



# This Week in Ohio EMA

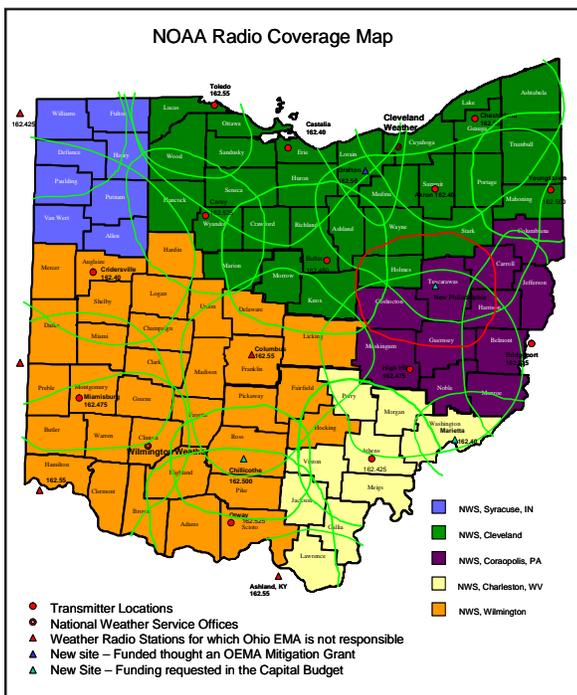
A publication of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety

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April 28, 2006

Volume III, No. 17

## Ross County Activates NOAA Weather Radio All-Hazards Transmitter



A new National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio transmitter was recently installed in Chillicothe, Ohio.

Broadcasting since March 1, the transmitter allows residents in Ross County and surrounding areas to turn to 162.500 megahertz (MHz) on their NOAA Weather Radio to receive 24-hour weather information. The National Weather Service (NWS) Office in Wilmington provides its weather radio coverage. NOAA Weather Radio services provide continuous weather forecasts and alerts listening areas of severe weather watches and warnings.

Ross County officials met with representatives from the Wilmington NWS Office and Ohio EMA on April 27 to review specifics on the transmitter. In attendance were: County Commissioner R. Douglas Corcoran; Ross County Sheriff Ron Nichols; Ross County EMA Director David Bethel; NWS Meteor-ologist Mary Jo Parker; and Ohio EMA Technical Support Division Director Mark Patchen.

## Central Ohio Mounted Search & Rescue Unit

The Licking County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and the Licking County Sheriff's Office organized and facilitated a field exercise for the Central Ohio Mounted Search and Rescue Unit. On April 22, the scenario had the S&R unit locate and secure accident victims and aircraft parts from a plane that crashed on its approach to Port Columbus International Airport. The unit incidentally found a staged meth lab in a wooded area.



Captain Thomas Lee, of the Licking County Sheriff's Office and facilitator of the exercise, said, "I'm very pleased with the unit's performance. We depend on this volunteer unit to assist in searches and to support our security detail at the annual county fair. They are a tremendous asset to our office and to the citizens of Licking County."

Homeland Security Threat Level:

ELEVATED



Ohio EMA Weekly Report Entries (ending April 25)

Beaver Valley Power Station Update (Shippingport, PA)

A tractor trailer truck was recently turned away from the Beaver Valley Power Station's (BVPS) security station. The truck was scheduled to pick up large tool containers. During a routine vehicle inspection, BVPS security discovered a duffel bag in the truck that contained a large amount of cash.

Plant security notified the Pennsylvania State Police, but the truck left the security station before the police came. The truck was later stopped by the Shippingport police approximately one mile away from the plant. The state police obtained a warrant to search the duffel bag and found 10 large bundles of cash totaling \$504,230.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Department of Rehabilitation & Corrections Exercise Planning Meeting

Select Ohio EMA personnel participated in a full scale exercise planning meeting with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections in Elyria (Lorain County), on April 19. The actual exercise will be on August 31. The scenario will test emergency plans during a terrorist attack on a prison.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Communications Update

New Internet Protocol (IP) telephones were programmed and installed for testing for personnel who would be deployed to a Joint Field Office (JFO) that would be set up after a federally declared disaster. These telephones would be set up for Ohio EMA staff, enabling them to make and receive telephone calls and access their voicemail with the same features and functions that they would have from their offices at the agency.

Union County Emergency Responders



*Members of the Union County Fire Departments and Law Enforcement Agencies recently surprised the staff and volunteers of the Union County EMA with an evening dinner and program. The county fire and law enforcement agencies also presented Union County EMA with a plaque for its dedication and assistance to first responders.*

*The evening's guest speakers included County Commissioner Charles Hall and Ohio EMA Operations Director Melvin House.*



Held in conjunction with the Intergovernmental Technology Conference

Hosted by:  
**Ohio Department of Public Safety  
& Ohio Homeland Security**

**Greater Columbus Convention Center  
Downtown Columbus  
May 10 & 11, 2006**

Advance Registration: \$52.00  
On-site Registration: \$75.00

Additional Information at:  
[www.gov.resources.com/ohsshhomepage.html](http://www.gov.resources.com/ohsshhomepage.html)

**Fairfield County Citizen Corps/CERT**



The Fairfield County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security proudly acknowledges Todd Beery (fourth from left) as the new Citizen Corps/Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) coordinator for Fairfield County.

Beery's background includes, but is not limited to: firefighter, paramedic, search and rescue specialist; search and rescue canine handler; member of Ohio Task Force-1; Fairfield County incident safety officer, Fairfield County EMA Hazmat special response; Central Ohio Strike Team; and Miami Valley Fraternal Order of Leatherheads Society.

Pictured from left to right: Matthew Keefe, Dee Hopkins, Tom Moe, Todd Beery, Bob Clark (all of Fairfield County), and Rudi Blaser of Ohio EMA.



Ohio Citizen Corps is a community based initiative that engages citizens in hometown security through public education and training. Ohio Citizen Corps has two objectives:

- Increase knowledge and skills through training and education, producing stronger citizens and safer communities.
- Establish a pool of volunteers who will supplement first responders in the event of a disaster, saving lives and property.

Citizen Corps, a vital component of USA Freedom Corps, was created to help coordinate volunteer activities that will make communities safer, stronger and better prepared to respond to any emergency situation. It provides opportunities for people to participate in a range of measures to make their families, their homes and their communities safer from the threats of crime, terrorism and disasters of all kinds.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>April 23</b> CAMEO Course Carlisle Township Fire Department	<b>24</b> Principles of Emergency Management - Salt Fork State Lodge	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> ICS-100 & IS-700 Belmont County	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>May 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Emergency Planning - Ohio EMA	<b>9</b> State-level judging of Severe Weather Awareness posters; OCSWA meeting	<b>10</b> Homeland Security Symposium Greater Columbus Convention Center	<b>11</b> Communications TAC Teleconference - 9 am	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Mothers Day	<b>15</b> Medical TAC Ohio EMA	<b>16</b> Hazardous Weather & Flood Preparedness - Ohio EMA HazMat TAC Ohio EMA	<b>17</b> Incident Mgmt Ohio EMA	<b>18</b> Water TAC Ohio EMA	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>

Register for Ohio EMA courses by visiting <http://ema.state.oh.us/training>