News from Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security

FCEM&HS Report

SEVERE SPRING WEATHER ISSUE

Flood Safety Awareness Week March 14-18
Click for Flood Safety Tips

March 2011

Severe Spring Weather Awareness Week March 20-26

To raise awareness in March of dangerous spring weather hazards, FCEMHS activities this month include co-hosting a day of severe weather spotter training and personally urging businesses, schools and agencies across the county to participate in a statewide tornado drill. Plus, Clear Channel Outdoor, an emergency partner of FCEM&HS, will display weather-safety billboard messages to thousands of Central Ohio motorists. Click for more on tornado safety and thunderstorm safety.

Statewide Tornado Drill is 9:50 a.m. March 23

FCEMHS is urging the community to participate in a Statewide Tornado Drill at 9:50 a.m. Wednesday, March 23, when the Franklin County Outdoor Warning Siren System will be activated. Tornadoes can strike anytime; there have been 27 tornadoes in Franklin County since 1950. Designing a tornado safety plan for your establishment will help you respond safely in a real event. FCEM&HS is reaching out directly to more than 1,000 area businesses, schools and agencies to urge them to join in the drill and share their results in an online survey. Click for drill participation details and preparedness tips.

OSU Co-Hosts Annual NWS Weather Spotter Training

The National Weather Service 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 led a half-day seminar on this on March 5 at OSU, teaching 166 trainees how to spot, report, and prepare for tornadoes and other severe weather. OSU Emergency Management co-sponsored the event with FCEM&HS and NWS.

Pannell Selected for Executive Leaders Program

FCEM&HS Director Michael R. Pannell has been selected for enrollment in the elite Homeland Security Executive Leaders Program (ELP) at the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security in Monterey, California. The nine-month program is conducted in four week-long modules of intensive classroom work. ELP teaches leaders in homeland security nationwide the strategies, policies, and organizational elements needed to defeat terrorism in the U.S. Details here.

FCEM&HS

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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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