



# 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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### **THE WEATHER MAY PROVE TO BE TRICKY THIS HALLOWEEN**

#### *National Weather Service Forecasts Thunderstorms and Strong, Damaging Winds for Ohio Valley*

**Columbus, OH** – The National Weather Service forecasts a vigorous storm system to move across the Ohio Valley Thursday, which includes east and southeast Indiana, northeast and northern Kentucky, and central, south central and southwest Ohio. With the storm system is the possibility of strong thunderstorms and damaging wind gusts.

A month into fall and a day before Halloween, the weather has been frightful: early snow, heavy fog, thunderstorms and strong winds.

“No matter what the season, when it comes to Ohio weather, you have to be ready for anything,” said Nancy Dragani, executive director of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency. “This month we’ve had temperatures below freezing in the morning; and by afternoon, the mid 60s. The weather can be tricky. You have to be prepared.”

According to FEMA’s Ready campaign, one step in severe weather preparedness is to ***Be Informed***. Be aware of impending weather in your area. Listen to daily weather reports on local TV or radio stations. And know what to do before, during and after a weather emergency.

Some basic protective actions are similar in many incidents, such as safety and whether to shelter or evacuate. Develop a communications plan so family members know who to contact if separated during an emergency. Organize/maintain disaster supply kits for the home and vehicles with enough supplies to sustain all members of the household for a minimum of 72 hours. For examples of what to include in a disaster supply kit, visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).

Know the difference between storm watches and warnings. The NWS will issue a storm watch when conditions are favorable for the development of a dangerous weather event. A weather warning means that a dangerous weather event is imminent or occurring. Immediate action must be taken to protect life and property. In both instances, listen to a NOAA Weather Radio or local news station for storm updates.

For additional information on severe weather safety and preparedness, visit the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness website: [www.weathersafety.ohio.gov](http://www.weathersafety.ohio.gov) and ReadyOhio at [www.ready.ohio.gov](http://www.ready.ohio.gov).

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