







Ted Strickland, Governor ★ Nancy Dragani, Ohio EMA Executive Director ★ Henry Guzmán, ODPS Director
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Ohio Department of Public Safety Launches National Preparedness Month Campaign



Ohio EMA Executive Director Nancy Dragani tells how she and her family are more prepared now with an organized emergency supplies kit, and encourages others to do the same: Get a kit. Make a plan. Be informed. Get involved. (Ohio EMA photo)

September is National Preparedness Month - a nationwide effort that encourages Americans to take the necessary steps to prepared for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools.

On Friday, August 29, ODPS Director Henry Guzmán; Maj. Gen. Gregory Wayt, Ohio Adjutant General; Ohio EMA Executive Director Nancy Dragani; and Ohio Homeland Security Executive Director William Vedra launched the 2008 National Preparedness Month campaign at the State Emergency Operations Center/Joint Dispatch Facility. Preparedness partners from the Ohio Department of Insurance, Franklin County Dog Shelter, Ohio Grocers Association, Ohio Board of Regents, ODPS Multicultural Relations Office, and representatives from the Emergency Management

Association of Ohio participated in the event.

“This year’s campaign will build upon the success of past campaigns and relationships we have been developing with partners as part of our everyday business,” said Guzmán. “We are working to strengthen those relationships to engage families, schools, businesses, and all of Ohio’s diverse communities to ensure that everyone in Ohio can be prepared to respond to an urgent situation.”

Public Safety’s preparedness site, www.ready.ohio.gov, contains resources to help Ohioans make a plan, put together emergency kits, and share information with family members, coworkers and neighbors. The site includes preparedness information for business owners, older Americans, people with disabilities and pet owners. It also has material on multicultural needs and weather safety tips.

Everyone is encouraged to log onto www.ready.ohio.gov, sign up as a preparedness partner, or simply learn more about how to be prepared. **Preparing makes sense. Get ready now.**



September is **National Preparedness Month**



Get A Kit **Make A Plan** **Be Informed** **Get Involved**

Lorain County Emergency Management Awarded as Real Heroes

The Lorain County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management recently received the Lorain County American Red Cross 2008 Real Heroes Award for its leadership in responding to the early July General Industries fire in central Elyria.

Lorain County EMA also received resolutions from the Ohio House of Representatives, sponsored by Rep. Matt Lundy, Congresswoman Betty Sutton and Senators George Voinovich and Sherrod Brown.

The Red Cross of Lorain County honored 16 individuals on August 9 for their selfless acts that saved the lives of nine people.



Pictured from left to right: Alice Webber, emergency operations manager; Thomas Kelley, Lorain County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management director; Karen Lecorchick, emergency management specialist; and Caroline Hanahoe, hazardous materials compliance officer.

Clermont County EMA and Local Fire Department Donate All-Hazards Alert Radio to Area Cinema

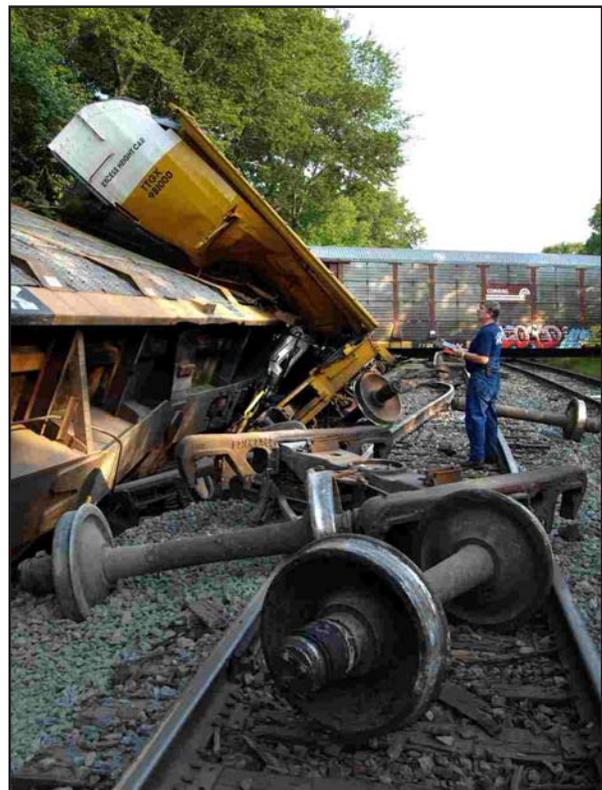
The Pierce Township Fire Department and Clermont County EMA recently donated an all-hazards alert radio to one of the township's newest business, the Pierce Point Cinemas. Fire Chief Aaron Boggs presented the radio to the general manager on August 12.



Pierce Township Fire Chief Aaron Boggs presents an all-hazards weather radio to Libby McKoon, general manager of Pierce Point Cinemas.

The all-hazards radio broadcasts warning and post-event information for all types of hazards: weather (tornadoes, floods, severe storms); technological (chemical releases, oil spills, nuclear power plant emergencies); and public safety (AMBER Alerts or 911 telephone outages). Working with other federal agencies and the Emergency Alert System, the alert radio is an all-hazards radio network, making it the most comprehensive weather and emergency information available to the public.

