FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Officials Warn of Continued Severe Weather Across Ohio

Columbus, OH – As significant weather continues to make its way through Ohio, residents should be ready for additional storms forecasted by the National Weather Services (NWS). For those communities that were impacted Monday night, they will have continued rainfall today and into this evening, slowing recovery efforts made yesterday.

The Ohio Emergency Management Agency is assessing and working with the NWS and local county EMAs to prepare for the impact of the storm.

“Our field and assessment teams, along with state agency partners have been briefed and are anticipating the severe weather for tonight,” said Sima Merick, assistant director of Ohio EMA. “We have been in communication with the locals and they are standing ready to assist residents in need.”

The American Red Cross, a critical partner during disasters, is also standing by with pre-identified shelters, should they be needed.

Residents should heed warnings given by local and state officials to not beware of flash flooding and high wind. They should also stay tuned to their NOAA weather radio and local news meteorologists who report up-to-the-minute information on the weather conditions and the severe storms this pattern may bring.

State agency departments are working to get their information out to residents, regarding flood insurance and steps homeowners should take, in addition to proper safety steps and clean up tips. Residents with flooding damage should also contact their local ema director, so the information can be captured during damage assessments.

Damage assessments continue in counties impacted by the storms, and local emergency management agencies and state partner agencies are working to meet any unmet needs. Ohio EMA stands ready to support counties throughout this and future weather events.

Additional information can be found at www.ema.ohio.gov. Follow us on twitter @Ohio_EMA.

Chronology

• May 14: State Officials work with locals on anticipated high wind and flash flood events across the state.
• May 13: State EMA liaisons are deployed to Lorain, Medina and Summit Counties.
• May 13: Damage Assessments begin in impacted counties May 12: State Assessment room activated to monitor storm impact.
• May 12: State EOC Assessment room is activated.

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