



## *This Week in Ohio EMA*

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

Bob Taft, Governor ♦ Nancy Dragani, Executive Director, Ohio EMA ♦ Kenneth L. Morckel, Director, ODPS  
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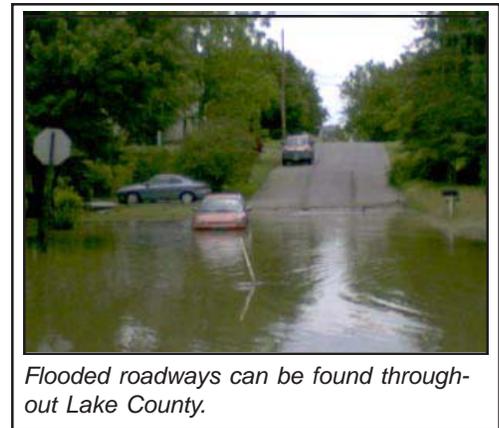
*July 28, 2006*

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### **TAFT DECLARES EMERGENCY IN LAKE COUNTY FOR SEVERE WEATHER**

Because of heavy rains and severe flooding, Governor Bob Taft issued a proclamation of emergency, Friday (July 28), in Lake County. The declaration came after Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Ken Morckel toured the area and met with local officials. Response efforts from local, state and federal agencies are ongoing as water levels in Lake County have surpassed the flood stage.

“Lake County residents are going to be facing a long recovery process,” Taft said. “State resources have been activated to assist local governments and the residents in response and recovery efforts. I would also like to applaud the first responders who have been working through the night rescuing residents from rooftops.”



*Flooded roadways can be found throughout Lake County.*

The Governor’s proclamation authorizes state resources to be used to assist local governments. The Ohio Emergency Management Agency (Ohio EMA) coordinates state response and recovery efforts from the State Emergency Operations Center.

State agencies working to respond to the emergency along with Ohio EMA include the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio Department of Public Safety, Ohio State Highway Patrol, Ohio Department of Transportation and the State Fire Marshal’s Office, a division of the Ohio Department of Commerce.

#### **FEMA Debris Contractor Registry**

FEMA has been implementing a number of improvements to strengthen its programs. As part of this effort, FEMA launched a new “Debris Contractor Registry” on-line. Over the past weeks, contractors have populated the database with their companies’ information. This new database provides a list of debris removal contractors who can help communities to better plan for and rapidly respond to debris removal requirements in times of disaster.

State and local emergency managers and government officials can search records in the database at [https://ci.hsin.gov/usp3\\_nerr/Portlets/search.aspx](https://ci.hsin.gov/usp3_nerr/Portlets/search.aspx) to contact debris removal contractor resources. FEMA does not endorse, approve or recommend contractors - not even those listed on the registry. State and local governments should use and follow their own competitive procurement procedures when selecting a contractor.

**Homeland Security Current Threat Level:**

**ELEVATED**

## Ohio EMA Weekly Report (ending July 26, 2006)



### BSSA Vehicle Event - Mercer County

The Mercer County Sheriffs' Department received the Buckeye State Sheriffs Association (BSSA) inter-operability communications vehicle (Unit #9) on Wednesday, July 26. This vehicle will respond to incidents and provide communications resources to counties in west-central Ohio. Guernsey County will receive BSSA Vehicle Unit #10 on August 30.

### News & Terrorism: Communicating In A Crisis Workshop

Executive Director Nancy Dragani and two Public Affairs staff members attended the News and Terrorism: Communicating in a Crisis Workshop on July 20 in Columbus. The workshop was produced and sponsored by the Radio & Television News Directors Foundation in association with the National Academies and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The workshop highlights included a terrorism scenario exercise and open discussion of the challenges involved in providing timely and accurate information to the public in case of a terrorist incident.

