown of uninsured losses (by county) are as follows:

<b>Auglaize</b>	20 affected	-	-	
<b>Defiance</b>	19 affected	48 minor	10 major	8 destroyed
<b>Hancock</b>	324 affected	15 minor	-	
<b>Henry</b>	40+ affected	114 minor	12 major	
<b>Logan</b>	30 affected	5 minor	2 major	
<b>Mercer</b>	200 affected	-	-	
<b>Paulding</b>	-	4 minor	3 major	
<b>Putnam</b>	33 affected	175 minor	2 major	
<b>Seneca</b>	16 affected	20 minor	15 major	1 destroyed

There were a total of 2,562 flood insurance policies in effect for the listed counties.

Ohio EMA staff participated in a conference call on Feb. 15 with Ohio VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster), county EMA directors and federal IA staff to discuss the affected counties' unmet needs and help them link up with available resources.

## Incident Management Assistant Team Course Conducted in Lorain County



Earlier this month, representatives from multiple emergency response disciplines completed a 44-hour Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT) course conducted in Lorain County. This was the first time that the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD conducted the course off-site.

The course was instructed by staff of the National Fire Academy. Participants included personnel from local EMA, fire, health, EMS and the private sector. Representatives from Lake, Medina and Portage counties also participated.

Lorain County is in the process of implementing its own (Type 4) IMAT to assist local jurisdictions and incident commanders during large-scale incidents. The course was conducted as part of a Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) grant obtained by Lorain County Community College, Lorain County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and the Lorain County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).

Incident Management Assistance Teams provide management assistance to local jurisdictions at times when local resources may be overtaxed because of the nature or significance of an event. IMATs assist community leaders with incident management.

## Ohio EMA hosts Training & Exercise Plan Workshop

A Training and Exercise Plan Workshop was conducted at Ohio EMA, Feb. 20 and 21. The workshop provided participants an opportunity to review the State and Urban Area Homeland Security Strategies and to update the state's multi-year training and exercise plan.

Fifty representatives from local, county, state and federal levels of government participated in the workshop, which focused on coordinating all training and exercise activities occurring throughout the state, including activities sponsored by state and federal agencies and local governments.

Training and exercise schedules were coordinated to prevent duplication of efforts, ensure that resources are not over-extended during training or exercises, and to maximize the efficacy of training and exercise efforts. The collaboration of schedules will provide opportunities for jurisdictions and agencies to fulfill multiple training and exercise requirements with a single exercise or training.

A revised multi-year training and exercise plan should be completed and distributed within 45 days. For additional information, contact Darren Price, Ohio EMA exercise program manager, at 614-799-3660 or [deprice@dps.state.oh.us](mailto:deprice@dps.state.oh.us)

## March 17-21, 2008: National Flood Safety Awareness Week



Recognizing that flooding is one of the most costly and common natural disasters, the National Weather Service, a member of the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness (OCSWA), has declared March 17-21 as Flood Safety Awareness Week.

OCSWA urges Ohioans to know the signs of flooding and flash flooding and get prepared.

### Know What to Expect

- Know your area's flood risk. If unsure, contact your local Red Cross chapter, EMA office, or planning and zoning department.
- If it has been raining hard for several hours or several days, be alert to the possibility of a flood.
- Listen to local radio or TV stations for flood information.
- Never drive or walk through rising or moving waters.

Visit [www.weathersafety.ohio.gov](http://www.weathersafety.ohio.gov)

**EMA Updates**

**Rick Warren, Field Liaison (02/18)**

Lateral transfer from Ohio EMA's Mitigation Branch

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**Lou Sosler, Director**

Ashtabula County Emergency Management Resigning February 29 after two years of dedicated service as Ashtabula County EMA director.

**Debra Hartman, Training Officer**

Ohio Emergency Management Agency Retiring February 29, after 31 years of dedicated state service, to include nearly five years with Ohio EMA.

**Rob Glenn, Executive Officer**

Ohio Emergency Management Agency Resigning February 29 after nearly five years of dedicated service with Ohio EMA; nine years, total, with the State of Ohio. 1Lt Glenn has proudly served in the U.S. Army, Army Reserve and Ohio Army National Guard for 15 years. Rob has obtained new employment in Washington, D.C. and will be moving in March.

**Congratulations and Best Wishes to All.**



**Train-the-Instructor Course**

**March 29-30, 2008 and**

**April 12-13, 2008**

This two-day course prepares students to organize and teach the basic CERT Course (FEMA Course G317) by demonstrating instructional modules and familiarizing students with the eight instructional modules of that course. The CERT-100 course also covers basic considerations for developing and implementing a CERT program.

Participants completing the course will receive copies of all FEMA CERT materials and a CERT kit.

**March 29-30, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

Ohio Fire Academy, Reynoldsburg (Franklin County)

**April 12-13, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

Lancaster, Ohio (Fairfield County)

The Community Emergency Response Team program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

Go to the Ohio EMA Training site:

<http://emaweb.ema.state.oh.us/training/> to register.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Feb. 24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>March 1</b>
				Bomb TAC ODOT Conf Rm B		
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
		Recovery from Disaster Course Ohio EMA				
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
Daylight Savings Time Begins		Basic Public Information Officer Course Ohio EMA				
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
	National Flood Safety Awareness Week					
		HazMat TAC Ohio EMA	Animal Health TAC Ohio EMA			

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