



# STATE OF OHIO

## Emergency Operations Center

**NEWS RELEASE**  
[www.ema.ohio.gov](http://www.ema.ohio.gov)

John R. Kasich, Governor

**Emergency Management Agency**  
2855 W. Dublin Granville Rd.  
Columbus, Ohio 43235

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 2, 2012

Ohio Joint Information Center, (614) 799-6480

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### After The Storm: Be Safe With Your Drinking Water

Many public water systems in Ohio are experiencing power outages and depressurizations due to the recent storm event, and known advisories are listed online at <http://wwwapp.epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/Advisories/advisories.html>. Unsafe water conditions may occur if a public water system depressurizes and organisms that can cause illness in people enter the water supply.

Citizens who have experienced low/no water pressure, and are unable to communicate with their water provider regarding the status of the water system, should **use only boiled or bottled water for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and preparing food or baby formula**, as a precaution until further notice.

Ohio EPA has the following tips for affected customers:

- Bring all water to a boil, let it boil for at least one minute, and let it cool before using, or use bottled water.
- Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and preparing food or baby formula, until further notice. Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water.
- If you are unable to use boiled or bottled water, you can disinfect water by adding one teaspoon unscented chlorine laundry bleach for every five gallons of water. Let stand 30 minutes before using.
- Dispose of ice cubes.
- Water for bathing doesn't need to be boiled. Supervise children to avoid water being ingested.

For more information, stay tuned to your local radio or television station.

A list of cooling shelters, emergency shelters and water distribution locations are available through your [local Emergency Management Agency](#). Residents can also call their local 211 numbers for information and assistance, or 911 in an emergency. Information is also available online at [www.ema.ohio.gov](http://www.ema.ohio.gov) and on Twitter @Ohio\_EMA and #OHwx.

### **Chronology**

- July 2: FEMA delivers initial water supplies to counties and other local governments.
- July 1: Another round of severe storms move across Ohio wiping out power to more residents.
- July 1: Members of Ohio National Guard deploy to help check on Ohioans who may be at risk as a result of power outages and extreme heat.
- June 30: Gov. Kasich's request for federal assistance is approved.
- June 30: Gov. Kasich spoke to the President and requested federal assistance to respond to the storm. He also spoke with utility company CEOs and local elected officials to make state resources available to expedite recovery activities.
- June 30: Gov. Kasich declared an emergency for the entire state of Ohio so state agencies can assist local government response and recovery efforts. The National Guard was activated to help deliver needed supplies and conduct door-to-door checks in select areas to identify vulnerable Ohioans threatened by the severe heat.
- June 29: Ohio's Emergency Operations Center in Columbus was activated to coordinate state and local storm recovery efforts. The state contacted Federal Emergency Management Agency officials to let them know federal assistance may be needed.
- June 29: Severe storms and high winds during evening rush hour knocked out power for approximately one million homes and businesses across two-thirds of the state.

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