COLUMBUS, OHIO – The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has applied for a waiver from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to issue mass food assistance replacement cards to individuals enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) who lost food during the June 29, 2012, storm and ongoing power outage.

ODJFS has asked the federal government to replace a prorated 15 percent of the monthly benefit for families in 45 of Ohio’s hardest hit counties. The following counties are included in the waiver application: Allen, Athens, Auglaize, Belmont, Brown, Butler, Champaign, Clermont, Clinton, Coshocton, Fairfield, Franklin, Gallia, Greene, Guernsey, Hamilton, Hancock, Highland, Hocking, Jackson, Knox, Lawrence, Licking, Logan, Meigs, Mercer, Miami, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Paulding, Perry, Pike, Preble, Putnam, Ross, Scioto, Shelby, Van Wert, Vinton, Warren, Washington and Wyandot.

Ultimately, the federal government may reduce the number of eligible counties or the amount of the replacement benefit. SNAP benefits are 100 percent federally funded.

Individuals with questions about replacement SNAP benefits should contact their county department of job and family services.

All 88 county departments of job and family services are issuing July SNAP benefits according to the normal schedule.

###