



# *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](http://www.ema.ohio.gov)

*June 8, 2007*

*Volume IV, No. 19*

## **June 24-30 is National Lightning Safety Awareness Week**

The Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness (OCSWA) is encouraging all Ohioans to practice safety measures this summer during lightning and severe thunderstorms, in a coordinated effort with the National Weather Service which proclaims June 24-30 as National Lightning Safety Awareness Week.

This year is the nation's fourth annual promotion of National Lightning Safety Awareness Week. Its purpose is to help safeguard people from the hazards of lightning and to lower deaths and injuries due to lightning strikes. According to the National Weather Service, in 2006 there were 47 confirmed deaths due to lightning strikes and 246 confirmed injuries.



*2006 double lightning strike. NOAA photo provided by Jesse Rudavski.*

On the evening of June 2, a man and his two young children were struck by lightning while attending the annual Troy (Ohio) Strawberry Festival. The three were sitting near a tree when they were struck. All were conscious and talking when they were transported to a local medical center for treatment.

The National Weather Service emphasizes, "When thunder roars, go indoors!" Other safety and preparedness tips promoted by OCSWA are as follows:

- Listen to your NOAA Weather Radio or local television or radio station to receive up-to-date information on weather conditions.
- Watch the skies for developing thunderstorms. Severe storms are most likely to develop on spring or summer days. As the sun heats the air, pockets of warmer air start to rise and cumulus clouds form. Continued heating can cause these clouds to grow vertically into towering clouds, which is often the first sign of a developing thunderstorm.
- If you can hear thunder, you are within striking distance. Seek safe indoor shelter immediately, if possible. Lightning can strike as far as 10 miles from the area where it is raining. If the sky looks threatening, take shelter before the thunder and rain begin. Never seek shelter under solitary trees and stay away from metal objects such as fences, poles or power lines.
- If a person is struck by lightning, call 911 and get medical care immediately.

For additional information on lightning safety and severe weather preparedness, go online to [www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov](http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov) or [www.weathersafety.ohio.gov](http://www.weathersafety.ohio.gov).

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

## Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station Full-Scale Exercise Results



Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station

The Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, located in Ottawa County, conducted a federally graded, full-scale exercise on May 15. More than 100 county, state and utility personnel participated in the exercise, to include multiple state agencies working from the

Ohio EMA Emergency Operations Center, state and county EMA personnel working from the Ottawa and Lucas county EMAs, and staff at the Davis-Besse Emergency Operation Facility. Field activities involved the Ohio EMA State Communication Van, field monitoring teams, and activation of the Joint Public Information Center in Toledo.

An exercise critique was conducted in Ottawa County on May 18, and included participants from Lucas and Ottawa counties, state agencies, FEMA evaluators, and an evaluator from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Preliminary results of the exercise are as follows:

### State of Ohio:

All criterion selected for demonstration were met. The state had no findings. One planning issue was identified for the field monitoring teams. Strengths included: executive staff performed superbly in seeking out individuals' opinions while maintaining a unified team; assessment team was proficient in conducting dose assessments; operations staff exhibit excellent control of messages and missions; the Joint Information Center (at the EOC) provided timely press releases to staff at the Joint Public Information Center (in Toledo); public inquiry tracked phone calls efficiently.

### Ottawa County:

Twenty-one of 22 selected criterion were met. One ARCA (Area Requiring Corrective Action) was outstanding; one ARCA was corrected on-site. No planning issues.

### Lucas County:

No findings; two planning issues identified.

### Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station:

Good overall performance; no inspection findings.

For additional information, contact Carol O'Claire, Ohio EMA Radiological Branch, at 614-799-3915.



FEMA



## Ohio Legislative Briefing - June 1, 2007

The Ohio Emergency Management Agency hosted a briefing presented by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for approximately 20 congressional and state legislative staff on June 1. Briefing topics included disaster assistance, mitigation, flood plain management, planning, homeland security grants, and citizen preparedness. Ohio EMA Public Affairs coordinated efforts with the agency, the Department of Natural Resources, Ohio Community Service Council and FEMA staff to develop presentation slides.

## National Preparedness Report Workshop

Ohio EMA Plans Branch Chief Ted Filer attended a National Preparedness Report (NPR) workshop in Washington, D.C. on May 22. The NPR will be a key component of the Department of Homeland Security's National Preparedness System (NPS). The NPS is a management information system that will provide decision-makers and emergency managers at all levels of government and the private sector the information they will need to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from a major incident, whether natural, accidental or man-made.

