



STATE OF OHIO
Emergency Operations Center
SITUATION REPORT

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Ohio Emergency Management Agency

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Governor John Kasich
FROM: Ohio Emergency Management Agency
SUBJECT: Statewide Severe Weather and Flooding – June 2015
DATE: June 22, 2015

This is the Situation Report for Monday, June 22, 2015. Information is current as of 4:00 p.m.

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

Portions of northwest Ohio experienced heavier than normal rainfall for several weeks leading up to the events of June 15-21, 2015. The National Weather Service reported that rainfall in the area was 300 to 400 percent of the normal for the 30 day period and 600-800 percent of normal rainfall over the seven day period prior to the event. As a result soils across the state were saturated and not able to handle significant amounts of rainfall. Continued rainfall over northwest, western and central Ohio regions resulted in river and areal (wide-area) flooding. Additionally, several rounds of thunderstorms moved across Ohio causing short-term flooding and spawning one EF-1 tornado that caused minor damage in Stark County on June 18 and an EF-0 tornado on June 20 which caused minor damage in Washington County. The remnants of Tropical Depression Bill contributed to the impacts of the event by causing limited flash flooding in southeastern and eastern Ohio from June 20 through June 21.

DECLARATIONS

A total of five counties declared emergencies at the local level:

County	Date of Emergency Declaration
Mercer	June 17, 2015
Auglaize, Marion, Van Wert	June 18, 2015
Logan	June 19, 2015

The following municipalities declared emergencies at the local level:

- The Village of Russells Point in Logan County

FLOOD LEVELS

Throughout the event, four river gauge locations crested at Moderate Flooding level. Several other locations crested at Minor Flood level. No river gauge locations exceeded Major Flooding levels. At the time of this report, rivers had largely crested and were receding towards normal levels and flow rates. At the time of this report, the following rivers remained in a flooding level or were forecast to crest in a flood level:

Stage	*Minor Flooding*	*Moderate Flooding*	*Major Flooding*	*Record Flooding*
NWS Definition:	- Minimal or no property damage, but possibly some public threat.	- Some inundation of structures and roads near stream. Some evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher elevations.	- Extensive inundation of structures and roads. Significant evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher elevations.	- Flooding which equals or exceeds the highest stage or discharge at a given site during the period of record keeping.
River and Gauge Location:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scioto River at Prospect • Big Darby Creek at Darbyville • Scioto River at Circleville & Piketon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A

SHELTERS

A total of three shelters were opened during the weather and flooding event. The peak combined population sheltered totaled 26. Several counties coordinated with the American Red Cross to have shelters ready if needed. All shelters have since been closed for this event.

In addition to organized shelters, several families were taken in by family and friends until they could return to their homes. In Marion County three families were placed in a local hotel by the American Red Cross.

COUNTY IMPACTS

Allen County – The Allen County waste water treatment plant at Spencerville Road was inundated by floodwaters and was temporarily offline. Repairs have since been made and the plant is functioning. The county coordinated with the American Red Cross to shelter a peak population of 15 persons. At total of 1489 sandbags were made available to residents and businesses to assist with flood fighting efforts.

Ashland County – Ashland County has concluded the search/rescue/recovery operation at the Pleasant Hill Dam outside of Perrysville. Three teens were involved in the original incident on Friday night at 6:00 pm. The teens and several friends were playing in the dam’s spillway, a marked no-swimming zone. One teen was rescued by an Ohio Department of Natural Resources employee and has since been released from a local hospital. Two teens were deceased and the remains were recovered near the site. The Ohio Fire Chief’s Association Emergency Response System’s Swift Water Team subject matter expert (SME) supported the county’s request for swift water search and rescue assistance.

Auglaize County – At the height of the event Auglaize County had 16 roads closed and at least 40 impacted by high water. Approximately 10,000 sand bags were utilized, in part, to keep a food pantry and power substation functioning. The county continues to assess the impacts of the event to infrastructure and homes and businesses.

Logan County – Local efforts were successful in sandbagging the area around the Russell’s Point Water Treatment plant – preventing impact from encroaching waters. The American Red Cross has provided clean up kits to homes in the affected areas. Damage assessment efforts have concluded and initial local estimates are that 90 structures were impacted. The county is working on debris removal and will be engaging their long term recovery committee to address the needs of those families impacted by the event.

Marion County – Marion County EMA coordinated with the American Red Cross to provide a shelter during the peak of the event. Additionally, the ARC provided hotel accommodations for three families.

Mercer County – Two water rescues were conducted in Mercer County. One rescue involved a camper surrounded by water and the second rescue involved a vehicle driving into the water. No injuries were reported with the rescues. Approximately 5800 sandbags were made available to assist with flood fighting efforts. Damages to infrastructure have been reported, but are limited to a bridge losing pavement and minor roadway damage. Most damages to homes involve basement flooding. Cleanup kits are being made available from the American Red Cross.

Paulding County: The county EMA reported 550 sandbags used in the Village of Payne to provide added protection to five homes in the village. At the peak of the event, 24 state and county roads were closed due to high water. Local first responders conducted five water rescues from vehicles throughout event. No injuries were reported associated with the rescues. The county engineer is coordinating cleanup and repair activities with a focus on debris removal and ditch/culvert repairs.

