



OHIO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY ALL-HAZARDS HERALD

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER – SPRING EDITION 2024



Our mission

To coordinate activities to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters.

In this issue

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| From the Director | 1 |
| Watch Office | 2 |
| Logistics Branch | 3 |
| Preparedness Grants Branch | 4 |
| Regional Operations | 4 |
| Radiological Branch | 5 |
| Disaster Recovery Branch | 6-7 |
| CERT | 8 |
| New Team Members | 9 |
| Mitigation | 10 |
| State EOC | 10 |
| Legal | 11 |
| Public Affairs | 12 |
| Training and Exercise | 13-14 |
| Spring Conference | 15 |
| Eclipse Day | 16 |

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Happy Spring everyone, and what a spring it has been! From severe weather and tornadoes (35 as of this writing) to the total solar eclipse we have all been very busy.

These storms started in the winter months and have continued right into spring. Our planning and messaging have never been more important.

Each time Ohio is impacted by severe storms, the Ohio EMA team stands ready to assist our county partners in ensuring there are no unmet needs by coordinating resources as they are needed and requested.

Our thoughts continue to be with those who were impacted by these terrible storms, with all the agencies who continue to assist, and with the communities as they trek along their road to recovery.

We just wrapped up the 2024 EMA Spring Conference. It was a fabulous turnout, and for me, the presentations and panel were fantastic but I always most enjoy seeing everyone in-person.

As is par for the course, the last day of the conference ended with tornado watches across the state which produced five tornadoes. Thankfully, there were no significant injuries or fatalities from these storms.

Another unusual but awesome event was the total solar eclipse. I consider this to be a preplanned event; seriously, how often do we get over 200 years to plan for something so spectacular?

Ohio witnessed a once in lifetime event on April 8th and our messaging seemed to payoff - Ohioans listened which made it a safer and more enjoyable day!

Sima Merick

Ohio EMA Watch Office

The Watch Office continues to provide awareness to state, local, and federal partners across different community lifelines. Below is a summary of the February 28th severe weather system that impacted Ohio.

Significant event reporting:

On Feb. 28, a severe weather system swept through Ohio, triggering multiple tornado touchdowns across various counties. Monitored closely by the Watch Office, the system prompted the issuance of spot reports and alerts to inform state, local, and federal partners about the impending danger.

The tornadoes, ranging in intensity, left a trail of destruction:

Riverside: Montgomery and Greene Counties witnessed an EF1 tornado with winds reaching 100mph, occurring from 4:37 a.m. to 4:41 a.m..

Springfield to Lafayette: Clark and Madison Counties experienced an EF2 tornado with winds reaching 130mph, lasting from 4:52 a.m. to 5:15 a.m..

London to West Jefferson: A brief but powerful EF1 tornado with winds at 110mph struck Madison County from 5:14 a.m. to 5:24 a.m.

Hilliard: Franklin County faced an EF1 tornado with winds at 110mph, occurring from 5:26 a.m. to 5:31 a.m.

Darbydale: Franklin County encountered an EF0 tornado with winds at 70mph, occurring briefly from 5:28 a.m. to 5:29 a.m.

Harrisburg: Pickaway County saw an EF0 tornado with winds at 70mph, occurring from 5:29 a.m. to 5:32 a.m..

Groveport to Canal Winchester: Franklin County experienced an EF0 tornado with winds at 75mph, occurring from 5:48 a.m. to 5:52 a.m..

Blacklick to Jersey: Franklin and Licking Counties faced an EF2 tornado with winds reaching 120mph, lasting from 5:49 a.m. to 6:03 a.m.

Malaga Township: Monroe County witnessed an EF2 tornado with winds reaching 120mph, occurring from 7:00 a.m. to 7:26 a.m.

The Watch Office's timely dissemination of information helped ensure that communities were prepared and could take necessary precautions in the face of this destructive weather event.



OHIO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Outdoor warning sirens are NOT designed to be heard indoors.

