



# Welcome

- ▶ Getting to know the Emergency Management Agency in your County
- ▶ What do they do?
- ▶ How are they funded?

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**Director**

# What is Emergency Management?

- **Emergency Management:** (also disaster management) is a science and a system charged with creating the framework within which communities reduce vulnerability to hazards and cope with disasters



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# A few ways to organize



- ▶ A County EMA that is governed by an advisory board
- ▶ Section 5502.26
- ▶ A representative from each political subdivision entering into the agreement, selected by the political subdivision's chief executive, shall constitute a countywide advisory group for the purpose of appointing an executive committee under this section through which the countywide agency shall implement emergency management in the county in accordance with this section and for the purpose of advising the executive committee on matters pertaining to countywide emergency management. The executive committee shall consist of at least the following seven members: one county commissioner representing the board of county commissioners entering into the agreement; five chief executives representing the municipal corporations and townships entering into the agreement; and one nonelected representative. The countywide agreement shall specify how many additional members, if any, shall serve on the executive committee and their manner of selection.

# A few ways to organize



- ▶ A regional EMA that is governed by an advisory board
- ▶ In lieu of establishing a countywide emergency management agency under section 5502.26 of the Revised Code, the boards of county commissioners of two or more counties, with the consent of the chief executives of a majority of the participating political subdivisions of each county involved, may enter into a written agreement establishing a regional authority for emergency management.

# A few ways to organize



- ▶ An Emergency Management Agency under the County Commissioners organization

# Reach out!



- ▶ If you're not familiar with your County EMA, reach out and schedule a visit! The first time you meet them shouldn't be during a time of disaster.

# Duties



- ▶ The director/coordinator of emergency management shall be responsible for coordinating, organizing, administering, and operating emergency management
- ▶ (a very broad definition, lets break this down)

# Duties



- ▶ measures to be taken during a hazard, including all the following:
  - ▶ The evacuation of personnel to shelter areas;
  - ▶ The control of traffic and panic situations;
  - ▶ The control and use of emergency communications, lighting, and warning equipment and systems.



# Duties



- ▶ Those measures to be taken after a hazard has occurred, including all the following:
  - ▶ (a) Activities necessary for firefighting, rescue, emergency, medical, health, and sanitation services;
  - ▶ (b) Monitoring for secondary hazards that could be caused from the initiating event;
  - ▶ (c) Damage assessment and disaster analysis operations;

# Duties



- ▶ (d) Coordination of disaster assistance programs;
- ▶ (e) Monitoring for effects from weapons;
- ▶ (f) Unexploded bomb reconnaissance;
- ▶ (g) Essential debris clearance;

# Duties



- ▶ (h) Decontamination operations;
- ▶ (i) Documentation of operations and financial expenses;
- ▶ (j) Resource control;
- ▶ (k) Any other activities that may be necessary for survival and the overall health, safety, and welfare of the civilian population.

# Duties



"Emergency management" includes all emergency preparedness and civil defense activities and measures, whether or not mentioned or described in sections 5502.21 to 5502.51 of the Revised Code, that are designed or undertaken to minimize the effects upon the civilian population caused or that could be caused by any hazard and that are necessary to address mitigation, emergency preparedness, response, and recovery.

# Duties



"Emergency preparedness" is an integral part of emergency management that includes those activities and measures designed or undertaken in preparation for any hazard, including, but not limited to, natural disasters and hazards involving hazardous materials or radiological materials, and that will enhance the probability for preservation of life, property, and the environment.

# "Emergency preparedness" includes

- ▶ The development of necessary plans and standard operating procedures for mitigation, preparation, response, and recovery purposes, including, without limitation, the development of supporting agreements and memorandums of understanding;
- ▶ Hazard identification;

# "Emergency preparedness" includes

- ▶ Capability assessment;
- ▶ The recruitment, retention, and training of personnel;
- ▶ The development, printing, and distribution of emergency public information, education, and training materials and programs;

# "Emergency preparedness" includes

- ▶ The necessary conduct of research;
- ▶ The development of resource inventories;
- ▶ The procurement and stockpiling of equipment, food, water, medical supplies, and any other supplies necessary for survival and for the public health, safety, and welfare;



# "Emergency preparedness" includes

- ▶ The development and construction of public shelter facilities and shelter spaces;
- ▶ The development and construction of emergency operations centers for the conduct and support of coordination, direction, and control activities;
- ▶ When appropriate and considered necessary, the nonmilitary evacuation or temporary relocation of the civilian population.

