



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
EDUCATION • SERVICE • PROTECTION

Ohio's Emergency Management News



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Ohio's AMBER Plan

America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response

Ohio Observes National AMBER Alert Awareness Day

Steering Committee Promotes Wireless AMBER Alerts

On January 13, communities across the country will observe National AMBER Alert Awareness Day, which is a day to recognize the collaborative efforts and successes of the AMBER Alert program to assist in the recovery of abducted children.

AMBER Alert Awareness Day recognizes the collaborative efforts and successes of the AMBER Alert program to assist in the recovery of abducted children. The Ohio AMBER Alert Steering Committee is promoting the sign-up for Wireless AMBER Alerts by visiting areal high schools and encouraging students to subscribe. Wireless AMBER Alerts is a free public service that sends AMBER Alert text messages to subscribers' cell phones.



According to Wireless AMBER Alerts, statistics show that the first three hours after an abduction are the most critical in recovery efforts. By signing up for Wireless AMBER Alerts subscribers can play an integral role in the recovery of an abducted child. Visit www.wirelessamberalerts.org for additional information.

The Ohio AMBER Alert Steering Committee is hosting the 2009 AMBER Alert Conference on January 30 in the Ohio Department of Transportation's auditorium - Columbus. The goal of the conference is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the state's ability to save the lives of missing children and adults through collective and coordinated preparedness efforts.

For additional conference information and its agenda, visit www.ohioamberplan.org/press.aspx. Scroll down to 2009 AMBER Alert Conference.



FEMA

Federal Funds Obligated to Ohio for September Wind Storms (From FEMA press releases)

As of June 9, 2009, federal officials have obligated **\$23.8 million** in public assistance (PA) reimbursement to Ohio county and city agencies, engineers and non-profits for expenses incurred during the September 14 wind storm. FEMA's Public Assistance Program pays 75 percent of eligible costs and the applicants are responsible for the remaining 25 percent. Disbursement of the federal funds by the state of Ohio will be made available upon receipt and processing of all required documentation.

Homeland Security Threat Level: **ELEVATED** Significant Risk of Terrorist Attack

HIGH or Orange for Aviation Sector

FEMA launched a new Web site on December 31 to assist individuals affected by federally declared disasters. DisasterAssistance.gov was developed to improve and simplify access to information about disaster assistance.

Users of DisasterAssistance.gov will be able to:

- Apply for FEMA assistance and U.S. Small Business Administration loans through a single online application
- Check the status of their online application(s)
- Choose to have their Social Security benefits redirected to a new address
- Have access to their federal student loan account information

In the near future, DisasterAssistance.gov will include online applications for more types of assistance, and will add federal assistance programs administered at the state level, then local, tribal and public nonprofit organizations.

Sixteen federal agencies have partnered with FEMA to develop the Web site, which offers more than 50 forms of assistance. They include the Departments of Agriculture; Commerce; Defense; Education; Health and Human Services; Housing and Urban Development; Interior; Justice; Labor; State; Transportation; Treasury; and Veterans Affairs; the Office of Personnel Management; Small Business Administration; and Social Security Administration.

For additional information, contact FEMA's Office of External Affairs at 202-646-4600.



Ohio's Missing Adult Alert

Statewide Emergency Alert Program

www.missingadults.ohio.gov * 1-866-693-9171

Ohio's Missing Adult Alert is an alert system used to quickly notify the public and media outlets about endangered missing adults, age 65 or older, or those with mental impairments.

History - Senate Bill 87 changed section 5502.522 of the Revised Code to create the statewide emergency alert program to aid in the identification and location of missing adults who are endangered and have a mental impairment or are 65 years of age or older. The bill also established activation criteria for the implementation of the program.

The Missing Adult Alert was developed in response to several incidents across the country, including Ohio, involving older adults or adults with mental impairment who became missing. Although local agencies and media outlets have typically worked together in these incidents, there was no coordinated effort or resource center to ensure a widespread alert was issued to garner the public's assistance in the search.

The Missing Adult Alert is patterned after portions of the AMBER Alert and Missing Child Alert and is designed to coordinate the information to the media and public in a timely manner.

Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness 2009 Calendar

National Flood Safety Awareness Week: March 16-20

Ohio's Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week: March 22-28

Statewide Tornado Drill:
March 25th - 9:50 a.m.

National Lightning Safety Awareness Week: June 21-27

Ohio's Winter Safety Awareness Week: November 15-21



OCSC's Volunteer Specialty License Plates Available Spring 2009



Senate Bill 259, initiating the Ohio Community Service Council's Volunteer! license plate bill was first introduced to the Senate Highways and Transportation Committee in December 2007.

Legislative sponsor, Senator Joy Padgett suggested the license plate bill be drafted as an amendment and incorporated in the License Plates and Highways Bill (House Bill 273). Currently, the Bill is awaiting Gov. Ted Strickland's signature. License plates honoring Ohio's volunteers should be available for purchase at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles by this spring.

Proceeds generated from the sale of the Volunteer! plates will support a variety of OCSC activities, to include:

- Grants to local organizations for innovative volunteer programs
- Further development of Ohio's Citizen Corps - citizens' involvement in homeland security
- Support for Make A Difference Day, Ohio
- Assistance with local matching funds for AmeriCorps programs

EMA Updates

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Check out the Ohio Department of Public Safety's and Ohio Emergency Management Agency's new Web sites!

<http://publicsafety.ohio.gov>
<http://ema.ohio.gov>



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January 4	5 URSB Meeting Ohio EMA	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 G242 Effective Communications - Ohio EMA	15 L-146 HSEEP Training Course - Ohio EMA	16	17
18	19  Martin L. King Day	20 AMBER Alert Awareness Day	21 G270.4 Recovery from Disaster Ohio EMA- Ops Room	22 Dir. Conf. Call 1pm Bomb TAC Cols Fire Trng Academy	23 PIO Training Miami County (Piqua, OH)	24
25	26	27 HazMat TAC Ohio EMA	28 Incident Mgmt TAC Ohio EMA	29 Water TAC Ohio EMA	30 2009 Ohio AMBER Alert Conference - ODOT	31

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

TAC - Technical Advisory Committee, URSB - Utility Radiological Safety Board, HSEEP - Homeland Security Exercise & Evaluation

January 15 - Mitigation Progress Reports Due: HMGP, FMA and PDM