Ohio Emergency Management Agency | EMA.OHIO.GOV



A **GIS Map Gallery** was recently added to the Ohio EMA web page, which can be accessed from the “Prepare and Respond” page or just by searching for GIS. The gallery contains several real-time situational awareness mapping applications, such as weather, drought conditions, stream gage flood status, wildfires, and earthquakes.

In addition, the map gallery contains a new application called **Know Your Natural Hazards**. Use this application to find your risk to natural hazards in Ohio by typing in an address or clicking on a point on the map. Results will show which natural hazards may occur at that location, along with links to find out more information to help stay safe. Many of the hazards show a statewide risk, such as tornadoes and extreme heat and cold. Other hazards are very site specific, such as flooding and landslides. Keep in mind that even though your location may not be at risk for a specific hazard does not mean that you cannot be affected by it. Always be prepared.

Questions? Click **HERE** to contact the Ohio EMA GIS Coordinator.


Maps and GIS Applications

The GIS unit assists Ohio EMA with situational awareness tools and real-time hazard monitoring.


Know Your Natural Hazards


Find what natural hazards might affect your area and what you can do to help stay safe.

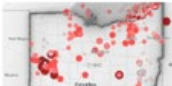
[Learn More](#)





Real-Time Situational Awareness of Natural Hazards


Current Weather



Drought


Earthquakes


Flooding



Wildfires

Other GIS Applications




Mitigation Success Stories

How mitigation efforts have helped to alleviate flooding issues in some Ohio communities




Ohio Sentry

A collection of real-time monitoring tools and featured applications.



Ohio's EMAC History

How Ohio has assisted other states during disasters using the Emergency Management Assistance Compact



Tornado History

Tornadoes in Ohio since 1950. Includes counts, deaths, injuries and property damage.

PREPAREDNESS GRANTS UPDATE

In an effort to centralize grants resources for subrecipients of the various grant programs Ohio EMA manage across the state, we have uploaded various forms, tools, and training aids on the EMGrants platform. These resources are organized under their respective grant programs and include such items as Grant Guidance, EHP Forms, Procurement links, FEMA waivers, etc. In addition to these resources, we have developed several training resources for EMGrants navigation and processes. We will continue to add more resources as they are developed. If there is a topic or resource you would like to see developed, please reach out with your suggestions to EMA_Grants@dps.ohio.gov.

To access these resources, please click [here](#).

REGIONAL OPERATIONS

During the early morning hours of February 28, severe thunderstorms moved into the State of Ohio. These storms, as of this writing, ultimately spawned 9 tornadoes ranging in strength from EF0-EF2 as confirmed by respective NWS offices. Of note, there were no serious injuries or fatalities reported. Regional Operations began engaging with counties early that morning to help with rapid incident assessment and information sharing. Throughout the week, the transition to damage assessment began, along with public messaging and the formation of a long-term recovery committee (Clark County). The impacted regions were SW, Central and SE with Clark, Madison, Licking and Monroe Counties sustaining the greatest damages, while others such as Montgomery, Greene, Franklin and Perry had damages, as well. As the week progressed, Regional Operations fed DA information to DRB, in addition to Watch. Below is a more in-depth look at each region:

SW: The tornado impacting Clark County had a maximum path width of 500 yards and traveled 21.3 miles before lifting. Regional Operations supported Clark County EMA, providing just in time damage assessment training, assisted with Emergency Operations Center functions and supported Governor Mike DeWine's visit to the EOC for briefing and tour of impacted areas. In total 111 residential structures were impacted.

Central: At the request of the Madison County Emergency Management Director, Regional Operations provided just-in-time Damage Assessment Training to the Madison County EMA Staff. The team assisted in documenting Public and Private damages and spoke to residents regarding their loss and met with Public Officials and aided the National Weather Service with viewing the Tornado impacted areas.