### Pandemic Influenza: Multi-State Preparedness Exercise

Three members of the Plans Branch participated in a Web-enhanced multi-state pandemic influenza preparedness exercise with representatives of the state of Indiana departments of Health and Emergency Preparedness at the Ohio Department of Health last week. Topics discussed included the implications of pandemic flu on the health care delivery system and public resources, staffing strategies for maintaining normal hospital operations during a pandemic, the evaluation of communication infrastructures, and the need for interstate interaction and support. Also participating were staff from state hospital associations, local health departments and county health centers.

### Ohio EMA Goes To The State Fair

Ohio Emergency Management Agency staff will be staffing an informational booth during the 2006 Ohio State Fair. Ohio EMA will be located along side fellow Ohio Department of Public Safety divisions in the Marketplace Building.

The booth will have a computer with access to the Ohio EMA Disaster Detectives Web site, the Mitigation House model and a variety of brochures and handouts. Ohio EMA staff will be on hand to interact with the public, answer questions and to educate the public on the importance of being prepared.

On Saturday, August 12, the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness will hold its annual poster contest award ceremony. The 2006 Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest Awards Ceremony will be held in the DiSalle Center at noon.

The Fair runs from August 2 to August 13. The Marketplace Building is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more information on the 2006 Ohio State Fair log onto <http://www.ohioexpocenter.com/>.



### **2006 Fall Emergency Management Directors Seminar (G200)**

September 14, 2006 - Thursday

**Clarion Hotel - Dublin**

600 Metro Place, North

(614) 764-2200

Register at: <http://ema.state.oh.us/training>

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT STATUS REPORT

**FEMA DR-1651** - Declared: July 2, 2006

Federal Individual Assistance (IA) disaster assistance available for Cuyahoga, Erie, Huron, Lucas, Sandusky and Stark counties. The six declared counties plus Van Wert County eligible to apply for Federal Public Assistance (PA), as of July 17.

### Disaster Recovery Centers

**Toledo** (Lucas County) Closes Saturday, July 29 at 6 p.m.  
**Norwalk** (Huron County) Closed Thursday, July 27 at 6 p.m.  
**Brewster** (Stark County) Closed  
**Valleyview** (Cuyahoga County) Closed

### Small Business Administration Disaster Loan Assistance Centers

**Norwalk** - Huron County Emergency Operations Center opens Friday, July 29 at 8 a.m.  
**Toledo** - Lucas County Emergency Training Center opens Monday, July 31 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### IHP Registrations

<b>Cuyahoga County</b>	4,850
<b>Erie County</b>	268
<b>Huron County</b>	573
<b>Lucas County</b>	3,620
<b>Sandusky County</b>	250
<b>Stark County</b>	242
Total IHP registrations: <b>9,533</b> (as of 7/24)	

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**July 18:** Governor Taft declared a State of Emergency for **ASHLAND COUNTY**

### Ohio EMA Personnel Updates

#### **New Employee:**

Todd Barstow - Grants Coordinator

#### **Promotions:**

Lana Joiner - AA2 effective July 9  
 Lois Ventresca - AA3 effective August 6

#### **Job Postings:**

#### **Telecommunications Technician Coordinator**

Hourly \$18.86 - \$23.82  
*(Must have a current Federal Communications License)*  
 Job open until filled

#### **Radiological Analyst Supervisor**

Hourly \$23.71 - \$30.96  
 Posting expires: July 28, 2006 at 11:59 p.m.

#### **Radiological Analyst 1**

Hourly \$20.32 - \$29.74  
 Posting expires: July 28, 2006 at 11:59 p.m.

For more information on these Job Postings log onto

[www.ema.ohio.gov](http://www.ema.ohio.gov) and click on "Employment Opportunities"

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>July</i> 23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	<b>August 1</b>	<b>2</b> <i>1st day of the 2006 Ohio State Fair</i> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Communications TAC Ohio EMA</div>	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 <i>OCSWA Poster Contest Awards Ceremony at State Fair - Noon</i>
13 <i>Last day of Ohio State Fair</i>	14	15	16 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Ohio Fire Chiefs Association DRILL</div>	17	18	19

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