



Ohio's Emergency Management News

Aftermath of September 16, 2010 Tornadoes – Meigs County



Ted Strickland, Governor ★ Thomas J. Stickrath, ODPS Director ★ Nancy Dragani, Ohio EMA Executive Director

Recovery and Rebuilding Efforts Continue after Ohio's June, September, October Tornadoes

Just weeks and months after tornadoes swept through different portions of the state, communities continue to help their neighbors recover and rebuild.

Cridersville in Auglaize County was the worst affected during the October 26 tornadoes and straight-line windstorms that impacted 12 Ohio counties. Residents and local organizations are conducting fundraising events for the town's tornado relief fund. There were no requests from the affected counties for state assistance.

Sixteen people were injured and approximately 100 homes were damaged (28 destroyed) in Southeast Ohio from tornadoes and severe winds that swept through the state on September 16. Gov. Ted Strickland declared a state of emergency for Athens, Meigs and Perry counties. Athens County received a Small Business Administration disaster declaration on Sept. 28. The declaration included the contiguous counties of Hocking, Meigs, Morgan, Perry, Vinton and Washington.

The governor authorized \$1.6 million in a supplemental grant program for residents in Athens, Meigs and Perry counties who had unmet needs and losses not addressed by insurance, SBA or other state or voluntary agencies.



Walls of this Athens County home were blown away by the Sept. 17 tornado.(Ohio EMA Photo by Tamara McBride)

Ohio Emergency Management Agency

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www.ema.ohio.gov

November 24, 2010
Volume VII, Issue 6

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- Tips to avoid contractor fraud
- SBA EIDL available to Grand Lake St. Marys businesses
- NFIP extended for one year
- National Level Exercise-2011
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Homeland Security Threat Level:

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attack

HIGH or **Orange** for Aviation Sector

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The Ohio EMA Disaster Recovery Branch reported this week that the State Individual Assistance grant program for Athens, Meigs and Perry counties had 52 registrations. Thirty-eight were approved for \$311,429; 12 applicants were determined ineligible; two registrations were pending. SBA loan applications for the September disaster must be submitted by this Friday, November 26.

Northwest Ohio suffered extensive loss of property and lives after tornadoes and severe storms tore through the state on June 5- 6. Millbury in Wood County was the worst hit. A total of six people died and a community destroyed. Wood County received an SBA disaster declaration on August 5. Wood and its contiguous counties (Hancock, Henry, Lucas, Ottawa, Putnam, Sandusky and Seneca) were eligible to apply for low-interest SBA loans. The State IA program was available to specific areas in Wood, Ottawa, Lucas and Fulton counties.

The Ohio EMA Disaster Recovery Branch reported a total of 12 registrations for the northwest Ohio tornado disaster. Three were ineligible and nine were approved for a total of \$54,805. The State Disaster Relief Program disbursed \$337,792. The application deadline for this disaster ended on October 5.

OCSWA Encourages Ohioans to Take Time Now to Prepare for Winter

The Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness encourages Ohio residents to take advantage of the decent weather now and take the extra steps to ensure they're ready for the upcoming months of snow, freezing rain and ice.

Prepare your home for winter. Cut and remove low-hanging and dead tree branches. Ice, snow and strong winds can cause tree limbs to fall and do damage to your home. Have your gutters cleaned. Snow and ice can build up quickly if clogged with debris. Have auxiliary heaters, furnaces and fireplaces maintenance checked before using. If using a portable generator, never run it in an enclosed area, like a garage. Read instructions thoroughly to guard against carbon monoxide poisoning. Ensure smoke and carbon monoxide detectors have new batteries and are working properly. Review your homeowner's insurance policy; invest in flood insurance.

Prepare winter disaster kits for the home and vehicle. Refresh your nonperishable foods and bottled water stored in your disaster kits. Winter emergency kits should include warm clothing, blankets/sleeping bags, flashlights, new batteries, coats, hats, gloves, a battery-operated or hand-cranked weather radio, first aid kits, and nonperishable, high-energy food and bottled water (for the home, one gallon per person, per day to last at least three days). In the home, change the batteries in the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. For vehicles, ensure they've had annual tune ups or maintenance check and try to maintain at least a half tank of fuel to reduce the chance of fuel-line freeze up. Vehicle kits should also store jumper cables, maps, snow brush, ice scraper and shovel.