SE: The southeast region initially learned of wind damage in the Crooksville area of Perry County which resulted in multiple trees falling, including one on a home, and a porch being ripped of a second home. Soon after Monroe County reported heavy damage in the Ozark Community which was the result of an F-2 Tornado according to the National Weather Service. Damage included 8 uninhabitable homes, 12 homes with significant damage, 17 buildings which had been destroyed, and over 30 power poles which had to be replaced according to the Monroe County EMA. Recovery efforts in Monroe County are being coordinated by the EMA and a newly formed Monroe County Disaster Recovery Committee.



RADIOLOGICAL BRANCH UPDATE

The Ohio EMA Radiological Branch both participates and trains with our partners from around the state and in various capacities as seen below.



Pictured above Radiological Analyst Supervisor Patsy Razzano(standing). Patsy is teaching **Primary Screening** in the Ohio Radiological Nuclear Detection (Ohio RND) Program mission space, to about 25 members of the Dayton Police Department. The class was engaged and kept our instructors on their toes with excellent thought-provoking questions. Following successful completion of the course these officers are not only helping to make Dayton a safer place but in turn, all of Ohio, the United States, and across the globe, it's called the Global Nuclear Detection Architecture or GNDA.

Beaver Valley Power Station (BVPS) **Systems Training** was hosted by the Radiological Branch on Valentine's Day at the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). This training was conducted by Chris Dahs, from Energy Harbor Fleet Emergency Preparedness. As you can see from the picture below this was well attended training by partners from across the emergency preparedness and SEOC enterprise. Chris' training covered everything from reactor plant system basics to the emergency classification system. The Radiological Branch will host a similar training prior to the Perry Nuclear Power Plant (PNPP) dry run and exercise later this year. Special thanks to Energy Harbor and Chris Dahs for coming to Columbus and providing this training opportunity.



DISASTER RECOVERY BRANCH UPDATE

On January 19, 2024, Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro N. Mayorkas and FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell announced that FEMA is reforming its federal assistance policies and expanding benefits for disaster survivors to cut red tape, provide funds faster and give people more flexibility. With the increased frequency of extreme weather events fueled by climate change, these updates will provide survivors with faster and easier access to resources they need after disasters. FEMA developed these new forms of assistance based on direct feedback from survivors and in response to the threats the nation faces due to our changing climate; they will create more equitable outcomes for all communities by increasing accessibility and eligibility for post-disaster support. These changes will go into effect for new disasters declared on or after March 22, 2024.

To benefit survivors, FEMA will:

Establish new benefits that provide flexible funding directly to survivors when they need it most

- **Establishing Serious Needs Assistance:** FEMA is standardizing immediate financial support for survivors by replacing the Critical Needs Assistance program with a cash relief program called Serious Needs Assistance. Previously only provided based on a disaster-by-disaster evaluation, Serious Needs Assistance will now be available in all disasters receiving Individual Assistance. The payment of \$750 for households with serious needs will help cover immediate expenses related to sheltering, evacuation and meeting basic household needs. This payment would be in addition to other eligible assistance that may be provided to survivors based on their unique circumstances.
- **Establishing Displacement Assistance:** Recognizing the immediate housing needs for survivors after a disaster, FEMA is creating a new benefit called Displacement Assistance. This assistance is designed for survivors who cannot return to their home following a disaster and provides them with greater flexibility in making the best decision for their immediate housing needs. Displacement Assistance will provide eligible survivors with up-front funds to assist with immediate housing options of their choice, such as costs associated with staying with family and friends, until they are able to secure a rental option to focus on their long-term recovery.

Cut red tape and expand eligibility to reach more people and help them recover faster, while building back stronger

- **Removing Loan Application Requirements:** FEMA is removing the requirement that survivors apply for a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) loan before being considered for certain types of financial assistance. Previously, FEMA required survivors apply for these loans before receiving assistance for personal property and other non-housing losses. Survivors reported significant confusion that FEMA processes required they apply for a loan they did not want. This change will simplify the disaster assistance process and give survivors the ability to apply for help from FEMA and SBA at the same time.

