

FCEM&HS Newsletter

Winter Safety Awareness Week is November 16-22, 2014

[Details](#)



OHIO
Michael R. Pannell, Director

Central Ohio Cybersecurity Initiative

The first work group meeting of the Central Ohio Cybersecurity Initiative was held on October 14, 2014 at FCEM&HS. Columbia Gas President Jack Partridge, Franklin County Commissioner Paula Brooks, Columbus City Councilmember Zach Klein joined over 60 participants from local, state and federal government as well as business leaders from higher education, utility and financial industries to discuss the importance of a public/private partnership to increase regional preparedness. The facilitated discussion raised important concerns about what capabilities are available for response to a cyber attack. The work group will be charged with defining its mission, vision and goals as well as the scope of the initiative during its next meeting in January 2015.

2014 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Grants

FCEM&HS was awarded nearly \$845,000 in State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) funding from the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA). The grant program was competitive and projects had to focus entirely on regional capabilities that can be made available to the region, state and nation as needed. FCEM&HS submitted applications from throughout the county totaling over \$1 million and received 73% of the requested funds. This is a 143% increase in funding from 2013. See the approved projects in the [news release](#).

Ebola Response

The 2014 Ebola outbreak is the largest in history, affecting multiple countries in West Africa. Although at this time, there are no confirmed cases of Ebola in Ohio, FCEM&HS increased its posture to Crisis Action System Level 1 (CAS - 1) for increased monitoring. FCEM&HS received a formal request from Columbus Public Health (CPH) and Franklin County Public Health (FCPH) to assist in the Ebola response by coordinating ESF activities and publishing weekly Situation Reports (SitReps) to maintain a common operational picture. FCEM&HS was also asked to develop a subset of an Isolation and Quarantine Plan, specifically sheltering individuals being monitored by Health.

FCEM&HS Honors Jerry Pettit for 25 Years of Service to Chemical Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council (CEPAC)

FCEM&HS Director Michael R. Pannell honored Jerry Pettit for his 25 years of outstanding service and dedication to the Chemical Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council (CEPAC) during his final CEPAC Advisory Council Meeting on October 31, 2014. FCEM&HS wishes Jerry a very happy retirement and best of luck in the future!

To remove your name from our newsletter mailing list or if you have a question or comment, email us at fcemhs@franklincountyohio.gov or call 614-794-0213. Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security, a local government agency, coordinates county-wide emergency/disaster planning,

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FCEM&HS

Michael R. Pannell, Director
5300 Strawberry Farms Blvd.
Columbus, OH 43230-1049
Phone 614-794-0213
Fax 614-882-3209

On the Web: www.fcemhs.org

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