



MEDIA RELEASE

Emergency Management Agency

Ohio Emergency Management Agency • Sima Merick, Executive Director
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OHIO EMA URGES SAFETY DURING HEAVY RAINS AND FLOODING *NWS Issues Flood Warnings, Watches and Advisories for Majority of Ohio*

COLUMBUS, OH – The National Weather Service (NWS) has issued a Flash Flood Warning for Perry County until 2 p.m. today; Flash Flood Warning for Fairfield and Licking counties until 2:45 p.m. A Flood Warning has been issued for Hancock, Hardin, Sandusky, Seneca, Wood and Wyandot counties until further notice. Forecast river flooding in these areas increased from moderate to major severity. A Flash Flood Watch has also been issued for 70 Ohio counties through tomorrow (July 14).

The NWS also noted that a flood threat exists for all of central and southern Ohio. The NWS forecasts heaviest rain throughout tonight in northern Ohio. Major flooding is expected for Blanchard and Portage rivers, with moderate flooding expected for the Scioto and Auglaize rivers.

“The State of Ohio continues to monitor weather conditions and is in communication with affected county EMA offices,” said Sima Merick, executive director of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency. “With the severe weather and flood advisories issued, right now is the best time to take steps to protect your flooding and home from potential flooding.”

- Move valuable household possessions to upper floors or to safe grounds, if time permits.
- Listen to a NOAA Weather Radio or a local news station for the latest storm and weather information.
- Ensure you are covered for flood damage. There are two types of flood policies: one for building structures and one for its contents. Have good photos of your home in its pre-flood conditions. [National Flood Insurance Program](#)
- If instructed by local officials/authorities, turn off all utilizes at the main power source and close the main gas valve.
- Be prepared to evacuate.
- NEVER drive through flooded roadways. When approaching a flooded road, stop and do not cross. Drivers cannot always determine the depth of water or if roadbeds are washed out. The best advice: **Turn Around, Don't Drown.**
- Know before you go. Current road conditions, closures, accidents are available by logging onto the Ohio Department of Transportation's www.OhGo.com.

For additional flood safety and flood insurance information, visit the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness website: www.weathersafety.ohio.gov.

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