

FCEM&HS Report

Spring Severe Weather Issue



March 2012

OSU Co-Hosts NWS Weather Spotter Training March 3

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 3 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.



National Flood Safety Awareness Week March 12-16

Floods are the No. 1 weather-related hazard in Central Ohio and are 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, Clear Channel Outdoor will donate digital highway billboards across Franklin County with the cautionary message, "Turn around, don't drown." Visit our agency's web page on [flood safety](#).



Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week March 25-31

With the spring season comes the possibility of severe thunderstorms and tornadoes, with associated hazards such as hail, high winds, lightning strikes, and power outages. Planning ahead is key to handling fast developing spring storms and minimizing injury and property damage. Clear Channel Outdoor will again donate billboards countywide with public service messages on this topic. Click for more on [tornado safety](#) and [thunderstorm safety](#).



Statewide Tornado Drill is 9:50 a.m. March 28

FCEMHS is urging the community to participate in a Statewide Tornado Drill at 9:50 a.m. Wednesday, March 28, when the Franklin County Outdoor Warning Siren system will be activated with a longer tone (three minutes) than in the regular Wednesday noontime tests. Designing 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 1,300 area businesses, schools and agencies with [instructions on how to join in the drill](#) and share their results in the [2012 online Statewide Tornado Drill Survey](#).

FCEM&HS

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