Helping Under-insured Survivors: FEMA is streamlining insurance-related rules to help survivors who do not receive enough assistance from their insurance company to cover their rebuilding costs. Previously, if a survivor received \$42,500 from their insurance company (the 2024 maximum amount of money Congress authorizes FEMA to provide for repairs), a household was ineligible to receive additional assistance. It did not matter if the insurance payment would not cover all rebuilding costs or if the survivor had losses not covered by insurance. Under this amended approach, financial assistance is now available up to the \$42,500 cap, to cover costs not reimbursed by insurance including deductibles and under-insured losses.

- **Simplifying Assistance for Entrepreneurs:** FEMA is simplifying the process so entrepreneurs, gig workers and other self-employed individuals can more easily reopen their businesses after a disaster. Previously, FEMA required self-employed individuals to apply for an SBA disaster loan to cover all business losses. As a part of the new regulations, FEMA may provide self-employed survivors with some initial financial support to replace disaster-damaged tools and equipment, or other items required for a specific trade or profession. This assistance remains subject to the \$42,500 maximum cap above which SBA disaster loans will continue to provide additional federal support.
- **Expanding Habitability Criteria:** FEMA is simplifying its definition of “habitability” to broaden eligibility to include repairs to homes with pre-existing conditions. Previously, if a home had a leaky roof prior to a disaster, that area of the home would not qualify for FEMA supported repairs. These changes mean that survivors who need to fix a disaster-damaged home, may qualify for FEMA support, to include home repair regardless of pre-existing conditions, so the home is in a safe and sanitary condition. This change eliminates current limitations that home repair assistance will be provided only for components that ensure habitability and the requirement that components were functional pre-disaster. It also expands eligible hazard mitigation measures beyond essential components of a residence to include the prevention of future damage to any disaster-damaged part of the residence. Lastly, it confirms in regulation FEMA’s enhanced flexibility on documentation that will satisfy proof a residence is owner-occupied for those disaster survivors who do not hold formal title or lease.
- **Making Accessibility Improvements:** Survivors with disabilities can use FEMA funding to make certain accessibility improvements to homes damaged by a declared disaster. This change helps survivors with disabilities improve their living conditions by making their homes even more accessible than they were pre-disaster. Previously, FEMA could only help with accessibility items directly damaged by the disaster or that were not present before the disaster but are required due to a disaster-caused disability.

Simplify the application process to meet survivors’ individual needs and meet people where they are

- **Removing Barriers for Late Applicants:** Recognizing the challenges already confronting disaster survivors, those requesting approval for a late application no longer must provide documentation supporting the reason for their late application.
- **Streamlining Temporary Housing Assistance Applications:** FEMA is reducing documentation requirements for applicants seeking continued temporary housing assistance. Individual caseworkers will also engage closely with survivors who continue to request assistance to ensure applicants have support throughout their entire recovery process and have greater visibility on when their rental support will end.
- **Simplifying the Process for Appeals:** Survivors who wish to appeal FEMA’s decisions on their eligibility and will no longer need to provide a signed, written appeal letter to accompany the supporting documentation.

Storm Damage, Resilience & Partnerships (Laura Adcock, Ohio EMA) and County (Helen Norris, Logan Co. EMA) & CoCo, Delaware Co. 911 Therapy Dog



CERT

FY2024 CERT Train-the-Trainer Course Schedule

Prepare yourself to start or restart your community's CERT Basic Training courses next year! FEMA's Emergency Management Institute is offering CERT Train-the-Trainer courses throughout the rest of FY2024. These classes are available virtually and free of charge:

- July 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 2024 (1–5 p.m.)
- Sept 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 2024 (1–5 p.m.)

Each course offering meets 3 days per week for 4 hours each day for 2 consecutive weeks. Students must attend all sessions of their delivery. All class times are Eastern Time (ET). Class size is limited to 20 students. [Follow this link](#) for more information.

What can the Ohio CERT Coordinator do for me?

