



## NEWS RELEASE

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Ohio Emergency Management Agency  
2855 West Dublin Granville Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43235-2206  
[www.ema.ohio.gov](http://www.ema.ohio.gov)

Contact C.J. Couch, Chief of Public Affairs at 614-799-3695  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 12, 2006

### **Ohio's Recent Severe Weather Should Serve As A Reminder To Be Prepared**

**COLUMBUS, Ohio** – During the past three weeks, Ohioans have witnessed the destructive nature of severe storms, heavy rains, flooding and tornadoes. On July 2, President Bush issued a federal disaster declaration for the counties of Cuyahoga, Erie, Huron, Lucas, Sandusky and Stark due to damages from June 21-23. Counties in north central Ohio are continuing to recover from flash flooding and heavy rains from July 10. Counties in southwestern Ohio are cleaning up from high winds and tornadoes which moved through the area last night.

“With all of the flooding and severe storms we’ve been through, I cannot stress enough the importance of being prepared,” said Nancy J. Dragani, executive director for the Ohio Emergency Management Agency. “Every home, business and school should have a NOAA Weather Alert Radio to stay aware of local watches and warnings for severe weather.”

In addition to having a weather radio, people should have disaster preparedness kits in their homes and automobiles and a disaster plan for what actions to take when warnings or evacuation orders are given.

Information regarding disaster preparedness is available on line at [www.ema.ohio.gov](http://www.ema.ohio.gov).  
Information on severe weather preparedness is available on line at [www.ocswa.ohio.gov](http://www.ocswa.ohio.gov).

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