



# MEDIA RELEASE

## Emergency Management Agency

Ohio Emergency Management Agency • Nancy J. Dragani, Executive Director  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **OHIO ACTIVATES STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER AS SUPERSTORM SANDY MOVES ACROSS OHIO**

*Storm Causes Wind Damage, Flooding, Power Outages, Road and School Closures*

**Columbus, OH** – Today the State of Ohio activated its Emergency Operations Center in Columbus to continue assessing and monitoring the impact of Hurricane Sandy as it moves across Ohio and Midwest after making landfall on the East Coast yesterday.

As of 12:02 p.m., there were more than 250,000 Ohio customers without power, with the majority in Cuyahoga County. Schools across northeast Ohio are closed. No deaths have been reported.

The Ohio Department of Transportation has 383 crews clearing snow and debris throughout the state. ODOT reports storm-related road closures in Cuyahoga County (I-90), Portage County (SR-303) and Ashtabula County (US-20). All are projected to reopen later today.

County emergency management agencies in northeast Ohio continue to respond to the ongoing power outages and flooding throughout the region.

The Butler County Incident Management Team (IMT) and Ohio IMT are being dispatched today to New York to assist the state emergency operations center (EOC) with logistics and planning.

The Ohio Emergency Management Agency dispatched three staff members to assist in the NY EOC, yesterday.

Keep up on road closures due to construction and severe weather at the Ohio Department of Transportation's site: [www.buckeyetraffic.org](http://www.buckeyetraffic.org).

Up-to-date information on Ohio and Superstorm Sandy are available on the Ohio EMA website: [www.ema.ohio.gov](http://www.ema.ohio.gov). Additional information on severe weather safety and preparedness is available at [www.ready.ohio.gov](http://www.ready.ohio.gov) and [www.weathersafety.ohio.gov](http://www.weathersafety.ohio.gov).

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