

News from Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security

FCEM&HS Newsletter

Ohio's Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week March 19 - 25, 2017

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FCEM&HS Welcomes Director Jeffrey J. Young



FCEM&HS welcomes Jeffrey J. Young as the new Director of Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security (FCEM&HS)! Director Young was appointed by the FCEM&HS Executive Committee on October 13, 2016. He brings a history of steady leadership and extensive experience in public safety including preparing for and responding to a wide range of local and national disasters to the agency.

After serving in the U.S. Navy, Director Young began a career with the Upper Arlington Fire Division in 1988. He worked his way up through the division's ranks and in 2010 was selected to serve as Fire Chief of Upper Arlington Fire until his retirement on October 28, 2016.

During the course of his fire service career, Director Young served as a certified Paramedic, Rescue and Hazmat Technician. He was a member of the Ohio Task Force 1 from 1996-2002, an affiliate task force for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). He is a founding member of the Central Ohio Strike Team, an Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team for the Ohio Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Region 4 and all of Ohio.

During his time as Fire Chief, Director Young established positive relationships with numerous representatives of Central Ohio agencies and gained a keen understanding of what it takes to successfully provide emergency notification and response coordination and support to agencies within the County. He has a strong belief in developing and maintaining solid working relationships with all jurisdictions and partner agencies that serve the residents of Central Ohio. As part of those working relationships, Director Young serves as a committee member of the Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC), InfraGard, the Central Ohio Trauma System (COTS) as well as the Chemical Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council (CEPAC) and provides monthly updates during the Franklin County Chiefs of Police and Franklin County Fire Chiefs meetings. In addition, he serves on The Ohio Cyber Collaboration Committee (OC3).

Grove City Hosts January 2017 Executive Committee Meeting

FCEM&HS would like to thank Mayor Ike Stage and Grove City for hosting the January 2017 meeting of the FCEM&HS Executive Committee. The meeting was held on January 18, 2017 at the new Grove City Library. During the meeting, the Executive Committee unanimously elected Grove City Deputy City Administrator/Safety Director William F. Vedra, Jr., Chairperson of the FCEM&HS Executive Committee and Westerville City Manager David A. Collinworth Vice Chairperson.

Vedra has served as Grove City Mayor Ike Stage's representative for the Executive Committee since 2012. He was appointed Vice Chair in 2015 and was named Chair in April of 2016. Collinworth was appointed by the Franklin County Advisory Committee on March 10, 2016 and fulfilled the duties of Vice Chair.



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2017 Statewide Tornado Drill



FCEM&HS is urging the community to participate in a Statewide Tornado Drill at 9:50 a.m. this Wednesday, March 22, 2017 when the Franklin County Outdoor Warning Siren System will be activated. The sirens will be activated one time for three minutes – a longer tone than in the regular Wednesday noon tests. The test tone will be the same “tornado warning” tone which would be used in an actual tornado warning.

The 9:50 a.m. March 22nd siren activation will be in place of the regular weekly Wednesday noon test of the Franklin County Outdoor Warning Siren System.

Tornadoes are nature's most violent windstorms and are the number one risk for Franklin County. Designing and exercising a plan will help residents respond safely in a real event.

For instructions on how to join in the tornado drill [click here](#). An online participation survey can be accessed at www.fcemhs.org by clicking on [Statewide Tornado Drill Participation Survey](#).

The drill is part of Ohio's Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week, March 19th-25th, to remind the public that with spring comes the possibility of tornadoes, thunderstorms, floods, hail, lightning and power outages.

News from Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security



2016 Franklin County Risk Assessment

In an effort to minimize the adverse impact of disasters on people and property in Franklin County, FCEM&HS recently updated the Franklin County Risk Assessment.

The 2016 Franklin County Risk Assessment is a detailed study of the hazards most likely to impact Franklin County. Nineteen threats and hazards – dangerous events such as winter storms, floods and terrorist attacks – were analyzed and ranked according to the potential risk they pose. The assessment of the community's threats, hazards, and risks provides the basis for planning and implementing measures to reduce the negative consequences of a disaster or catastrophic event by strengthening the community's prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery capabilities.

Below are the 19 hazards listed according to their rankings; the lower the numerical ranking, the higher the hazard's likelihood and potential impact on Franklin County:

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|--|---|
| 1. Tornadoes | 10. Hazardous Materials Incidents |
| 2. Cyber Threat | 11. Civil Disturbance |
| 3. Infectious Disease | 12. Severe Summer Weather |
| 4. Flooding | 13. Transportation Accident- Aircraft |
| 5. Lone Wolf Terrorist Attack | 14. Space Weather |
| 6. Dam Failure | 15. Extreme Heat |
| 7. Utility/Energy Interruption or Failure | 16. Earthquakes |
| 8. Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear or Explosive (CBRNE) Terrorist Incident | 17. Invasive Species |
| 9. Severe Winter Weather | 18. Air &Water Pollution/ Contamination |
| | 19. Drought |

For a summary of the methodology used to complete the Risk Assessment as well as specific details on each hazard addressed, see the 2016 Franklin County Risk Assessment Executive Summary, available on our website at <http://fcemhs.com/Planning/FranklinCountyRiskAssessment.aspx>.

The project was funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Fiscal Year 2013 Pre-Disaster Mitigation funds administered through the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA).

Ohio's Severe Weather Awareness Week - March 19 - 25, 2017

To raise awareness of the hazardous side of spring weather, Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security (FCEM&HS) will recognize Ohio's Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week and Flood Safety Awareness Week, March 19 – 25, 2017. Residents are reminded to prepare for severe weather before it happens. Hazardous conditions can occur anytime and anywhere without advance notice.

As part of Severe Weather Awareness Week, FCEM&HS & The Ohio State University Emergency Management will host the annual Severe Weather Spotter Training by the National Weather Service (NWS) on Saturday, March 25, 2017 at The Fawcett Center, 2400 Olentangy River Road, Columbus. The training and parking are free and open to the public.

The seminar, led by meteorologists from the NWS office in Wilmington, Ohio, will provide specialized training on how to spot, report and prepare for tornadoes as well as other severe spring weather conditions in Franklin County. Trainees will be provided with the basic tools needed to become a severe weather spotter and assist NWS forecasters with the information necessary to issue warnings and updates. Deadline to register for the seminar is close of business Friday, March 17, 2017. Residents interested in the training can register on our website at www.fcemhs.org: Click link titled "[Register for the 2017 Weather Spotter Training](#)".

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.

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Chris Williams
FCEM&HS Operations Resource Manager

Operations Resource Manager

To better serve the citizens and all 42 jurisdictions in Franklin County, FCEM&HS has named Chris Williams as the agency's new Operations Resource Manager. The position was recently reclassified from the Volunteer Coordinator position.

The Operations Resource Manager will focus on developing and maintaining a county-wide disaster resource list associated with Emergency Support Functions. This position will be responsible for developing procedures for coordinating and distributing resources as needed due to a natural or man-made disaster. In addition, the Operations Resource Manager will organize and oversee the FC CERT and Citizen Corp programs.

FCEM&HS

Jeffrey J. Young, Director
5300 Strawberry Farms Blvd.
Columbus, OH 43230-1049
Phone 614-794-0213
Fax 614-882-3209

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