

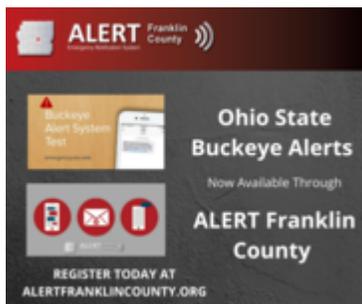
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The Preparedness Post

August 2018

## Buckeye Alerts Available Through ALERT Franklin County



Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security (FCEM&HS) and The Ohio State University are joining together to better inform the public and enhance safety by integrating the Buckeye Alert System and ALERT Franklin County. Through this collaboration, citizens that previously could not sign up to receive Buckeye Alerts now have the option to receive Ohio State's emergency notifications via ALERT Franklin County.

ALERT Franklin County is a county-wide mass notification and warning system used to warn residents about emergencies and community news in jurisdictions throughout Franklin County. The system is customizable and allows residents to choose the alerts they want to receive and how they want to receive them.

The Buckeye Alert System is an emergency notification system used by Ohio State's Department of Public Safety when it is determined that its campus community needs to take immediate action to remain safe. Alerts are often sent via text message and signing up is mostly limited to the university's students, faculty and staff.

Citizens can elect to receive Buckeye Alerts when selecting their alert subscriptions after registering in ALERT Franklin County at [alertfranklincounty.org](http://alertfranklincounty.org). Citizens who are already registered and would like to receive Buckeye Alerts can do so by updating their subscription selections in their profile.

## September is National Preparedness Month

September is National Preparedness Month (NPM) and Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security (FCEM&HS) encourages residents to take action to prepare, now and throughout the year, for all hazards and emergencies that could happen anytime and anywhere without advance notice.

This year's theme is "Disasters Happen. Prepare Now. Learn How." The campaign emphasizes the need for all residents to know how to respond and what to do should disaster strike. Residents are advised to have a plan that includes pets, build an emergency supply kit for all family members, learn lifesaving skills - such as CPR and first aid, be informed about the hazards facing Franklin County, review insurance coverage, consider costs associated with a disaster and save for an emergency. Citizens are encouraged to register for Alert Franklin County at [www.alertfranklincounty.org](http://www.alertfranklincounty.org) to receive emergency information and weather alerts on their smart and mobile devices.



Throughout National Preparedness Month, FCEM&HS will feature a different preparedness theme each week on Facebook and Twitter. Weekly themes include:

- Make and Practice Your Plan
- Learn Life Saving Skills
- Check Your Insurance Coverage
- Save for an Emergency

For more information on National Preparedness Month and how to prepare, visit our website at [www.fcemhs.org](http://www.fcemhs.org) or [www.ready.gov/september](http://www.ready.gov/september)

## Franklin County Receives StormReady Recertification



The National Weather Service in Wilmington has recertified Franklin County as a StormReady® Community.

StormReady® is a “grass roots” program sponsored by NOAA’s National Weather Service that focuses on improving communication and severe weather preparedness in communities. The program provides communities with the skills and education to survive severe weather – before and during the event. StormReady® communities are better prepared to save lives from the onslaught of severe weather through advanced planning, education and awareness.

To become StormReady a community or county must:

- Establish a 24-hour warning point & emergency operations center.
- Have several ways to receive forecasts & weather warnings to alert the public.
- Create a system that monitors weather conditions locally.
- Promote the importance of public readiness through community seminars.
- Develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes severe weather spotter training and holding an emergency exercise.

Franklin County’s StormReady designation was originally obtained in 2015 and has been extended for another three years until 2021.

## The Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drill is October 18th

FCEM&HS is urging the community to join millions of people who will [Drop, Cover, and Hold On](#) at 10:18 a.m. on October 18, 2018 in the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut Earthquake Drill.

Although Franklin County has a low probability for earthquakes and no damage has been reported, earthquake movement has been felt locally from incidents in other parts of Ohio. Earthquakes strike without any warning, allowing no time for preparation or evacuation.



Earthquakes can happen anywhere you live, work, attend school or travel. The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut provides the perfect opportunity to practice how to protect ourselves and become prepared. The recommend safety action should an earthquake occur is to [Drop, Cover, and Hold On](#).

During an earthquake, residents should **Drop** to the ground, take **Cover** under a sturdy table or desk if possible to protect your head and neck and **Hold On** until the shaking stops.

[Click here](#) for more information and how to participate in the 2018 Great Central U.S. ShakeOut.

Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security fosters non-political cooperation and coordinates all-hazards emergency/disaster planning, education, warning, response and recovery efforts for the 42 local government jurisdictions of Franklin County.

Stay connected with Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security:



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