Looking to shield your program and volunteers against [liability](#) but need help registering with [ServeOhio Get Connected](#) and [FEMA](#)? Recognizing your people with certificates and, in exceptional cases, even [challenge coins](#)? Contact the Ohio CERT Coordinator at the number or email address below.

Other Training Opportunities

Ohio EMA offers a variety of emergency management and homeland security training and exercise programs free of charge throughout the state.

- [Available course offerings](#)
- [Current training policy and catalog](#)
- [Public Safety Training Campus](#)

Ohio CERT Coordinator

Hank Mylander
(614) 799-3654

dhmylander@dps.ohio.gov



MEET OUR NEWEST TEAM MEMBERS

JAKE BURGBACHER



Jake Burgbacher joined the Regional Operations Branch as a Specialist in the Northwest Region in early 2024. He studied public safety at Rhodes State College and comes from Hardin County where he previously served as an EMA Director and Deputy Sheriff.

He enjoys spending time with his wife, Heather, on their small hobby farm in rural Hardin County.

NOAH PORTER



Noah Porter joined the Regional Operations Branch as an EM Specialist in the Northeast Region in early 2024. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Akron and a master's degree from Arizona State University, both in Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

Noah comes to Ohio EMA from Tuscarawas County Homeland Security & Emergency Management Agency. He enjoys spending time outdoors with his two dogs Pepper and Barney.

NEIL YOCKEY



Neil joined the Ohio EMA SW Regional Operations Branch in January as an Emergency Management Specialist.

Neil previously worked for OSHP as a Vehicle Inspector and Dispatcher. He also has a background in Business Management, Fire & EMS, and as a Fireworks/Pyrotechnics.

He enjoys golfing, hiking, and camping. Neil has one adult daughter that resides in Chicago. He and his wife, Kelley, reside in Brown County.

MITIGATION

2024 STATE OF OHIO HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN Draft version now available for review and comment

The Ohio Emergency Management Agency recently posted the 2024 State of Ohio Hazard Mitigation Plan (SOHMP) draft for review and comment. The draft SOHMP contains information on natural hazards that could impact Ohio and the state's blueprint for reducing risk posed by those hazards.

The highest priority hazards in Ohio include: flooding, tornadoes, winter storms, landslides, dam/levee failure, wildfire, coastal flooding/seiche, earthquakes, coastal erosion, drought, severe summer storms, invasive species, extreme heat and land subsidence.

The plan identifies actions that State of Ohio will undertake to help protect people and property from natural hazards and their effects.

According to the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, all states must have a natural hazard mitigation plan approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in order to maintain eligibility for federal disaster assistance and mitigation funds. The State of Ohio Hazard Mitigation Plan was first approved by FEMA in 2005, and has been updated six times since the initial approval by FEMA. Federal regulations require that the plan be updated and approved by FEMA every five years.

Comments and/or questions must be submitted by 5 p.m. Friday, April 26, 2024.

Contact Steve Ferryman, Mitigation Branch Chief at saferryman@dps.ohio.gov or call 614-799-3539. For additional information on Ohio EMA's mitigation program and to view the State of Ohio Hazard Mitigation Plan draft click [here](#).

STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

Ohio EMA Participates in the Department of Defense's Toxic Buckeye Workshop

EOC Manager Mike Staff and Watch Officer Doug Potter attended the Toxic Buckeye workshop sponsored by the Department of Defense (DoD) at Battelle on February 28th. The scenario was a DoD helicopter carrying a chemical agent crashing at Battelle's West Jefferson facility. In addition to Ohio EMA, players included representatives from Battelle, NORTHCOM, 20th CBRNE Brigade, Ohio National Guard, FBI, US EPA, local first responders, Ohio Health, OSU Wexner, COTS, State Fire Marshall, ODOT and Ohio EPA.

This scenario is highly unlikely, but would have some unique ramification due to the controlled nature of the substance involved. The workshop examined operational communication needs between first responders, states and the Department of Defense. Prompt and accurate public information was identified as a key item for an effective response. This will be further developed in a JIC exercise over the summer. The workshop also examined site clean-up responsibilities, and medical treatment for exposed personnel. There will be a full-scale exercise in September on this scenario. No actual agent will be used in the full-scale exercise.

