

# FCEM&HS Newsletter

**2014 Spring Issue**



## NWS Annual Severe Weather Spotter Training March 1

February 2014

The National Weather Service (NWS) depends in part on eyewitness information from citizens, public safety and emergency management personnel trained to recognize and report potentially life-threatening severe weather conditions. NWS will lead a half-day seminar on March 1 at OSU, teaching over a 300 trainees how to spot, report, and prepare for tornadoes and other severe weather. OSU Emergency Management will co-sponsor the event with FCEM&HS and NWS. To register visit [www.fcemhs.org](http://www.fcemhs.org) and click [Register for the 2014 Weather Spotter Training](#) until February 21st.



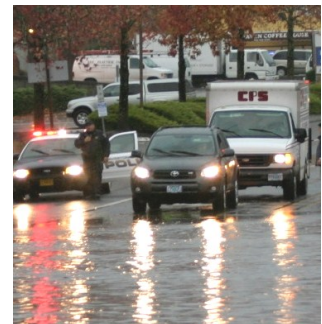
## Ohio's Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week March 2-8

With the spring season comes the possibility of flooding, severe thunderstorms and tornadoes, with associated hazards such as hail, high winds, lightning strikes, and power outages. Planning ahead, knowing how to communicate, organizing a disaster kit and practicing safety drills are key to handling fast developing spring storms and minimizing injury and property damage. For more information and preparedness tips on these spring hazards and additional risks for Franklin County visit [Emergency Preparedness Tips](#) on our website.



## Annual Statewide Tornado Drill is March 5 at 9:50 a.m.

FCEMHS is urging the community to participate in the annual Statewide Tornado Drill at 9:50 a.m. on Wednesday, March 5, when the Franklin County Outdoor Warning Siren system will be activated for a longer tone (three minutes) than in the regular Wednesday noon tests. Designing and exercising a tornado safety plan for your home or establishment will help you respond safely in a real event. FCEM&HS is reaching out directly to more than 1,800 area schools, businesses and agencies to urge them to participate in the statewide tornado drill March 5 and complete an [online survey](#) about their participation. Visit [www.fcemhs.org](http://www.fcemhs.org) for more information.



## National Flood Safety Awareness Week March 16-22

Flooding continues to be a significant weather-related hazard in Central Ohio and can be deceptively dangerous. Cars can become buoyant in only 2 feet of water, and the force of 6 inches of swiftly moving water can knock adults off their feet. During National Flood Safety Awareness Week, FCEM&HS reminds residents to never attempt to drive or walk through flood waters. The best protection during a flood is to leave the area and seek shelter on higher ground. [Click here](#) for more information on flooding and flood safety tips.

### FCEM&HS

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