

# News from Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security

## FCEM&HS Newsletter

September is National Preparedness Month

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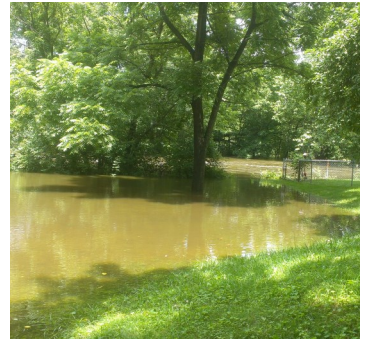
### Gould Park Flooding Response - Red, White & Boom! 2014

On June 25, 2014, Gould Park in Columbus and other flood prone areas of Franklin County experienced localized flooding after Central Ohio experienced a large amount of rainfall. Flood Advisories were issued. FCEM&HS activated the Joint Emergency Operations Center (JEOC) and worked with local partners to assess and monitor the situation. FCEM&HS remained in constant contact with officials from Columbus, Gahanna and Whitehall who were impacted by flooding as well as Columbus Department of Public Utilities (DPU) regarding the necessity of a controlled release at Hoover Dam. FCEM&HS alerted Gould Park residents to seek higher ground as flooding was imminent through Code Red (Reverse 911 system) and voice messages through the outdoor warning siren in the area. FCEM&HS developed a programmed evacuation plan to be utilized if it became necessary to evacuate Gould Park.

FCEM&HS activated the JEOC for Red White & Boom! 2014, the largest single-day event in the City of Columbus & Franklin County. FCEM&HS missions were to increase situational awareness and establish a common operational picture, prepare for emergency notification through the outdoor warning system, increase surveillance for severe weather and assist jurisdictions

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### FCEM&HS Mass Notification System for Franklin County

FCEM&HS and Battelle Memorial Institute conducted a needs assessment and system specifications study through surveys and in-person forums to support the development of a unified, comprehensive mass notification system for all 42 jurisdictions of Franklin County. Results showed 91% of the public and 88% of the participating jurisdictions surveyed feel a mass notification system is important for Franklin County and 90% of the public and 93% of the jurisdictions prefer text messaging as the primary means of mass notification. FCEM&HS and a committee reviewed results of the assessment study, vetted the specifications and are formulating the request for proposal. FCEM&HS hopes to implement the new system by the end of 2014.



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### CyberSecurity Initiative

Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security (FCEM&HS) is serving as the lead agency for the development of a regional Cybersecurity Work Group. Due to the ever increasing threat against Cyber infrastructure, the development of a regional work group is vital to regional preparedness. FCEM&HS will host the First Cybersecurity Work Group during Cybersecurity Awareness Month in October 2014. The threat of Cyberterrorism is increasing at alarming rates and has become the most important risk facing our society. FCEM&HS received funding for the Cybersecurity Initiative through the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and will result in the development of a Cybersecurity Guide.

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