



STATE OF OHIO
Emergency Operations Center
SITUATION REPORT

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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: John R. Kasich, Governor
FROM: Ohio Emergency Management Agency
SUBJECT: Snow and Ice Storm – February 2011
DATE: February 4, 2011

Information in this Situation Report is current as of 4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 4, 2011 unless otherwise noted.

In response to the “Snow and Ice Storm – February 2011” event, the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Assessment Room was activated at Crisis Action System Level 1 (CAS-1) on Tuesday, February 1, 2011. There have been no local requests for state-level assistance.

A CAS-1 briefing was held at 10:00 a.m. today.

This is the third Situation Report for this incident. The State Emergency Operations Center will return to normal business operations, and the SEOC Assessment Room will close at 5:00 p.m. today. The Ohio EMA Enhanced Duty Officer will receive calls related to this incident during overnight and weekend hours.

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

A significant winter storm affected the Ohio Valley during the period with a mixture of snow, sleet, and freezing rain for the period January 31-February 2, 2011. Significant ice accumulations were observed north of the Cincinnati Tri-State region, and into the Miami Valley region, as well as central Ohio. Heavy snow and sleet affected parts of the northern Miami Valley and west-central Ohio. Northern Kentucky and south-central Ohio experienced relatively light wintry precipitation early in the event before temperatures warmed above freezing during the day January 31.

Primary impacts were power outages and limited transportation. Energy providers are rapidly restoring power and major highways have reopened. There are no unmet needs and there have been no requests for state or federal assistance.

Tuesday, February 1: In response to a severe weather storm across Ohio, the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Assessment Room was activated at 1:00 p.m. A Crisis Action System (CAS) Level 1 briefing was conducted in the SEOC Assessment Room at 3:00 p.m. Assessment Room began 24-hour staffing operations. Snow level emergencies were declared throughout the state. Over 8,000 homes and businesses were reported without power during the morning hours, with a decrease to 1,000 by 5:00 p.m. During the overnight hours, over 273,178 homes and businesses were without power across the state. There were no resource requests and no local declarations of emergency.

Wednesday, February 2: CAS-1 briefings were held in the Assessment Room at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. The Assessment Room staff continued to operate on a 24-hour basis. Stark County declared a local emergency. Ten American Red Cross (ARC) shelters (and 10 warming stations) opened in six counties to assist a total population of 77 individuals. At 7:00 a.m., Ohio's electric utility companies reported approximately 168,000 homes and businesses without power statewide. Ten county Emergency Operations Centers opened, with four on 24-hour operations. Local governments, schools, universities, and businesses were closed throughout the state due to weather conditions.

Thursday, February 3: CAS-1 briefings were held at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. The Assessment Room staff continued to operate on a 24-hour basis. Approximately 116,000 homes and businesses statewide were without power during the early morning. At 2:00 p.m., the outages declined to approximately 70,322. Two weather-related deaths were confirmed. One individual died from a fatal traffic crash in the city of Ashland. A Lebanon Post Trooper in Montgomery County died from carbon monoxide related poisoning from a generator operating in the garage. Ohio EMA Executive Director and Public Affairs Officer traveled with Governor Kasich, Lieutenant Governor Taylor, and the Governor's staff to an ARC shelter in Canton.

Friday, February 4: A CAS-1 briefing was held at 10:00 a.m. The Assessment Room will close effective 5:00 p.m. The Enhanced Duty Officer will handle incident-related calls during the weekend. Two weather-related deaths were confirmed. An elderly man died from carbon monoxide poisoning in Stark County. The wife of the Lebanon Trooper died from carbon monoxide related poisoning. At 9:00 a.m., statewide outages decreased to 29,000. All county Emergency Operations Centers will close at normal business hours. There will be a final CAS-1 briefing on Monday, February 7, 2011.

DECLARATIONS

Stark County

WEATHER

High pressure will cross the region this morning and will persist through today bringing dry weather. An upper level disturbance and associated surface low will track through the Ohio Valley late tonight and Saturday bringing another chance of snow to the area. This system is expected to produce 1 to 3 inches of snow with the higher end of this 1 to 3 inch amount mainly over southeast Ohio. Over far southeast Ohio, the precipitation may mix with freezing rain at the onset. However, any ice accumulation should be light.

Weak high pressure will build back in Saturday night and move east Sunday. The next system will develop to the west on Sunday. There are timing differences in the models on the arrival of the precipitation. Precipitation may begin moving in from the west Sunday afternoon. The low is forecast to track to the western Ohio Valley Sunday night and snow will overspread Ohio. The associated cold front moves through Ohio Monday or Monday night. Snow will taper off as the cold front moves through. This is not expected to be a significant event at this time.

The temperatures will moderate this weekend. The highs today and Saturday will be in the middle 20s to upper 30s and by Sunday the highs will be in the 30s and low 40s. The lows tonight and Saturday night will be in the teens northwest and 20s elsewhere. By Sunday night the lows will be in the 20s to around 30.

