



This Week in Ohio EMA



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

May 4, 2007

Volume IV, No. 17

State and County EMAs to Coordinate a Campaign on Mitigation Measures

The Ohio EMA Public Affairs, Field Operations, Mitigation, Disaster Recovery branches are forming a working group with directors from the Emergency Management Association of Ohio to produce campaigns on emergency management efforts.

The working group will need to decide what programs should be promoted, determine the audience and deadlines. The group will also decide on what types of promotional materials will need to be produced, which may include how-to videos, Web material, talking points, PowerPoint presentations, scripts, sound bites for use in radio news reports, news releases, video news releases, pre-produced news articles and public service announcements.



This Erie County raised home escaped major flooding last summer. Note the raised propane tank at the far right. (Ohio EMA file photo 6/06).

The campaign will begin with mitigation efforts similar to the Smart Recovery program that was implemented during the late 1990s. This campaign will be more in depth, expanding on the Smart Recovery efforts.

The first meeting will be held May 21.

Ideas for future promotional material can be submitted to Julie Hinds, Ohio EMA public information officer, at jlhinds@dps.state.oh.us.

Commodity Flow Independent Study Performed in Delaware County

Delaware County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, in cooperation with the Delaware General Health District, Railroad Task Force and Delaware Area Career Center conducted a commodities flow study earlier this week. Six groups consisting of one adult and two or three high school fire academy students from the career center worked at six different locations to identify the types of hazardous materials that flow through the county on semi-trailer trucks.

During the five-hour study, 2,700 trucks crossed the location sites. Of those trucks, a total of 66 hazardous chemicals were identified. The study was to help better prepare and train emergency responders and hazmat crews in the event that a hazmat transportation accident was to occur.

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

HIGH

Ohio EMA Weekly Report Entries (from Biweekly Report dated April 17-30, 2007)

Annual Inspection of BSSA Vehicle



The Ohio EMA Communications Branch performed its annual inspection on the Buckeye State Sheriffs' Association (BSSA) interoperability communications vehicle assigned to Hancock County. This

inspection is part of the agreement between the 11 sheriffs departments that house the vehicles and Ohio EMA. EMA technicians updated the vehicle's radio programming and checked all integrated systems for functionality.

Ohio Readies for National Preparedness Month

ODPS is anticipating more statewide participation in this year's National Preparedness Month campaign. ODPS has scheduled a planning group meeting on May 9 with state agency public information/communications offices, first responders and representatives from the business sector.

National Preparedness Month is a nationwide effort sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and held every September to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools. The goal of the month is to increase public awareness about the importance of preparing for emergencies and to encourage individuals to take action.

The DHS READY campaign continues to conduct monthly telephone conferences with state EMA and homeland security public information officers throughout the country to plan and coordinate campaign activities.

Additional information on National Preparedness Month can be found on www.ready.gov.

Summary/Update of Federal Disaster Assistance Provided to Ohio

October 2-5, 2006 Severe Storms and Flooding SBA and State Individual Assistance Program

The SBA Home/Personal Property and Business Loan Program approved 19 loans for a total of **\$515,300**. The Ohio EMA Disaster Recovery Branch completed registrations for all referrals from SBA and continue to accept State IA Program applications as referrals are received.

As of April 27, the State IA Program received 32 applications and approved 26 for **\$188,426** (includes four maximum grant approvals for **\$16,800** each).

July 27 - Aug. 4, 2006 Severe Storms, Flooding and High Winds - Federal Individual Assistance

- Total registrations for Ashtabula, Geauga and Lake counties - 6,295
- FEMA Individual and Household Program: 4,011 applications approved for **\$9,321** (state share: **\$310,933**)
- SBA Home/Personal Property & Business Loan: 654 approved for **\$15,902,400**

Total IA provided as of April 30 = **\$25,224,268**

June 21-23, 2006 Severe Storms, Flooding, Tornadoes and High Winds - Federal IA

- Total registrations for Cuyahoga, Erie, Huron, Lucas and Stark counties - 12,630
- FEMA Individual and Household Program: 5,786 applications approved for **\$8,820,399** (state share: **\$337,036**)
- SBA Home/Personal Property & Business Loan: 805 approved for **\$16,176,200**

Total IA provided as of April 30 = **\$24,996,599**

'This Week in Ohio EMA' changing to a biweekly publication

After May 11, the 'This Week' newsletter will go to a biweekly publication. The Ohio Department of Public Safety recently requested its divisions to send agency activity reports every two weeks (instead of weekly). Changing the newsletter to a biweekly format will allow Ohio EMA Public Affairs ample time to gather background information on branches' activities, which hopefully will alleviate document corrections and retractions. After next Friday, the next publication will be on Friday, May 25.

County EMAs are still encouraged to submit articles, photos and/or story ideas to via e-mail to: cjcouch@dps.state.oh.us.

Emergency Management Agency Updates

Leaving EMA

Matthew Keefe, Director

Fairfield County EMA

Transferring to Montgomery County EMA.

Last day with Fairfield County EMA, May 4

Dennis Karl, Telecom Tech. Coordinator

Ohio EMA Communications Branch

Transferring to Ohio Department of Natural

Resources. Last day with Ohio EMA, May 11

Welcome to EMA:

Brian Castner, Telecom Tech. Coordinator

Ohio EMA Communications Branch

Start date: April 30

Jon Myers, Interim Director

Fairfield County EMA

Start date: May 4

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Fairfield County EMA Director

Annual Salary: \$44,000 - \$52,000, depending on emergency management experience.

Position responsible for planning, organizing and coordinating emergency management activities for Fairfield County. Also, prepares and maintains the agency's fiscal and operational records.

Candidates should have a bachelor's degree in business administration and/or work in emergency management with three to five years experience in emergency management programs.

Go to www.myworknet.com for position details and application process. No phone calls, please.



Ohio Public Works Expo 2007 - Debris Management May 16 and 17

\$85 for SWANA and APWO members; \$125 for non-members

Park Toledo and Seagate Convention Centre, 101 North Summit Street, Toledo

Presented by the Ohio Buckeye Chapter of SWANA, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and Ohio Emergency Management Agency

Contact Sheryl Smith, Ohio Buckeye Chapter of SWANA, at (614) 899-9288.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	May 1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		OCSWA State-Level Poster Contest Judging - Ohio EMA		School Incident Resp. TAC - POSTPONED		
	Instructional Skills - CANCELED					
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
 Mother's Day	Medical TAC Ohio EMA	DBNPS Full-Scale Exercise HazMat TAC Ohio EMA	Incident Mgmt. TAC Ohio EMA			 Komen-Columbus Race for the Cure
	Emergency Planning - Ohio EMA		Debris Mgmt - Ohio Public Works Expo, Toledo			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
			Water TAC Ohio EMA	Animal Health Emerg. TAC - ODOT		
		Hazardous Weather & Flood Preparedness - Ohio EMA				

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

TAC - Technical Advisory Committee; DBNPS - Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station