



This Week in Ohio EMA



Ted Strickland, Governor ★ Nancy Dragani, Ohio EMA Executive Director ★ Henry Guzmán, ODPS Director
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May 25, 2007

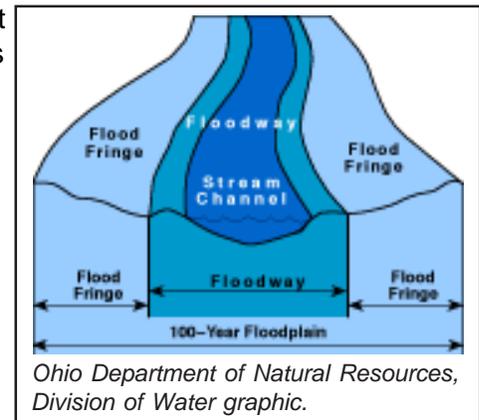
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Flood Stage at New Philadelphia to be raised on June 1, 2007

Courtesy of NOAA

Effective June 1, 2007 the flood stage for the Tuscarawas River at New Philadelphia will be raised from 7.0 to 7.5 feet. Flood stage is an established stream level (gage height) for the New Philadelphia gage at which minor flooding begins. Minor flooding is defined as the level at which there is minimal or no property damage, but possibly some public threat or inconvenience. The river gage for the Tuscarawas River at New Philadelphia is located near the Ohio State Route 416 bridge over the Tuscarawas River.

In an effort to better manage water levels behind Dover Dam during heavy rain events, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) conducted a study during the winter of 2006-07 to determine the maximum release from Dover Dam without adversely affecting downstream residents or property. The study concluded that releases from Dover Dam which raised the level of the river at New Philadelphia to 7.3 feet had little or no impact on downstream residents or property. Several releases of water from Dover Dam over the past few months produced rises above the current flood stage of 7.0 feet at New Philadelphia, but at or below 7.3 feet, and confirmed the findings USACE study that river levels of 7.3 feet at New Philadelphia had little or no adverse impact.



Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water graphic.

Changing the current flood stage of 7.0 was discussed between the National Weather Service, the Tuscarawas County Emergency Management Director, the USACE, and the New Philadelphia Police Department as part of the process to develop a new Emergency Action Plan for Dover Dam. All parties agreed that the community would be better served by raising the flood stage for the Tuscarawas River at New Philadelphia to 7.5 feet. This will eliminate the issuance of River Flood Warnings at 7.0 feet when no problems occur.

As of June 1, 2007, the NWS will issue River Flood Warnings for the Tuscarawas River at New Philadelphia whenever the river level reaches, or is forecast to reach, a level of 7.5 feet or greater.

On the Web:

NOAA: <http://www.noaa.gov>

NOAA's National Weather Service: <http://www.weather.gov>

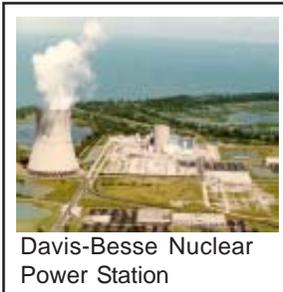
NOAA's National Weather Service in Pittsburgh, PA: <http://www.weather.gov/pbz>

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards: <http://www.weather.gov/nwr>

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

FDA Extends Shelf Life of Potassium Iodide Tablets

ODH advises residents of expiration extension



Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station

In 2002, The Ohio Department of Health obtained and provided potassium iodide (chemical symbol: KI) tablets to local health departments and county emergency management agencies in counties near a nuclear power plant. The agencies were to stockpile and distribute the tablets to residents in their area.

KI was made available for distribution directly to residents who lived or worked within the 10-mile emergency planning zones (EPZ) surrounding each plant. Those plants are the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station in Ottawa County, the Perry Nuclear Power Plant in Lake County and the Beaver Valley Power Station in Beaver County, Penn. In addition, facilities within those EPZs such as schools, day care centers, camps and correctional facilities were also provided with their own stockpiles.

The tablets distributed under this program had an initial shelf life of five years as established by the manufacturer. All these tablets came from manufacturer with the following **lot number: P200212**. The expiration date marked on the packaging of these tablets is May 2007.