NPS is a capabilities planning, assessment and resource inventory tool that will provide a picture of preparedness based on the National Goal and Target Capabilities List. NPS will help define roles in building capabilities, identify sources of capabilities and support strategy development and investment justifications to fill capability gaps.

For additional information, contact Ted Filer, Ohio EMA Plans Branch at 614-799-3688.



June 14th - Flag Day

### **Joining Forces Conference, May 30-31, 2007**

The Ohio Department of Public Safety and the Ohio Emergency Management Agency actively participated in the Joining Forces 2007 - Disaster Preparedness, Response and Recovery conference on May 30 and 31. An EMA planner gave a presentation on the concepts and fundamentals of a Continuity of Operations Program (COOP).



The purpose of the conference focused on developing and strengthening partnerships between emergency response personnel, behavioral health providers and volunteer leaders to maximize resources engaged in disaster preparation, response and recovery. The objection was to provide cross-education and training on Ohio's emergency response structure, behavioral health systems and volunteer networks by:

- Promoting integration of volunteer and behavioral health networks into the state and local emergency response system;
- Facilitating on-going collaboration among the three disciplines;
- Showcasing effective partnerships and best practices, and;
- Sharing information on current research, funding resources and processes.

The conference was sponsored by the Ohio Community Service Council, Ohio Department of Mental Health, and the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine.



## **September is.. National Preparedness Month**

### **Local EMAs Encouraged to Help Promote National Preparedness Month**

*(E-mail message forwarded to County EMA Directors)*

The Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) is coordinating a statewide National Preparedness Month public awareness campaign with state agencies and associations. ODPS conducted its first planning committee meeting on May 9 where approximately 35 agencies and associations were represented. The committee's intention is for its members to help plan state-wide events and encourage local partners to host preparedness events in their communities.

The month of September has been divided into four areas of focus weeks:

- **Week 1 (September 1-8)** - will focus on Back to School and Ready Kids. A statewide kickoff event will be conducted in Cuyahoga and Scioto counties.
- **Week 2 (September 9-15)** - will focus on Business Preparedness and Ready Business. A statewide kickoff event will be conducted in Franklin County. National Patriot's Day is September 11.
- **Week 3 (September 16-22)** - will focus on Multicultural Preparedness, which will coincide with the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month. A statewide kickoff event will be conducted in Lucas County.
- **Week 4 (September 23-30)** - will focus on Home and Family Preparedness and Ready America. A statewide kickoff event will be conducted in Butler County).

A second planning committee meeting took place Wednesday morning at the Ohio Emergency Management Agency. The ODPS welcomes and encourages any and all agencies to host a National Preparedness Month event. To attend future planning committee meetings, contact Lindsey Wayt, ODPS PIO, at 614-752-6585 or e-mail her at [lwayt@dps.state.oh.us](mailto:lwayt@dps.state.oh.us).

For additional information and promotional suggestions, visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov). Click on "September is National Preparedness Month."

**EMA UPDATES**

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**National Fire  
Protection Association**

The authority on fire, electrical, and building safety

**Special Achievements and Committee Service  
Honored by NFPA**

Ohio EMA Planner Lloyd Bokman is one of 35 individuals recognized by the National Fire Protection Association's Standards Council for outstanding service to the organization in the development of codes and standards.

Awards were presented at the World Safety Conference and Exposition in Boston this week.

Lloyd W. Bokman  
Ohio Emergency Management Agency  
Technical Committee on Emergency Management and Business Continuity (1993 - present),  
(Chair from 1998 - 2007)

Visit the National Weather Service's link: [www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/week.htm](http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/week.htm) to view the NWS Lightning Safety Awareness Week schedule:

- Monday (June 25): Lightning and Lightning Safety Overview
- Tuesday (June 26): The Science of Lightning
- Wednesday (June 27): Lightning Safety Outdoors
- Thursday (June 28): Safe Shelters and Indoor Safety
- Friday (June 29): The Medical Aspects of Lightning



Salty, the NOAA Seagull

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June 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  Flag Day	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
24	25	26  Homeland Security Regions 7 & 8 Conf. Grove City, Ohio	27 Water TAC Ohio EMA	28	29	30
<b>National Lightning Safety Awareness Week: June 24-30</b>						

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