Perry County – The local EMA director reported damage due to straight line winds. In total, four houses with slate roofs were damaged, one significantly. Additionally, four apartments were reported as being impacted from flood waters due to a plugged storm drain.

Putnam County - Approximately 30 roads and two bridges were closed during the event. Eight homes were impacted by flash flooding in Columbus Grove. The Village of Kalida was temporarily isolated and inundated, but the water receded leaving largely basement flooding to the estimated 100 homes impacted. 5000 sandbags were used to assist protecting homes. Local fire departments conducted a rescue of a backhoe driver that attempted to cross a high water area.

Stark County - The National Weather Service has determined that Stark County experienced an EF-1 tornado estimated to be 100 yards wide with wind speeds of 105 mph. The tornado touched down in Uniontown and traveled east-southeast along an intermittent path for approximately 9 miles. Most of the damage was to trees being uprooted or snapped half way up. A newly constructed dairy barn sustained significant roof damage. Minor roof and siding damage to homes was also observed along the path.

Union County - The Village of Richwood had 15 homes impacted and Magnetic Springs had three homes impacted. The county EMA coordinated with the American Red Cross to have a shelter ready if needed. The ARC also provided clean up kits at the Village of Richwood offices. The kits are free to anyone needing them and may be picked up during business hours.

Van Wert County – The areas impacted included Delphos and Willshire. Most impacts were reported as basement flooding. The Village of Wilshire utilized 21,000 sandbags to assist in protecting the village from encroaching waters. The American Red Cross and Salvation Army provided feeding for sand bagging volunteers.

Washington County – The National Weather service confirmed an EF-0 tornado near Bartlett. Minor damages were done to a roof and porch. The tornado was on the ground for approximately one minute.

STATE ACTIONS

ESF-1 – Transportation

The Ohio Department of Transportation reported road closures in many of the counties impacted by the flooding event. Roads have since been re-opened with no reports of significant damage at this time.

ESF-3 – Engineering and Public Works

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

ODNR reported that six state parks were closed for portions or the entirety of the weekend due to the high water and flooding. Additionally, the locks on the Muskingum River were closed due to high water level/flow.

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA)

Ohio EPA provided technical assistance to Allen County for the Shawnee II Wastewater Treatment Facility as well as the Russells Point facility in Logan County.

ESF-4 – Firefighting

Ohio Fire Chiefs Response Plan

The Ohio Fire Chiefs Response Plan provided subject matter expertise to support the Ashland County efforts related to the Pleasant Hill Dam search/rescue/recovery.

ESF-5 – Information and Planning

Ohio Emergency Management Agency

The Ohio EMA staffed the State EOC - Assessment Room for 24/7 operations from Wednesday through Sunday evening. As ESF 5 lead, Ohio EMA conducted two weather/state agency briefings as well as two conference calls with impacted counties to ascertain impacts.

Ohio EMA continues to monitor potential for continued rain and thunderstorms across the state. Due to the saturated soils and full waterways, rainfall in the impacted areas could easily return flooding to the area.

Ohio State Highway Patrol

The Ohio State Highway Patrol Hub, Intel Unit, created an incident in the Safer Ohio Repository - "20150617 - Mercer/Marion/Auglaize Counties – Flooding" – which can be accessed by <https://services.dps.ohio.gov/SaferOhioRep/>

ESF-6 – Mass Care

The Ohio Department of Aging

ODA communicated with the three Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) that serve Northwest Ohio. The AAAs checked on high-risk clients and reported limited impacts. Those who are impacted are reported to be safe, and, as needed have been relocated to safer locations.

American Red Cross

All shelters have been closed for this event but many remain on standby to provide support with any additional sheltering if the need should arise. The ARC has provided cleanup kits for the impacted counties as well as supporting limited feeding operations in Van Wert County.

The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army remain on standby to provide support with any sheltering assistance or feeding if the need should arise.

ESF-8 – Public Health and Medical Services

The Ohio Department of Health

The ODH Office of Health Preparedness, and Bureau of Environmental Health and Radiation Protection staff reached out to Allen, Auglaize, Marion, and Medina counties to inquire about potential public health impacts or unmet needs. Additionally, the ODH Office of Health Assurance and Licensing (OHAL), Bureau of Long Term Care and Community Health Care monitored reports of flooding in regard to impacted healthcare facilities in Ohio. OHAL received no reports of active or anticipated facility evacuations due to flooding. OHAL is reported three facilities that had at least one access road to their facility closed due to flooding. The impacted facilities had other access roads and evacuation plans available in case evacuation should become necessary.

ESF-13 – Law Enforcement

The Ohio State Highway Patrol indicated that there were no reports of stranded motorists requiring assistance.

ESF-14– Mitigation and Recovery

Ohio EMA Recovery staff continues to work with county EMAs to provide technical assistance on damage assessment. Ohio EMA Recovery will continue to provide details on recovery efforts through separate report.

ESF-15 - Public Information

Ohio EMA continues to work on social media messaging and is standing by to support any issues.

SITREP DATA/BRIEFING

This is the seventh Situation Report for this incident.

HOURS OF OPERATION

The State EOC Assessment Room will remain open through this evening to monitor, collect information, and coordinate any necessary response to this event.

Approved by: Andrew D. Elder, Preparedness Chief