Because of the action by the U. S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the expiration date of tablets distributed to residents and to schools, day care centers, camps and correctional institutions between May 2002 and April 2007, with **lot number P200212** is extended until May 2009 provided the tablets have been stored in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. These instructions are listed on the plastic envelope containing the tablets.

In a letter dated February 15, 2007, the FDA stated that for KI tablets provided to Ohio "it would be scientifically valid and, therefore, appropriate for the stockpiled lots of KI tablets to have their expiration date extended by an additional two years," provided they have been stored in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

The manufacturer recommends KI tablets be stored at 59-86 degrees F (15-30 degrees C) in a dry place, with the foil packaging intact. Therefore, in accordance with FDA guidance, the expiration date of tablets held in the Ohio stockpile with **lot number P200212**, are extended until May 2009.

Please contact the ODH Bureau of Radiation Protection at (614) 622-2727 or e-mail Bradiation@odh.ohio.gov for questions about this expiration date extension.

HMGP Awarded To Guernsey County

FEMA has approved a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for Guernsey County. The project is for acquisition of 59 residential properties in various areas of the county. The federal share of the project is \$1.4 million.

Senator Voinovich Honored For Emergency Management Work

U.S. Senator George Voinovich (Ohio) received the 2007 National Emergency Management Association's National Leadership in Emergency Management Award last week in Washington, D.C.

As a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee and the State Homeland Security Government Affairs Committee, Voinovich has been a tireless supporter of emergency management efforts.

Over the last four years, Senator Voinovich has led the charge in the budget discussions and again during the appropriations debate over increasing funding for the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) funding, maintaining the intent of the program, and also keeping the program all-hazards focused.

Senator Voinovich led more than 30 senators in letters to the appropriations leaders on the issue and also introduced several floor amendments through the years on EMPG.

Partnership Formed for Medical Support

The Mahoning/Columbiana County Medical Reserve Corps has been notified of official registration with the Office of the U.S. Surgeon General in the Department of Health and Human Services. The boards of county commissioners, through the respective health and emergency management departments, have coordinated efforts so that MRC is now recognized as part of the White House's USA Freedom Corps initiative and the Department of Homeland Security's Citizen Corps.

Information about Mahoning/Columbiana County Medical Reserve Corps and the agencies involved has been added to the MRC Web site www.medicalreservecorps.gov.

Buckeye State Sheriff's Association Vehicle Update

As part of the Homeland Security Grant agreement for the Buckeye State Sheriff's Association (BSSA) Interoperability vehicles, the Ohio EMA Communications Branch performs annual maintenance checks on all 11 BSSA vehicles located throughout the state.

Recent BSSA Deployments:

- May 4 - Montgomery County, Unit #5 - Wright State University May Day Festival
- May 5 - Montgomery County, Unit #5 - Supported visit of Senator Hillary Clinton at Hara Arena
- May 11 - Mercer County, Unit #9 - Supported training drill in Wood County
- May 18 - Montgomery County, Unit #5 - Supported Hamvention in Dayton

BSSA Radio Head Upgrades:

- Geauga County BSSA, Unit #2 - Completed
- Ross County BSSA, Unit #1 - June 18-22, 2007
- Columbiana County BSSA, Unit #4 - July 9-13, 2007
- Montgomery County BSSA, Unit #5 - August 6-10, 2007

Annual/Reprogramming only schedule:

- Guernsey County BSSA, Unit #10 - June 5, 2007
- Lucas County BSSA, Unit #8 - July 19, 2007



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28 Memorial Day	29	30  <i>Conference - May 30-31 Columbus Marriott North</i>	31  Mahoning County Full-Scale Exercise	June 1	2
3	4  Homeland Security Regions 2 & 5 Conf. Rootstown, Ohio	5 Butler County Full-Scale Exercise	6 EOC Management & Operations Ohio EMA	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Greene County Full-Scale Exercise	16
17 	18	19 Medical TAC Ohio EMA  Homeland Security Regions 7 & 8 Conf. Jackson, Ohio	20 HazMat TAC Ohio EMA Ashland County Full-Scale Exercise	21 Incident Mgmt. TAC Ohio EMA  Homeland Security Regions 1 & 3 Conf. Findlay, Ohio	22	23

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