



STATE OF OHIO
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NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Ohio EMA Continues Monitoring, Assessment with County Officials
As Floodwaters Begin To Recede Across Eastern, Southern Ohio**

Three deaths reported; 50 counties affected by this week's heavy rainfall

Columbus, OH - The Ohio Emergency Management Agency is continuing monitoring and assessment of flooding across the state, as many streams and rivers begin to recede across the eastern and southern portion of Ohio.

State officials are working closely with county emergency management officials in 50 affected counties in assessing the impact of the flooding. While four counties have issued local declarations, no counties have made any requests for state assistance.

Portions of southwest Ohio received nearly five inches of rainfall Wednesday, leaving many communities along the Whitewater, Great Miami and Little Miami Rivers dealing with moderate flooding issues. Three counties in the region - Butler, Hamilton and Warren - issued county emergency declarations Wednesday.

In eastern Ohio, Tuscarawas County officials issued a county emergency declaration late Wednesday due to moderate flooding issues along the Tuscarawas River in the Dover and Zoarville areas.

Local authorities have reported three fatalities related to this week's flooding. Two individuals lost their lives in separate incidents when they were swept away after exiting vehicles in flood waters in Clinton and Gallia counties, while a 65-year-old woman died Wednesday in Hamilton County after drowning while trying to inspect a sump pump in her Whitewater Township home.

As of 11 a.m., ODOT reported nearly 100 road closures or restrictions due to flooding across the state. For up-to-date information on flood-related highway restrictions and closings, ODOT reminds motorists to log on to www.buckeyetraffic.org. The Web site offers the latest mapping technology to show current road and weather conditions, including images from traffic cameras and weather sensors across the state.

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