



MEDIA RELEASE

Emergency Management Agency

Ohio Emergency Management Agency • Nancy J. Dragani, Executive Director
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Governor Encourages Ohioans To Be Aware Of Potential High Winds Tuesday

Ohio EMA Offers Safety tips for possible power outages and high winds

(COLUMBUS) – The National Weather Service, Wilmington office has issued a high wind advisory which is in effect from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday. Strong winds will develop ahead of an approaching cold front with gusts in excess of 50 mph.

"Because of the potential for severe wind throughout the state tomorrow, we encourage Ohioans to take a few basic steps to help themselves and their families stay safe and be prepared for severe weather," said Governor Ted Strickland. "Ohio's public safety officials are closely monitoring the developing wind storm and are prepared to respond as needed."

The Ohio Department of Public Safety's Ohio Emergency Management Agency (EMA) will be closely monitoring the situation over the next 24 hours and has already been in contact with the departments of Transportation and Insurance as well as the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. The Ohio EMA strongly encourages all Ohioans to review and be familiar with some basic preparation and safety tips that will help ensure everyone's safety and prevent property damage during possible power outages and high winds.

- Move or secure lawn furniture, outdoor decorations or ornaments, trash cans, hanging plants and anything else that can be picked up by wind and become a projectile.
- Watch for flying debris. Tree limbs may break and street signs may come loose during strong winds
- Watch for objects blowing across the roadway and into your path
- Assemble essential supplies, including: flashlight, batteries, portable radio, at least one gallon of water, and a small supply of food.
- Turn off electrical equipment you were using when the power went out. Leave one light on so you know when the power comes back on.
- When you lose power, avoid opening the refrigerator and freezer.
- If you use medication that requires refrigeration, most can be kept in a closed refrigerator for several hours without a problem. If unsure, check with your physician or pharmacist.
- Motorists in high profile vehicles should use caution until the winds subside.

Through the Ohio EMA, the State will remain in contact with the National Weather Service to track this severe weather and, if necessary, will open the State Emergency Operations Center and coordinate with other state agencies and local partners to help monitor and coordinate Ohio's response.

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