"I encourage all homeowners to have an all hazards alert radio," said Chief Boggs. "It's also a very important item to have in hospitals, businesses, shopping malls, restaurants and movie theaters. They should be in place anywhere people gather."



Train Derailment in Miami County - A CSX train derailed in Tipp City on Aug. 23, causing six freight cars to overturn, two to jackknife, and one car to jam. Some of the cars contained hazardous materials, but no spilling occurred. Tipp City police and fire and Miami County EMA responded to the accident. *(Photo courtesy of Miami County EMA)*

September is National Preparedness Month. How Ready are We?

The Ohio Emergency Management conducted the Ready campaign's emergency preparedness survey during this year's Ohio State Fair. One hundred forty eight people from at least 22 Ohio counties were asked 10 questions about emergency preparedness and emergency management. Results showed that the majority knew that their counties had an emergency management agency (105 out of 43); knew who to contact during an emergency; and were aware of the Emergency Alert Service and what media to use to obtain emergency information.

But when it comes to being prepared - having a disaster supply kit, family communication or reunification plans or practicing home tornado drills, fire drills or escape/evacuation plan - a large majority of households are not ready.

According to the Department of Homeland Security's Ready Campaign, 91 percent of Americans agreed that taking some simple steps to prepared could help protect them and their families in the event of an emergency. But only 54 percent had taken at least one of the three steps to be ready and prepared.

As representatives of public safety, homeland security and emergency management, let's help our fellow citizens **Get Ready** by exercising the following:

Get a Kit. When preparing for a possible emergency situation, it's best to think first about the basics of survival: fresh water, food, clean air and warmth.

Make a Plan. Make sure you have a family emergency plan. Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so it is important to plan in advance: how you will contact one another; how you will get back together; and what you will do in different situations.

Be Informed. Being informed about the different types of emergencies that could happen where you live and the appropriate ways to respond to them will impact the decisions you make and the actions you take. In addition, learn about the emergency plans that have been established in your area by your state and local government.

Get Involved. After preparing yourself and family for possible emergencies, take the next step: get training in first aid and emergency response and get involved in preparing your community.

Go to www.ready.ohio.gov to register your preparedness events and order free materials.

Fall 2008 Emergency Management and Homeland Security Seminar

Tuesday, September 30, 2008

State Fire Marshal - Ohio Fire Academy

8895 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

Lunch at the Fire Academy - \$5.00

Lodging will be provided at

Country Inns & Suites (Columbus East)

2806 Taylor Road
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068
Phone: 614-861-8888

Register by September 1, using the
Ohio EMA Training Web site:

<http://ema.state.oh.us/training/>

Contact Ohio EMA Training Supervisor
Phil Johnson at (614) 799-3680 or
e-mail prjohnson@dps.state.oh.us for
additional information.

EMA Updates

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*ODPS/Ohio EMA Fiscal Section
to return to the Ohio Emergency
Management Agency, September 5.
Official welcome in next newsletter.*

Patriot Day
September 11, 2008

Statehouse Event
Columbus, Ohio
10:45 a.m.



Local and State Emergency Managers Participate in Emergency Management Institute Training

The Emergency Management Institute's (EMI) Master Exercise Practitioner (MEP) was created to recognize those individuals who have completed prescribed training and demonstrated, through hands-on application, a high level of professionalism and capability in the arena of emergency management exercises. This program is directed at improving the capabilities of emergency management personnel involved in all aspects of emergency management exercises.

During the week of August 25, Ohio EMA Field Liaisons Lorie Haukedahl and Dan Winningham, completed their final training course for the Non-Resident Master Exercise Practitioner Program (MEPP) at EMI in Emmitsburg, MD. They have completed all the training and proficiency demonstrations for the program and were awarded the title of Master Exercise Practitioner (MEP). Lorie and Dan are now the second and third graduates from Ohio for the Non-Resident MEPP which, in addition to extensive training requirements, requires real world exercises to be developed and submitted for their proficiency demonstrations (Pro-Dems).

Kristi Kato of Summit County Health District and Niki Lemin of The Ohio State University College of Public Health also completed the Resident MEPP during the same week. The Resident MEPP consists of three weeks of training at EMI, and Pro-Dems developed during the three courses, and in between the courses.

There are now 20 MEPs in the state of Ohio. Applications are currently being accepted for the Resident and Non-Resident MEPP courses EMI will offer during federal fiscal year 2009. For additional information, contact Darren Price, MEP, Exercise Program Manager at (614) 799-3660 or via e-mail: deprice@dps.state.oh.us



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	Sept. 1	2	3	4	5	6
September is ... National Preparedness Month. Get a Kit. Make a Plan. Be Informed. Get Involved.						
7	8 Mahoning & Columbiana Counties FS Exercise Youngstown, OH Canine TAC ODPS	9	10	11 PATRIOT DAY 9-11-2001 Patriot Day Event Statehouse, Columbus	12 Mass Casualty Exercise - FS Port Columbus Internat'l Airport	13
14	15	16 HazMat TAC Ohio EMA	17 Incident Mgmt TAC Ohio EMA	18 Water TAC Ohio EMA	19	20
21	22	23 Damage Assessment Ohio EMA	24	25 Ohio EMA Open House 10am-12pm	26 Cost Documentation Ohio EMA	27

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