



Ohio's Emergency Management News



Athens County, May 2004

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

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Ohio Department of Insurance and Ohio EMA Form Partnership with FLASH New Alliance Announces Flood Awareness Campaign

(From FLASH news release dated September 14, 2009)

The Ohio Department of Insurance, the Ohio Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes, Inc. - FLASH, announced on Sept. 14 a partnership to offer disaster safety and prevention information to Ohioans. The partnership was formalized at a signing ceremony at Ohio EMA on the one-year anniversary of the Hurricane Ike windstorm.

"This partnership will help families understand that luck is not their best option for confronting hazards like flooding, the nation's most common and costly natural disaster," said Leslie Chapman-Henderson, president and chief executive officer of FLASH. "Affordable home protection options exist and flood insurance is one of the best ways to protect against financial ruin."

"The Department of Insurance is honored to work with these two fine organizations to help keep Ohioans safe," said Mary Jo Hudson, director of ODI. "Through our combined efforts, we will be able to reach people all across Ohio and get them the information they need to protect their families and homes."

"Ohio EMA works with a variety of great agencies - all with strong missions," said Nancy Dragani, executive director of Ohio EMA. "But it's partnerships like this one that allow our individual missions to reach farther and wider and ultimately make more of an impact on Ohioans."

The newly formed alliance also announced a flood awareness campaign that provides Ohioans advice on safety and protection for themselves and their property, and information on purchasing flood insurance.

Visit the agencies' Web sites for informative safety information: www.flash.org, www.ema.ohio.gov and www.insurance.ohio.gov.

FLASH, a non-profit organization, is based in Tallahassee, Florida, and is the nation's fastest growing disaster safety education organization with more than 100 partners.



Ohio FLASH partners: Nancy Dragani, Ohio EMA executive director; Mary Jo Hudson, Ohio Department of Insurance director; and Leslie Chapman-Henderson, FLASH president and CEO.



Ohio Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) partners sign Memorandums of Understanding with FLASH CEO Leslie Chapman-Henderson, of Florida.

National Preparedness Month 2009 | Are you ready? Or, Are You **Ready?** *Make a Plan - Influenza Pandemic*

Consider the following scenario: A significant number of teachers are sick with the H1N1 virus at your child's school, so the school will be closed for at least a week. Do you have a backup plan for childcare?

Make a Plan. You can plan for an influenza pandemic now. Learn the magnitude of what can happen during a pandemic outbreak and what actions you can take to help lessen the impact of an influenza pandemic on you and your family. Go to www.ohiopandemicflu.gov for current influenza information.

When making your plan, keep in mind:

- Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so it is important to know how you will contact one another and review what you would do in different situations. Designate a meeting place outside of the home in case an emergency happens when family members are at work or school.
- Having an alternative method of childcare during an emergency is important because the emergency may only affect your child's school for an extended period of time.
- Inquire about emergency plans at places where your family spends time: work, daycare, schools. If no emergency plans exist, consider volunteering to help create one.
- Be sure to consider the specific needs of your family.
- Notify caregivers and babysitters of your emergency plans

For additional information on emergency preparedness, go to www.ready.ohio.gov or the Ohio Department of Education's site: www.ode.state.oh.us.

August 19: National Weather Service Confirms Tornado in Darke County

The Wilmington National Weather Service (NWS) confirmed that a weak tornado touched down in an open field, two miles west of Greenville in Darke County on August 19.

Based on information and photographs from eye-witnesses, the NWS determined that an EF0 tornado occurred. No crop or structural damage was reported.

Tornadoes are now categorized by using the Enhanced Fujita scale:

EF0: Wind speeds 65-85 mph
EF1: Wind speeds 86-110 mph
EF2: Wind speeds 111-135 mph
EF3: Wind speeds 136-165 mph
EF4: Wind speeds 166-200 mph
EF5: Winds speeds greater than 200 mph



Photo by: Brandon Redmond, Darke County Sheriff's Office

For additional information on tornadoes and tornado safety, visit the NWS-Wilmington Web site at: www.erh.noaa.gov/iln or the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness Web site at: www.weathersafety.ohio.gov.

**National Preparedness Month
September 2009 | Ohio Events**

Darke County's 2nd Annual 'Pledge to Prepare' Walk - September 15

The Darke County Emergency Management Agency and Darke County Red Cross Chapter organized its second Pledge to Prepare walk on September 15. First responders and volunteers walked through neighborhoods, and went door-to-door to distributed disaster preparedness information. The Pledge to Prepare walk is an effective tool to increase public awareness and preparedness.

Clark County EMA Open House - Sept. 29

The Clark County Emergency Management Agency is coordinating efforts with the Clark County Sheriff's Office to host an open house on September 29 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Clark County EMA, 3130 East Main Street Springfield, Ohio (937) 521-2176



Ohio Citizen Corps, with the help of its NPM 2009 partners, Columbus Fire Department and local volunteers arranged 2,999 U.S. flags on the Ohio Statehouse lawn in memory of the lives lost on September 11, 2001.

EMA Updates

Beth Nevel, Director

Clermont County Emergency Services Agency

Retiring September 30 after nine years of dedicated service as EMA director. The Clermont County Engineer's Office is hosting a party in Beth's honor on September 29, from 1 pm to 3 pm
Address: 2381 Clermont Center Drive, Batavia

**Ramona Hauenstein, Secretary
Ohio EMA, Radiological Branch**

Retiring September 30 after more than 30 years of dedicated state service. Ramona has been with Ohio EMA for eight years.

**Carla Marable, Disaster Service Consultant
Ohio EMA, Mitigation Branch**

(transferred from PA, Disaster Recovery Branch)
Phone: 614-799-3536

James Greer, Director

Ottawa County Emergency Management Agency

Retiring December 31 after 30 years of dedicated service as EMA director.
Additional information at a later date.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September 20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		Damage Assessment Ohio EMA	CANCELED - CANCELED		Continuation of Ohio EMA	
27	28	29	30	October 1	2	3
		Ohio EMA's NPM Open House	Basic Ops Center Ohio EMA	Developing and Maintaining Local EOPs Hocking County EOC		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		EOC/ICS Interface Ohio EMA				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Columbus Day		Developing and Maintaining Local EOPs Guernsey County EOC			

Register for Ohio EMA courses by visiting <http://ema.state.oh.us/training>

* TAC - Technical Advisory Committee