



STATE OF OHIO
Emergency Operations Center

John R. Kasich, Governor
2855 West Dublin Granville Rd.
Columbus, Ohio 43235

MEDIA RELEASE
www.ema.ohio.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 31, 2012

Contact: Tamara McBride, Ohio EMA (614) 799-3695

RESPONSE AND RECOVERY EFFORTS CONTINUE IN NORTHERN OHIO
As Residents Combat Flooding, Power Outages, Cold, Officials Urge Safety and Precaution

COLUMBUS, OH – As Northeast Ohio ends its third day recovering from the backlash of Superstorm Sandy, numerous residents continue to be without power as they deal with flooded and storm-damaged homes. The Ohio Emergency Operations Center's assessment room remains operational, coordinating state response to affected counties to ensure those without power are receiving the resources they need to stay safe.

The American Red Cross is providing emergency shelters in Cuyahoga and Lake Counties to residents in need, and the Ohio Department of Aging continues to work with local officials to conduct in-person outreach for the most vulnerable populations.

As of 2 p.m. today, 162,855 customers remain without power due to the storm. Cuyahoga County reports 125,770 customers still without power. Estimated restoral time may carry over to next week.

The National Weather Service has issued a freeze warning through tomorrow morning for Brown, Butler, Clermont, Greene, Hamilton, Montgomery and Warren counties. Flood warnings remain in effect for Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain and Trumbull counties.

The Ohio Department of Transportation is reporting no road closures due to flooding or storm impact.

Many residents have turned to generator use to heat and power their homes. The state of Ohio reemphasizes the importance of practicing extreme caution when using power generators. Improper use can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning and home fires.

The Summit County health department reported today that emergency rooms treated seven patients for carbon monoxide (CO) illness. And early this morning, a homeowner in Cuyahoga County caught his home on fire by running a generator in his garage. There were no fatalities in these incidents.

For additional information on generator safety and to view a video that demonstrates the dangers of carbon monoxide, visit: <http://bit.ly/GeneratorSafetyOH>.

For residents without power, please contact your local 211 for information and lists of resources. Call 911 in an emergency. Information is also available online at www.ema.ohio.gov. Follow along on Twitter with #OHwx

###