# Funding

- Two State Grants make up the large percentage of funding
  - EMPG 50/50 matching
  - SERC flat stipend

# What is an Emergency?

- **Emergency:** Any incident, whether natural, technological, or human-caused, that requires responsive action to protect life or property.
  - **Smaller Scale incidents typically resolved with local resources**
- **Disaster:** An occurrence of a natural catastrophe, technological accident, or human-caused event that has resulted in severe property damage, deaths, and/or multiple injuries.
  - **Larger Scale, can cross geographic or jurisdictional boundaries, prolonged sustained events, requires additional resources**

# What are Declarations?

- There are two types of declarations: **Emergency Declarations and Major Disaster Declarations**. Both declaration types authorize supplemental disaster assistance. However, the events related to the two different types of declaration and scope and amount of assistance differ.
- Declarations can be for **Individual Assistance (IA)**, which provides grants and other aid to households, and **Public Assistance (PA)**, which provides grants to state, county and municipal governments.



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# How Does it Work

## 5 Phases of Emergency Management



# Prevention/Mitigation

- **Prevention focuses on preventing human hazards, primarily from potential natural disasters or terrorist (both physical and biological) attacks.** Preventive measures are designed to provide more permanent protection from disasters; however, not all disasters can be prevented. The risk of loss of life and injury can be limited with good evacuation plans, environmental planning and design standards.
- **Mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters and emergencies.** Mitigation involves structural and non-structural measures taken to limit the impact of disasters and emergencies. Structural mitigation actions change the characteristics of buildings or the environment; examples include flood control projects, raising building elevations, and clearing areas around structures. Non-structural mitigation most often entails adopting or changing building codes.

# Prevention/Mitigation

- National Flood Insurance Program
- Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan
- Citizen Education
- Back-Up Generators for Critical Facilities
- Data Sharing between Government Agencies
- Flood/Earthquake Insurance Program and Education
- Risk Analysis
- Vulnerability Assessment
- Multi-Use Tornado Shelters
- Building Codes

# Response

- Response is comprised of the coordination and management of resources (including personnel, equipment, and supplies) utilizing the Incident Command System in an all-hazards approach; and measures taken for life/property/environmental safety. **The response phase is a reaction to the occurrence of a catastrophic disaster or emergency.**



# Response

- Emergency Notification (WENS)
- MCI Trailer
- Hazmat Spill Trailer
- Portable Generator Trailer
- Portable Scene Lighting
- Technical Rescue Response
- Confined Space Response
- UAS “Drone” Team
- EOC Activation

# Recovery

- Recovery consists of those activities that continue beyond the emergency period to restore critical community functions and begin to manage stabilization efforts. The recovery phase begins immediately after the threat to human life has subsided. **The goal of the recovery phase is to bring the affected area back to some degree of normalcy.**

# Recovery

- Short-Term Recovery
  - Essential and Immediate needs
- Long-term Recovery
  - Specialized Assistance, Rebuilding and Restoration
- Disaster Assistance
  - Potable Water, Ice, Heat/AC, Food, Funding, etc.
- Utility Restoration
- Temporary Sheltering
- Critical Incident Stress Debriefing/ Management
- Debris Clearance and Removal
- Job Assistance and Small Business Loans

# Preparedness



- **Preparedness is a continuous cycle of planning, organizing, training, equipping, exercising, evaluating, and taking corrective action.** Training and exercising plans is the cornerstone of preparedness which focuses on readiness to respond to all-hazards incidents and emergencies.

# Preparedness

- Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)
- Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Chemical Response/ Hazardous Materials Plan
- Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP)
- Radiological Emergency Response Plan (RERP)
- SOGs/SOPs
- Emergency Management Training Programs (ICS Classes)
- PNPP Comprehensive Training Program (CTP)
- HazMat Training
- Sky Warn
- LEPC
- Amateur Radio (GARA)
- Public Education and Outreach Programs
- Grant Funding/ Coordination
- Tabletop Exercises
- Full-Scale Exercises

# What is the Emergency Operations Center?

- **The emergency operations center (EOC) is the central location from which all off-scene activities are coordinated.** Senior elected and appointed officials are located at the EOC, as well as personnel supporting critical functions, such as operations, planning, logistics, and finance and administration. The key function of EOC personnel is to ensure that those who are located at the scene have the resources (i.e., personnel, tools, and equipment) they need for the response. In large emergencies and disasters, the EOC also acts as a liaison between local responders and the State

# EOC

- ▶ **Executive Group**
  - ▶ Decision-Makers
- ▶ **Operations Group**
  - ▶ Implement Actions
  - ▶ Resource Management
- ▶ **Communications Group**
  - ▶ Coordination



# Executive Group

- ▶ **Decision-Makers:**
  - ▶ County Commissioners
  - ▶ DES / EMA Director
  - ▶ Sheriff



- ▶ **Coordinate Public Protective Action Decisions**
  - ▶ Evacuation
  - ▶ Shelter-in-place

- ▶ **Communicate (County Response)**
  - ▶ Accurate & Timely
  - ▶ Press Releases





# Operations Group

- ▶ Facilitate actions between the EOC and outside agencies
- ▶ Logistical and Resource support for field operations