State Emergency Declarations

Declaration, proclamation, executive order? For purposes of a Governor's Emergency Declaration/Proclamation/Order it is not the name that matters, but the content. For purposes of this article, I will simply call it an emergency declaration. So what does an emergency declaration Declare? What does it Order? And what does it NOT do?

The response to most events can be handled at the local level, and even when state support is needed, this support is usually given within the State's existing authorities. A governor's emergency declaration is necessary when there is a need to utilize state personnel and/or resources outside of the normal scope of authority. A local declaration is not a requirement to obtaining a governor's declaration, and the governor has the ability to make a verbal emergency declaration that is effective immediately. In the event a verbal declaration is made, it will be followed up with a written declaration.

The first part of any emergency declaration is background information. It describes the events giving rise to emergency conditions, identifies the counties impacted by the event, and may address actions already taken by both state and local officials. The document will also include the Governor's legal authority to make the declaration. After the preliminary information has been addressed, the Governor actually declares a state of emergency for the counties specified in the declaration. From there declaration will include some or all of the following directives depending on the situation:

- Orders all state agencies to use their resources outside of their normal statutory authority to assist with response.
- May trigger individual state agency programs and authorities in addition to the general directive to assist with response.
- Authorizes the Department of Administrative Services to suspend state purchasing requirements for purposes of responding to the emergency in an expeditious manner.
- Activation of the Ohio National Guard.

Finally, while not something ordered by the governor, a gubernatorial emergency declaration is a necessary prerequisite if there is a need to use the Emergency Management Assistance Compact to obtain resources from another state.

It is also important to understand what a governor's emergency declaration DOES NOT DO. It does not commit or guarantee financial resources. Nor is it a requirement or prerequisite to obtain financial resources. The State of Ohio does have a State Disaster Relief Program which may be activated by the governor. However, this program is separate and distinct from an emergency declaration, and the opening of this program is not conditioned on an emergency declaration.

Further, the governor's declaration is not a prerequisite to obtaining a Presidential Emergency or Disaster Declaration.

Public Affairs

Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness Poster Recognizes Contest Winners

On March 22, the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness (OCSWA) hosted an award ceremony to celebrate seven Ohio students for their winning entries in the 2024 OCSWA Poster Contest.

Joined by many of our partners, contest winners, and their families, attendees listened to remarks by Ohio EMA leaders Director Merick and Assistant Director Kolcum, as well as the National Weather Service's Freddie Ziegler, and Tom Johnstone.

The seven winners were chosen out of over 500 students who participated in the contest this year; the criteria for the poster entries were based on creativity, spelling and grammar, and a positive message relating to Ohio weather. The winners received prizes supplied by our OCSWA partners including weather radios, smoke detectors, certificates, as well as trophies for their fantastic work.





OHIO EMA UPCOMING TRAINING

JANUARY 2024



TRAINING LINKS:

- [Ohio EMA Training Calendar](#)
- [Login or Create a New Account on the DPS Training Campus](#)

NOTE:

- Seats available listed are as of the release of this update & will change quickly.
- All classes will be posted on the DPS training campus at least 60 days prior to the start of the class.
- Please read the [Training Policy & Catalog](#) for more information on Ohio EMA trainings.

