



Yellowbud, Ohio January 2005

Decatur Township, Ohio - February 2003



This Week in Ohio EMA

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

Ted Strickland, Governor ★ Nancy Dragani, Ohio EMA Executive Director ★ Henry Guzmán, ODPS Director
www.ema.ohio.gov (614) 799-3695 - Ohio EMA Public Affairs

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Strickland Urges Ohioans to Practice Safety during Severe Winter Weather



Governor Ted Strickland (third from right) addresses reporters about Wednesday's snow emergency throughout the state. Also pictured from left to right: Brig. Gen. A.J. Feught; Brig. Gen. Matthew Kambic; Keith Swearingen, Ohio Department of Transportation; Col. Paul McClellan, Ohio State Highway Patrol; Henry Guzmán, Director of the Ohio Department of Public Safety; and Nancy Dragani, Executive Director of Ohio EMA (Ohio EMA photo).

It has been a biting cold winter the last couple of weeks in the Midwest. Parts of New York received more than 12 feet of snow. Ohio had to contend with sub-zero wind chill factors, blizzard conditions, ice and snow storms. Because much of the state was being impacted by severe snow and ice storms and power outages Tuesday, Ohio EMA staff worked around the clock in the State Emergency Operations Center (State EOC) February 13 through 14.

Governor Ted Strickland and Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Henry Guzmán urged Ohioans to exercise caution and preparedness as the state braced for a severe winter storm.

Strickland said, "I have directed the Ohio Emergency Management Agency and other key agencies to work with local governments and the National Weather Service to monitor this situation."

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio reported that approximately 70,000 customers were without power statewide this week because of downed power lines from ice accumulation and high winds. Multiple Ohio counties under a wind chill advisory through this morning.

A statewide weather emergency was issued in the morning to delay the start time of non-essential state employees. By mid-morning, the state weather emergency was extended for 49 counties, excusing non-essential state employees from work for the day. As of Wednesday afternoon, Clinton, Delaware, Mercer, Van Wert counties and Miami Township (in Clermont County) had issued local declarations. Seven counties were at a level three snow emergency; 38 counties were at a level two; 13 were at a level one.

A few shelters remained open today in Southeast Ohio, where approximately 4,000 people remain without power. High temperatures statewide, today, will be in the teens.

Homeland Security Current Threat Level (Domestic & International Flights):

HIGH

Ohio EMA Weekly Report Entries

(dated February 15, 2007)

DHS Conference Call

Ohio EMA participated in a conference call that was hosted by the Office of State and Local Government Coordination on Secretary Michael Chertoff's live budget briefing on Feb. 5. Chertoff discussed the president's 2008 budget for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The president requested a total of \$46.6 billion in funding for federal fiscal year 2008. Highlights of the conference call included:

- Increasing border control funding;
- Fingerprinting all 10 fingers of foreign visitors;
- Screening nearly 100 percent of arriving cargo at seaports by the end of the year, due to the threat of nuclear or radiological dirty bombs;
- Making available for FFY 2008 a total of \$3.2 billion for state and local preparedness expenditures; and
- Requesting a total of \$48 million by DHS to convert FEMA's cadre of on-call response employee, four-year-term temporary positions with permanent full-time employees.

Nuclear Power Plant Update

A tri-state meeting involving Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia was conducted on Feb. 7 at the Beaver Valley Power Station. Discussions continued on data transfer of plant parameters to all three states (similar to what Ohio now receives from Perry Nuclear Power Plant and Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station). Notification of Event of Potential Public Interest was also discussed.

The plant recently received a "white finding" in emergency preparedness regarding the one-hour default release time used for dose projections. The default release time is being increased to six hours with a procedure in place to calculate the exact time, if possible. Pennsylvania is considering issuing Protective Action Recommendations (PAR) based on sectors or rings, instead of the typical 10-mile, 360 degree PAR.

2007 State and Local COOP Planners' Workshop

West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

March 27, 28 and 29

What is Continuity of Operations?

COOP planning is an effort to ensure that the capability exists to continue essential agency functions across a wide range of all hazard emergencies.

Workshop Objectives:

- Present the COOP Managers Course to state and local COOP planners;
- Provide state and local COOP managers and planners the opportunity to network and discuss challenges, best practices and lessons learned with federal partners;
- Provide attendees with participation in a pandemic influenza based COOP tabletop exercise; and
- Provide a forum for state, local and federal personnel to discuss upcoming preparedness events.

Who Should Attend?

- State and Local Emergency Management Agencies
- State Administrative Agencies
- State Homeland Security Officials
- State and Local COOP Planners
- State and Local Department of Health Professionals
- Public Health Professionals from Local Communities

Cost: **FREE**. No tuition or registration fees. Attendees must provide their own travel and lodging arrangements. Preparedness funds are eligible to cover these costs.

RSVP to Robert Hutchinson, Jr., FEMA, Region III by **March 16, 2007**

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EMA Updates

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**Ohio Department of Public Safety
 Emergency Management Agency
 Spring Directors' Seminar**

March 27 and 28
 Holiday Inn Hotel/Fort Rapids
 4560 Hilton Corporate Drive
 Columbus, Ohio 43232
 Phone: (614) 868-1380

Guest presentors include: Ohio EMA Executive Director Nancy Dragani; Emergency Management Association of Ohio President William Walker; Asst. Adjutant General BG Kambic; Madison County EMA Director Krista Slanker; FEMA Region V Director Ed Buikema; ODPS Director Henry Guzmán; representatives from Ohio Homeland Security, DHS Office of Grants and Training, Ohio EMA and EMAO.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

***Director, Knox County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
 Mt. Vernon, Ohio***

The Knox County Board of Commissioners is seeking applications for the full-time director of Homeland Security/EMA. The director is responsible for the administrative operation of the agency and its various functions, including countywide 9-1-1 dispatch and the Local Emergency Planning Committee. The director will formulate and lead the county's response to natural disasters, hazardous materials spills and catastrophic events.

Applicants must have strong leadership, management and communication skills, as well as a comprehensive knowledge of emergency management, emergency response, public administration and public relations. A Bachelor's degree in Emergency Management or equivalent is preferred. Must be willing to become a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM). Salary begins in mid-\$30,000s.

Contact Emily Marth at epmarth@ecr.net for additional information and application. Deadline to apply is March 15, 2007.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
11	12	13	14	15 Water TAC POSTPONED	16	17
18	19  Presidents' Day	20 HazMat TAC Ohio EMA	21 EOC Management & Operations - Ohio EMA Incident Mgmt TAC Ohio EMA	22	23	24
25	26 Medical TAC Ohio EMA Canine TAC ODPS T3-5	27	28	March 1	2	3 CERT-100 Train-the-Instructor Montgomery County
4 CERT-100 Train-the-Instructor Montgomery County	5	6	7	8 Ohio Emergency Response Plan Exer.	9	10
11 Daylight Savings Time Begins	12	13 Mitigation Planning for Local Gov't Ohio EMA	14	15 Animal Health Emergency TAC - ODPS Evacuation/Re-Entry Planning Ohio EMA	16	17

Register for Ohio EMA courses by visiting <http://ema.state.oh.us/training>
 TAC - Technical Advisory Committee