Update your disaster preparedness plans. Every home, school, business and organization should have written plans for the different types of disasters that can occur. Review the plans with the entire family or staff. Know what to do in the event of a snow or ice storm, a prolonged power outage, a flood or fire. Post contact numbers of your local emergency management agency. Prepared and practice drills that require sheltering in place and evacuation. Update your family emergency contact list.

The Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness is comprised of representatives from the American Red Cross; Emergency Management Association of Ohio; National Weather Service; Ohio Citizen Corps/ Hands On, Central Ohio; Ohio Emergency Management Agency; Ohio Insurance Institute; Ohio News Network; State Fire Marshal; and the Ohio Departments of Aging, Education, Health, Insurance, Natural Resources and Transportation.



New Reactor Head to Arrive at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station

(FENOC press release)

FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC) recently announced that the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station in Oak Harbor will receive a new reactor head for installation by next week. The head arrived at the Port of Cleveland on Tuesday and will be transported by truck to the plant next week.

Final work on the reactor head was completed in France, including the installation of control rod drive mechanism nozzles made of material less susceptible to cracking under high temperatures and pressures. The head measures nearly 17 feet in diameter, is 8 feet tall and weighs more than 82 tons. A comprehensive pre-service inspection was conducted by FENOC personnel before the head was shipped from Antwerp, Belgium on November 5.

The new reactor head will be placed in a specially constructed building at Davis-Besse where new control rod drive mechanisms and other components will be fitted before installation takes place in the fall of 2011.

FirstEnergy Corp. is a diversified energy company headquartered in Akron, OH. Its FENOC subsidiary also operates the Beaver Valley Power Station and the Perry Nuclear Power Plant.



An illustration of a nuclear reactor head, similar to what will be installed at the Davis-Besse plant.

FEMA Awards \$2.7 Million Grant to the City of Fairfield

Hazard mitigation funds will be used to acquire and remove 17 flood-prone homes

(FEMA press release)

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency recently released \$2,716,589 in Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds to Fairfield, Ohio for the acquisition and removal of 17 structures.

HMGP provides grants to state and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures. Through HMGP, FEMA will pay 75 percent of the \$3.6 million project. The remaining 25 percent of the funds (\$905,530) will be provided by a non-federal source.

"Mitigation projects such as these benefit residents and communities affected by disasters," said Andrew Velasquez, III, regional administrator for FEMA, Region V. "These acquisitions in Fairfield will reduce future structural losses and lessen the financial impact on individuals and governments following a disaster."

HMGP funds will be used to remove homes from flood prone areas, returning the area to open space in perpetuity. HMGP projects like this are the cornerstone of disaster-prevention efforts, and illustrate the importance of local, state and federal government working together for the benefit of citizens.



September 2003 – Floodwater recedes in this Fairfield County neighborhood that is affected by localized flooding.



G-230 Introduction to Emergency Management of Ohio Course - Twenty-five county and state emergency management employees participated in the Intro to Emergency Management Course held at Ohio EMA, Nov. 16-19. The four-day course provides new EMA directors and emergency management staff with the fundamental principles and practices of emergency management and provides a framework for the professional growth of every emergency manager and responder. Keven Clouse and Dan Winningham, Ohio EMA field liaisons, were the course managers.

Go, Buckeyes! Beat Michigan!

EMA Updates

Wanda Dicke, Mercer County EMA Director
Retiring December 31 after working at Mercer County EMA for 16 years and serving as director for six.

Queen Hopkins, Ohio EMA Fiscal Specialist
Retiring December 31 after 33 years of dedicated state service.

Tom Coelho, Resigned November 22 as Vinton County EMA director

James Shiveley, Interim Director
Vinton County Emergency Management
106 South Market Street
McArthur, OH 45651
E-Mail: ema@vintonco.com

Jane Cahall, Brown County EMA Director
retired October 2010 after 14 years of dedicated service.

Beth Nevel is serving **Acting Director** for **Brown County Emergency Management** and continuing as part-time director for **Clermont County Emergency Management**.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov. 21	22	23	24	25 	26	27 <i>The Game!</i>
28	29	30	Dec. 1	2	3	4
5	6	7 EMAO Conf. Ohio EMA	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		Dec 7-8: TTT Emergency Planning for Special Needs Communities – Ohio EMA				
		Dec 14-16: WMD Radiological/Nuclear Responder Operations Shelby County EMA				