TRAINING POINTS OF CONTACT:

- **Lisa Jones:** (614) 799-3824 or ljones@dps.ohio.gov
 - EMI Training Applications & Courses
 - ICS 300 & 400 Classes
- **Emily Suezo:** (614) 799-3666 or elsuezo@dps.ohio.gov
 - National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC)
 - Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium (RDPC)
 - FEMA G Courses & Ohio OH Courses

| | | DATE(S) | Registration Open | # Seats Available |
|----|--|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | G-191 ICS/EOC Interface (Lorain) | April 22, 2024 | YES | 17 |
| 2 | G-400 Advanced ICS (Cuyahoga) | April 22-23, 2024 | YES | 7 |
| 3 | OH-386 Mass Fatalities (Jackson) | April 24-25, 2024 | YES | 11 |
| 4 | OH-139 Exercise & Design Evaluation (Ohio EMA) | April 24-26, 2024 | YES | 19 |
| 5 | G-400 Advanced ICS (Lake) | April 24-25, 2024 | YES | 8 |
| 6 | G-191 ICS/EOC Interface (Franklin) | April 25, 2024 | YES | 11 |
| 7 | G-300 Intermediate ICS (Summit) | April 29-May 1, 2024 | YES | 17 |
| 8 | OH-605 IA Damage Assessment Workshop (Delaware) | April 30, 2024 | YES | 12 |
| 9 | OH-607 Public Assistance Cost Documentation/Damage Assessment (Delaware) | April 30, 2024 | YES | 13 |
| 10 | G-235 Emergency Planning Course (Lorain) | May 1-2, 2024 | YES | 15 |
| 11 | G-300 Intermediate ICS (Medina) | May 6-8, 2024 | YES | 14 |
| 12 | OH-386 Mass Fatalities (Warren) | May 7-8, 2024 | YES | 17 |
| 13 | G-300 Intermediate ICS (Guernsey) | May 7-9, 2024 | YES | 14 |
| 14 | G-300 Intermediate ICS (Trumbull) | May 14-16, 2024 | YES | 22 |
| 15 | OH-139 Exercise & Design Evaluation (Lucas) | May 14-16, 2024 | YES | 21 |
| 16 | G-271 Hazardous Weather & Flooding Preparedness (Lake) | May 14-16, 2024 | YES | 20 |
| 17 | OH-289 PIO Awareness Course (Hocking) | May 15, 2024 | YES | 20 |

| | | | | |
|----|---|----------------------|-----|----|
| 18 | L-105 Public Information Basics (Cuyahoga) | May 15-17, 2024 | YES | 12 |
| 19 | G-141 Basic Instructional Skills (Franklin) | May 15-17, 2024 | YES | 15 |
| 20 | G-400 Advanced ICS (Ottawa) | May 18-19, 2024 | YES | 12 |
| 21 | OH-605 IA Damage Assessment Workshop (Virtual) | May 20, 2024 | YES | 5 |
| 22 | OH-607 Public Assistance Cost Documentation/Damage Assessment (Virtual) | May 21, 2024 | YES | 8 |
| 23 | G-400 Advanced ICS (Hamilton) | May 21-22, 2024 | YES | 5 |
| 24 | G-235 Emergency Planning Course (Ohio EMA) | May 21-22, 2024 | YES | 0 |
| 25 | G-2300 Intermediate EOC Functions (Pickaway) | May 27-29, 2024 | YES | 29 |
| 26 | MGT-477: Roles for State, Tribal, & Territorial Governments in the Implementation of Disaster Housing Programs (Ohio EMA) | May 28, 2024 | YES | 18 |
| 27 | L105 Public Information Basics (Lorain) | May 28-30, 2024 | YES | 26 |
| 28 | G-400 Advanced ICS (Summit) | June 3-4, 2024 | YES | 22 |
| 29 | G-400 Advanced ICS (Guernsey) | June 4-5, 2024 | YES | 17 |
| 30 | G-557 Rapid Assessment Planning (Ohio EMA) | June 5, 2024 | YES | 9 |
| 31 | OH-101 Developing & Maintaining EOP's (Franklin) | June 6, 2024 | YES | 17 |
| 32 | L-105 Public Information Basics (Summit) | June 10-12, 2024 | YES | 30 |
| 33 | G-300 Intermediate ICS (Knox) | June 10-12, 2024 | YES | 21 |
| 34 | G-386 Mass Fatalities (Franklin) | June 11-12, 2024 | YES | 30 |
| 35 | G-300 Intermediate ICS (Allen) | June 12-14, 2024 | YES | 27 |
| 36 | L-146 HSEEP (Franklin) | June 13-14, 2024 | YES | 21 |
| 37 | G-402 ICS for Executives (Virtual) | June 18, 2024 | YES | 28 |
| 38 | G-400 Advanced ICS (Medina) | June 20-21, 2024 | YES | 13 |
| 39 | G-2300 Intermediate EOC Functions (Lucas) | June 24-26, 2024 | YES | 30 |
| 40 | G-300 Intermediate ICS (Montgomery) | June 24-26, 2024 | YES | 9 |
| 41 | MGT-906 ICS Curricula, Train-the-Trainer (Franklin) | June 24-28, 2024 | YES | 6 |
| 42 | G-300 Intermediate ICS (Warren) | July 16-18, 2024 | YES | 12 |
| 43 | OH-202 Debris Management (Medina) | July 18, 2024 | YES | 30 |
| 44 | G-400 Advanced ICS (Allen) | July 18-19, 2024 | YES | 26 |
| 45 | G-191 ICS/EOC Interface (Fairfield) | July 25, 2024 | YES | 25 |
| 46 | G-557 Rapid Assessment Planning (Summit) | July 29, 2024 | YES | 30 |
| 47 | G-400 Advanced ICS (Montgomery) | July 29-30, 2024 | YES | 8 |
| 48 | G-2302 EOC Leaders Skillset (Pickaway) | July 29-Aug. 1, 2024 | NO | 30 |