Colder temperatures will move back into Ohio Monday night after the frontal passage. The lows Monday night will be in the teens, except for the mid 20s in extreme southeast Ohio. The highs Tuesday will be in the teens to upper 20s.

The national weather service in Wilmington has issued a Winter Weather Advisory for snow from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday. Snow will spread into the area late tonight into early Saturday morning. The heaviest snow is expected to fall Saturday morning into early Saturday afternoon. Snowfall accumulations of one to three inches are expected. A Winter Weather Advisory for snow means that periods of snow will cause primarily travel difficulties.

Snow Emergency Levels

There are nine Level 1(Use Caution) Snow Emergencies in effect. There are no Level 2 (Essential Travel Only) or Level 3 (Non-Emergency Travel Prohibited) Snow Emergencies.

STATE LEVEL DISASTER ASSISTANCE ACTIONS BY EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION (ESF)

ESF 1 – Transportation

Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT)

All roadways are open. ODOT has returned to normal operations.

ESF 3 – Engineering and Public Works

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

The city of Canton in Stark County has three drinking water treatment plants; Ohio EPA staff were advised that one of the three water treatment facilities (NE water plant) was without power, but the other two were operating and capable of serving their entire distribution system. All storage facilities were full and distribution system pump stations that could be affected by any outage have generators. There was no loss of service to customers, no depressurization of the distribution system, no impact to product, and no threat to public health.

ESF 6 – Mass Care

Ohio Emergency Management Agency (Ohio EMA)

ESF-6 staff will continue to monitor mass care activity.

American Red Cross (ARC)

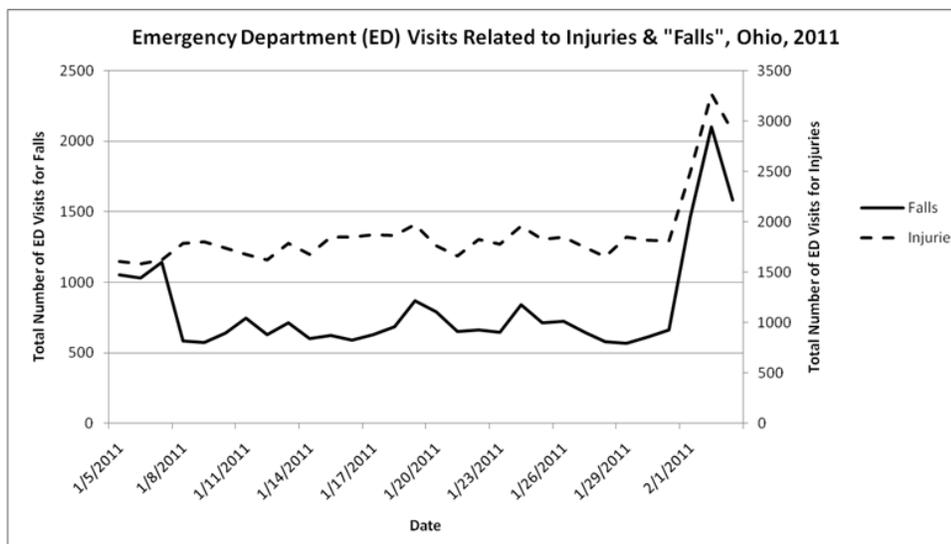
Shelter Name	County	Shelter population	Additional Info
Canton Civic Center	Stark	15	There are events scheduled for the Canton Civic Center on 2/4/11 and the evening of 2/5/11. Shelter staff is working on a resolution to this situation.
Bethesda Temple	Montgomery	16	
The Vineyard Church	Greene	13	

Total population reported: 44
 Total Shelters reported open: 3
 Total Warming stations reported open: 0

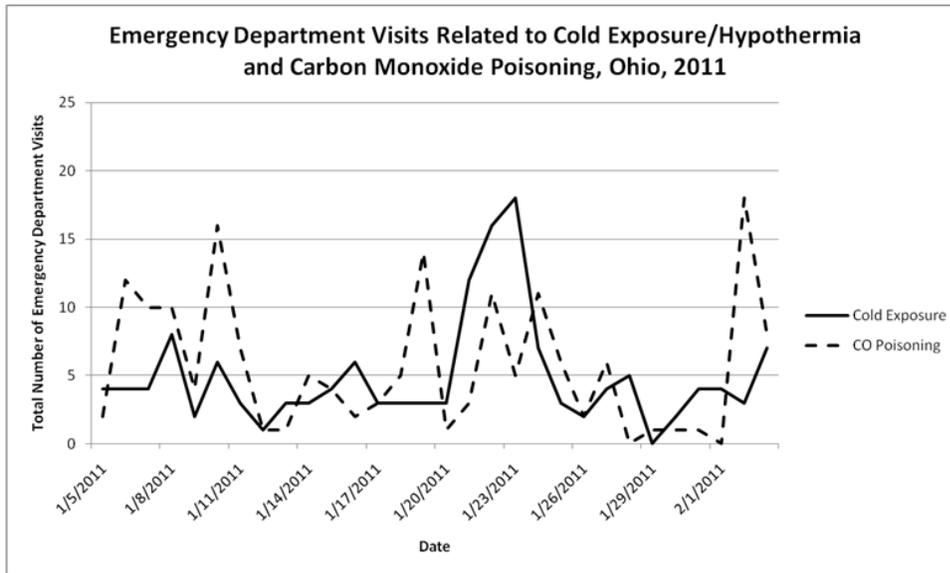
ESF 8 – Public Health and Medical Services

