



Ohio Task Force 1

National US&R Response System



MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FEMA Orders Activation of Ohio Urban Search & Rescue Task Force for Hurricane Sandy

Members of Ohio Task Force One (OH-TF1), the state's and FEMA's federal Urban Search & Rescue resource, have received activation orders for Hurricane Sandy.

OH-TF1 joins five other FEMA Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) task forces that have been ordered to mobilize personnel and equipment in preparation for movement into affected areas of the United States.

The orders include instructions to link-up with Indiana Task Force One (IN-TF1) at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base by 2:00 a.m. Tuesday. Both task forces will remain on standby at the base in anticipation of possible air or ground movement to hurricane-damaged areas.

Ohio was placed on alert earlier Monday, and has been engaged in preparation of equipment and vehicles throughout the day.

The OH-TF1 group that would deploy is a "Type I Urban Search and Rescue Task Force" comprised of 80 personnel from multiple disciplines. These include rescue, search, medical, hazmat, planning, and logistics. The equipment cache consists of approximately 80 tons of specialized emergency gear, as well as support items such as shelters, food, water, and fuel. Task forces are self-sustaining for three-days of continuous operations.

Ohio's task force last deployed to Hurricane Irene in August of 2011, where they conducted search and rescue operations in states along the eastern seaboard.

Ohio Task Force One is currently composed of personnel representing 62 different employers, as well as 43 who are self-employed and/or independent members.

According to Scott Hall and Dan Kochensparger, Task Force Public Information Officers, "Task force members will be mobilizing later this evening in anticipation of more definitive mission parameters as this storm continues to wreak havoc with the eastern U.S."

Additional information will be provided as it becomes available, and can also be accessed via Facebook® at "**Ohio Task Force 1 Media Information**".

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