Ohio EMA 2024 Spring Conference

Over 250 people attended the Ohio EMA Spring Conference on April 16 and 17.

The conference is designed with our public safety partners in mind; it features presentations, guest speakers, and great opportunities for our partners to network.

Kicking off the conference, Ohio EMA Director Sima Merick provided opening remarks followed by Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Andy Wilson, with Sandy Mackey as the conference emcee.

Day one also included updates from FEMA Region 5, and was followed up by a presentation on the History of Violent Tornadoes in Ohio & a Look Ahead at the Future of Tornado Forecasting by The National Weather Service. Closing out the first day was a presentation by the Ohio State Highway Patrol Public Affairs Unit on integrating social media into emergency management.

Day two was a full day of presentations and panels, including discussions on building a cyber-secured Ohio, artificial intelligence (AI), energy substation attacks, mass casualty patient-tracking resources, and the Maui wildfire emergency response.

All panels featured subject-matter experts; they were well-received by the attendees and spurred interesting conversation.

Overall, the 2024 Spring Conference was a successful event filled with exciting ideas and constructive discussions.



Eclipse Day in the EOC

How about that eclipse? Ohio was a destination location for many visitors from across the United States who wanted to view this spectacular event.

On Monday, April 8, the planning, dedication, and hard work of hundreds of State Employees and partners paid off as Ohio residents and visitors were able to safely enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime event; this was due in part to the planning, coordination, and messaging.

“We usually don’t have this much notice for a large-scale event, but the eclipse has been 200 years in the making,” said Executive Director Sima Merick, Ohio Emergency Management Agency. “So that helped make our jobs a little easier.”

The Ohio EMA started planning for this event in 2021 with our federal, state, local, partners. The coordinated planning efforts and public messaging played a large role in ensuring the safety of Ohioans and visitors.

The Ohio Emergency Operations Center and Joint Information Center were activated the weekend leading up to the eclipse, with EOC staff monitoring activities across the state to include traffic cameras, weather, and regional staff reports.

As communications are critically important to any large event, specific eclipse safety messaging was created in coordination with our traffic partners at the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Ohio Department of Transportation, and the Ohio Turnpike. The messages were designed to share safety and preparedness tips for Ohioans and visitors coming to the state.

The event went smoothly. We could not have asked for better weather, and while there were plenty of motorist on the roads, the day went well. Our thanks to our partners and Ohioans for making this a great and memorable event!



Ohio Emergency Management Agency

2855 W. Dublin Granville Rd. Columbus, Ohio

