



MEDIA RELEASE

Emergency Management Agency

Ohio Emergency Management Agency • Nancy J. Dragani, Executive Director
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Ohio is Re-Accredited by the Emergency Management Accreditation Program

COLUMBUS, OH – The state of Ohio achieved re-accreditation Wednesday by the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). EMAP is a standard-based voluntary assessment and peer review accreditation process for government programs responsible for coordinating prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery activities for natural and human-caused disasters. The Ohio Emergency Management Agency was first accredited in October 2008.

“In light of recent disasters across the country, it’s never been more important to demonstrate and document the ability to coordinate emergency plans and actions,” said Barb Graff, chair of the EMAP Commission and director of the Seattle Office of Emergency Management. “These programs serve as role models in the profession of emergency management.”

To achieve accreditation, emergency management programs document compliance with a set of industry recognized standards used in the accreditation process and undergo a peer-review assessment by EMAP trained assessors. The emergency management program uses the accreditation to prove the capabilities of their disaster preparedness systems.

Accreditation is valid for five years from the grant date of the EMAP Commission. To maintain accredited status, Ohio EMA sustained compliance with EMAP standards and was reassessed during the summer of 2013.

“Emergency management consists of mitigation, preparedness, training and exercises, response, recovery, and public information and education,” said Nancy Dragani, executive director of the Ohio EMA. “All of these elements, combined with the coordinated efforts of local partners, state agencies and volunteer organizations, are what make an effective emergency management program and emergency response system.”

The Emergency Management Accreditation Program is the only accreditation process for emergency management programs. Accreditation is open to all U.S. states, territories and local government emergency management programs.

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