# News from Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security

# FCEM&HS Report

#### SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

More Details Here and Here



OHIO Michael R. Pannell, Director

#### September 8, 2010



### FCEM&HS Selected for Homeland Security Pilot Program

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has selected FCEM&HS as one of a handful of emergency management and homeland security agencies nationwide for participation in the new Risk Management and Analysis Technical Assistance Pilot Program.

Experts from the DHS Office of Risk Management & Analysis will travel to Franklin County in late September to meet with FCEM&HS officials about the program, which will provide technical assistance to build capabilities for risk-based emergency planning by jurisdictions and agencies countywide.

The selection was a direct result of the 2010 update of the <u>Franklin</u> County Risk Assessment update, released to the public in May.

#### **Interoperable Emergency Communications Exercise**

FCEM&HS and other local emergency response agencies will conduct a full-scale Interoperable Emergency Communications Exercise on Sept. 28, simulating a terrorist attack on Central Ohio and serious damage to the Franklin County Emergency Operations Center and its communications equipment.

The half-day exercise will test Franklin County's emergency operations plans and procedures in such a scenario, with communications specialists and other participants practicing how they would respond to an incident requiring seamless interoperable communications. FCEM&HS will evaluate the exercise, funded by FY09 Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant to the agency.



**More Details** 



#### More Details

## **Hazardous Materials Commodity Flow Study**

FCEM&HS, working with the University of Findlay's All Hazards Training Center, will publish and distribute a report in September outlining the types and amounts of hazardous materials that enter and exit Franklin County via road and rail transportation.

The report will include a Top Ten Case Study based on the products and situations that would likely pose the greatest risks to residents and first responders in Franklin County. Also included will be recommendations on actions Franklin County may take to mitigate the effects of an actual event.

#### **FEMA Grant to Help Update Hazard Mitigation Plan**

FCEM&HS has secured a \$58,664 competitive federal grant to update a countywide hazard mitigation plan. The federally required project is expected to be completed next year, months before the February 2012 deadline.

The agency expects to work with all 42 local government jurisdictions on the project. Updating the plan is a precondition for future FEMA funding assistance for participating local jurisdictions' hazard mitigation projects. The update will be the first since the original countywide hazard mitigation plan was put in place in Franklin County five years ago.

#### **More Details**

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Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security, a local government agency, coordinates county-wide emergency/disaster planning, education, warning, response and recovery.

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