





# 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

**July 10, 2008** **Volume V, No. 13**



The Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) is a standard-based voluntary assessment and accreditation for state and local government programs responsible for coordinating prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery activities for natural and human-caused disasters. Accreditation is based on compliance with collaboratively developed national standards, the *Emergency Management Standard by EMAP*.

EMAP, as an independent, non-profit organization, fosters excellence and accountability in emergency management and homeland security programs by establishing credible standards applied in a peer review accreditation process.

EMAP assessment was conducted at the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety, during the week of June 23. An exit interview was performed on June 27. The state of Ohio was found to be compliant in 101 out of 103 standards.

The assessors were complimentary of the state's emergency management program as a whole, and had specific favorable comments on many areas of the program to include:

- Ohio EMA's organization and completeness of the Emergency Operations Center procedures
- Ohio EMA's comprehensive training needs assessment
- Ohio EMA's after-action/corrective-action process
- Ohio EMA's Continuous Improvement Initiative that allows employees to make suggestions about work place improvements and actually see results
- The flexibility of the financial processes that allowed prompt spending during and after disasters by those who are involved in the disaster
- The Ohio Homeland Security's *See Something, Say Something* program that allows the opportunity for citizens to report suspicious activities
- The relationship between the (fusion) Strategic Analysis and Information Center (SAIC) and emergency management
- The Ohio Department of Administration Services' system for acquiring resources during disasters - which the assessors said was one of the best
- The successfulness of the Buckeye State Sheriffs Association's interoperability communications vehicles

The two areas that require additional documentation before accreditation are the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment and the Recovery Plan. The Ohio EMA foresees no problems in completing the documentation for EMAP accreditation within the required 30 days.

Homeland Security Threat Level: **ELEVATED**  Significant Risk of Terrorist Attack  
*HIGH or Orange for Aviation Sector*

## **State Emergency Responders Participate in Nuclear Power Plant Exercise** **Beaver Valley Power Station Exercise: June 24**

The state of Ohio and Columbiana County participated in a federally evaluated exercise on June 24, of the Beaver Valley Power Station, which is located in Shippingport, PA. Columbiana County, Ohio; Beaver County, PA; and Hancock County, WV are all within a 10-mile radius of the nuclear power plant.

As part of a federal requirement from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, power plants are to test their emergency response plans every 18 to 24 months.

Evaluating of Ohio's activities took place at the Ohio Emergency Management Agency's Assessment Room, Executive Room, Field Operations Desk and Joint Information Center; Columbiana County Emergency Management Agency and the BVPS Emergency Operations Facility and Joint Information Center, which is off-site from the plant, near the Pittsburgh Airport.

Preliminary reports from the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) indicated that the state of Ohio tested 13 criteria with no deficiencies found and no corrective actions needed.

Major state agency exercise participants included: Ohio Department of Health-Radiological Health; Ohio Environmental Protection Agency; Ohio Emergency Management Agency; and the Ohio Department of Public Safety.

A dry run of the BVPS was conducted on June 3.



**Beaver Valley Power Station, PA**

### **UPDATE: March 7-9, 2008 Snow Emergency (EM-3286-OH Public Assistance)**

The projected closure date of the FEMA Public Assistance Processing Center is July 11. There are 503 applicants within the 20 declared counties: Ashtabula, Brown, Clermont, Clinton, Crawford, Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Geauga, Greene, Hardin, Huron, Lake, Licking, Madison, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Union and Wyandot.

Licking, Madison and Marion counties were added to the declaration on June 3. Their deadline to apply for public assistance was July 4.

As of July 7, FEMA has approved and forwarded approval packages totaling \$9,363,996 (\$7,022,997 federal share) for 472 applicants. To date, \$5,260,713 have been requested for reimbursement and \$1,319,983 have been disbursed. Reimbursement requests for the balance of the approved federal funds are pending applicants' completion of required administrative documents.

### **State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) 2008 LEPC Conference**

Ohio Fire Academy  
8895 East Main Street  
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

**Thursday, August 14 - 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Sessions include:

- Responding to Ethanol Emergencies
- LEPC Excellence Award winners/presentations
- LEPC and HMEP Funding Issues
- LEPC Exercise Program Laws and Rules
- Cessation of Regulated Operations
- Public Records Act and Sunshine Laws
- Natural Gas and Oil Well Emergencies
- Ohio HazMat TAC Strategies and Team Verifications
- HazMat Training Issues and Opportunities
- LEPC Enforcement Issues

Conference is free of charge. Register on-line at: [www.ohiofireacademy.com](http://www.ohiofireacademy.com). Click on "Course Offering/Schedule On-Line Student Registration."

**EMA Updates**

**Rod Cheney, Deputy Director (06/16/08)**  
 Fulton County Emergency Management Agency  
 135 Courthouse Plaza  
 Wauseon, OH 43567  
 Office: 419-337-9207  
**E-Mail: rcheney@fultoncountyoh.com**

**Michael Pannell, Director (07/14/08)**  
 Franklin County Emergency Management  
 and Homeland Security  
 5300 Strawberry Farms Blvd.  
 Columbus, OH 43230  
 Office: 614-794-0213

**Joseph Walter, Director (06/23/08)**  
 Lucas County Emergency Management Agency  
 2144 Monroe Street  
 Toledo, OH 43635  
**Office: 419-213-6505**  
**Cell: 419-410-5533**  
**E-Mail: JOWalter@co.lucas.oh.us**

**Marc Burdiss, Director (07/14/08)**  
 Shelby County Emergency Management Agency  
 800 Fair Road  
 Sidney, OH 45365  
 Office: 937-492-5635  
 Marc Burdiss is replacing **Tom Cisco**. Marc was  
 the North-Central Ohio field liaison with Ohio EMA.



**Get a Kit.**  
[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)  
[www.ready.ohio.gov](http://www.ready.ohio.gov)

When preparing for a possible emergency situation, it's best to think first about the basics of survival: fresh water, food, clean air and warmth.

**Recommended Items for Emergency Supply Kit:**

- Water - one gallon per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- Food - three-day supply of nonperishable food and manual can opener
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio/NOAA radio and extra batteries
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air/ plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags for sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Fire extinguisher
- Sleeping bags or blankets
- Prescription medications
- Baby supplies
- Pet food and extra water for pets
- Books, games - activities for children
- Cash or traveler's checks and change

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6	7	8	9	10 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Pan FLu Exercise Knox County</div>	11	12
13	14	15 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">HazMat TAC Ohio EMA</div>	16 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Incident Mgmt TAC Ohio EMA</div>	17 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Water TAC Ohio EMA</div>	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Pan FLu Exercise Knox County</div>	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	<b>August 1</b>	2
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; background-color: #fff9c4;">Instructional Skills Course - Ohio EMA</div>						

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