# Operations Group



- ▶ Operations Manager
- ▶ Engineer
- ▶ Health District
- ▶ Law Enforcement
- ▶ PNPP Liaison
- ▶ Red Cross
- ▶ Fire/EMS
- ▶ OSHP
- ▶ Historian
- ▶ Public Inquiry
- ▶ School Services
- ▶ OSU Extension
- ▶ Executive Group
- ▶ Rad Officer

# Communications Group

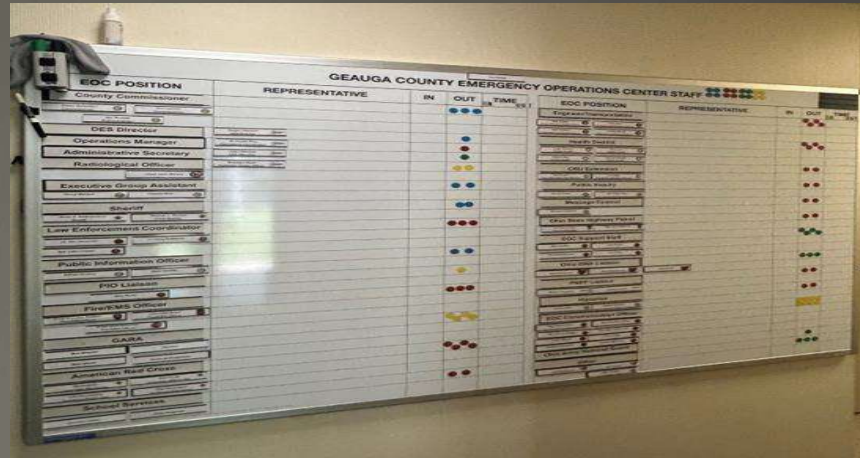


- ▶ Disseminate information to the public
  - ▶ Geauga Dispatch
  - ▶ Amateur Radio (GARA)
  - ▶ Executive Discussion Line, 5-way, Sat Phone
- ▶ Public Inquiry
  - ▶ Establish Hotlines to address rumors & trends. Coordinates with the PIO



# EOC Activation Examples

- Perry Nuclear Power Plant
- Covid 19 Pandemic
- 2024 Solar Eclipse
- August 2024 Tornadoes
- Geauga County Fair
- Amber Alert
- Man Made Disasters
  - Aircraft Crash, Tanker Rollover, Chemical Spill, Gas Leak, Terrorist Activity, Nuclear Incident, etc.
- Natural Disasters
  - Winter Storms, Severe Storms, Power Outages, Tornadoes, Floods, Earthquakes, Dam Failures, Disease, Droughts and Extreme Heat, Wildfires



# Planning for Disasters



**MAKE A PLAN**



**BUILD A KIT**



**BE INFORMED**

# Make A Plan

- How will I receive emergency alerts and warnings?
- What is my shelter plan?
- What is my evacuation route?
- What is my family/household communication plan?
- Do I need to update my emergency preparedness kit?



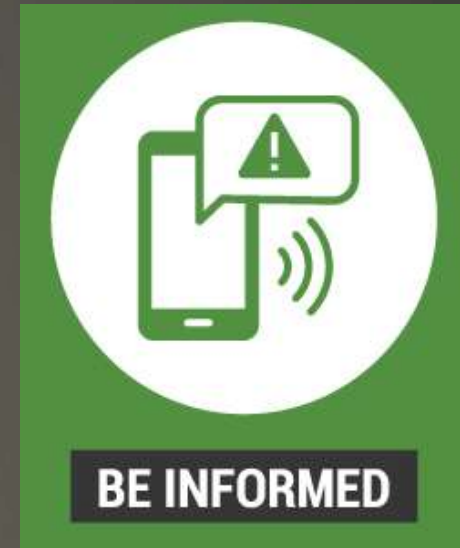
# Build a Kit

- Different ages of members within your household
- Responsibilities for assisting others
- Dietary needs
- Medical needs including prescriptions and equipment
- Disabilities or access and functional needs including devices and equipment
- Languages spoken
- Cultural and religious considerations
- Pets or service animals
- Households with school-aged children



# Be Informed

- NOAA Weather Radio
- Local Radio
- National Weather Service
- Ready.gov
- RedCross.org
  
- Know the Difference Between Watches and Warnings
  - Watch: Indicates potential for severe weather to develop. No immediate action is required, but you should be aware and develop a plan.
  - Warning: Issued when severe weather is happening in your area. Immediate action is needed to protect life and property





# Support Network



- Establish a support network of reliable contacts like family, friends, and neighbors for regular check-ins and emergency updates.
- Sign up for local emergency alerts and use weather alert apps to receive real-time updates.
- Keep a printed list of emergency contacts, including medical information, and share it with trusted individuals.
- Practice mock emergency scenarios to test response actions and improve readiness and confidence.
- Regularly review and update the emergency communication plan to reflect any changes in circumstances or contact information.



Questions?