Ohio Department of Health (ODH)

Emergency department visits with chief complaints related to injuries and falls declined yesterday by approximately 25% compared to Wednesday; however, total counts are still elevated over normal baseline values, showing a nearly two-fold or 100% increase in total visits for falls yesterday as compared to the previous 17-day average. Falls are likely the major contributing factor for the increase in injuries, statewide.



Yesterday, emergency department visits related to carbon monoxide poisonings had eight observed cases. Additionally, the poison control centers in Ohio received four human exposure calls for carbon monoxide poisonings. Visits related to cold exposure/hypothermia increased slightly, as shown in the chart below.



The breakdown of carbon monoxide poisoning cases is as follows:

Date	CO Counts	County
1/31/2011	1	Summit
2/1/2011	0	
2/2/2011	18	Franklin (1), Medina (3), Delaware (5), Union (1), Muskingum (1), Cuyahoga (2), Stark (3), Highland (1), Montgomery (1),
2/3/2011	8	Montgomery (2), Franklin (1), Ashtabula (2), Stark (1), Warren (1), Washington (1)

ESF 12 – Energy

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO)

The total number of customer outages across Ohio has been reduced to approximately 17,500 by 3:45 p.m. today.

American Electric Power (AEP) and Dayton Power and Light (DP&L) outages constitute the bulk of remaining outages. AEP has 8,842 homes and businesses without power: 938 in Franklin County and 7,477 in Stark County. 100% restoration is expected by Saturday February 5. DP&L has 8,400 homes and businesses without power: 6,585 in Montgomery, 1,344 in Greene, and 392 in Preble. 95% restoration is expected by this evening.

On February 2, 2011, Governor Kasich directed the Ohio Department of Public Safety and Ohio State Highway Patrol to temporarily waive weigh station inspections for power line repair trucks coming in from other states to assist with restoration of electricity.

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) Transportation Department has granted regulatory relief for the hours-of-service requirements for the intrastate transport of heating oil and motor fuels. The regulatory relief granted by the PUCO is effective immediately and expires at 12:01 a.m., February 11, 2011.

ESF 13 – Law Enforcement

Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP)

Since midnight on January 31, the highway patrol has investigated 1,601 total crashes. Three fatal crashes have occurred in the state with only one related to weather conditions. The patrol has also assisted 4,835 motorists.

ESF 15 – Emergency Public Information and External Affairs

Ohio Emergency Management Agency (Ohio EMA)

Governor Kasich and Lieutenant Governor Taylor toured the Stark County Red Cross shelter last night in Canton, Ohio. A briefing with the governor and staff, local officials and Stark County EMA Director Tim Warstler was conducted, followed by a tour of the shelter, where the governor gave support to the residents. The evening ended with a media availability event which was covered by several area news stations. Executive Director Nancy Dragani and Chief of Public Affairs Tamara McBride accompanied the governor and staff.

The Public Affairs Office distributed to statewide media this morning, the press release ***Ohioans in Need are Encouraged to Call for Help***. The release urges citizens who need assistance if experiencing prolonged power outages to contact their local service agencies. The release also contains a safety statement on alternative heating sources and the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Additional information on winter storm safety and portable generators/carbon monoxide safety is available on the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness website:
www.weathersafety.ohio.gov .

State Fire Marshal (SFM)

The State Fire Marshal Public Information Officer conducted two phone interviews on Thursday (Feb. 3) with WOSU (Central Ohio) and WCSM (NW Ohio). Both interviews were focused on the safe use of generators.

OTHER STATE AGENCY REPORTS

Ohio Board of Regents

All state-supported higher education institutions have returned to normal operating status from various levels of closures and cancellations due to the snow and ice storm. Essential services (facilities operations, medical center operations, student life operations, etc.) were not negatively impacted at any institution during the event.

COUNTY-LEVEL REPORTS

No county Emergency Operations Centers plan to be open past normal business hours.

BRIEFING/SITREP DATA

The next CAS-1 briefing is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Monday, February 7, 2011. Please send Situation Report information to eocassmt@dps.state.oh.us.