

Ohio EMA Has New Weather Models for County Use

Summer is right around the corner. Each of our divisions is gearing up for the August Ohio State Fair, and our Emergency Management Agency is also prepared for the series of county fairs beginning across the state. EMA is making available to county EMA offices a pair of stand-alone models that display how people can protect themselves against weather hazards.

Both models are three-foot cubes that stand on their own legs. One is a cutaway of a typical home showing construction techniques to make the structure more resistant to wind and storm damage. These mitigation measures add very little to the cost of home construction and add significantly to its rigidity during a storm. The cutaway model also shows how to elevate basement utilities above flood level and how to build a "safe room" in your basement.

The second model is about flood safety. It shows a pickup truck approaching a washed-out culvert covered by flash flooding. The road hazard cannot be seen by the driver and demonstrates why you should never continue driving on a road covered by water. Safety tips and safety measures are posted on all four sides of each model.

County emergency management offices can reserve use of either of these models for their local fairs, as well as for any other public event. One of EMA's new models will also be a part of the agency's section of this year's ODPS presence at the state fair.



Models for EMA local fairs, as well as for any other public event.

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If you have upcoming events or information that you would like to see in the next issue of *Public Safety News*, send it to Lynne McBee, Office of Communications, Shipley Bldg., 4th floor, or via e-mail at lmcbec@dps.state.oh.us

IT'S ABOUT SAFETY

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Operation Feed

Please check out your cupboards, go to the store, or dig deep into your wallet for some cash. **It's time for Operation Feed!**

The Operation Feed campaign for 2001 is underway. The Department of Public Safety is committed to join with other state agencies in helping the rest of Central Ohio's businesses, churches, government agencies and civic groups reach their 2001 Operation Feed goal of 3,750,000 meals. Food and monetary donations are accepted. **The 2001 goal for the Department of Public Safety is 41,731 meals.** One pound of food equals one meal, and one dollar equals two meals. Food bought or collected from Operation Feed is stored at the Mid-Ohio Foodbank and distributed to 198 pantries, soup kitchens and emergency shelters in six Central Ohio counties: Franklin, Delaware, Fairfield, Madison, Pickaway and Union.

Too many children and adults in our own Central Ohio do not have enough to eat. So, as you have in the past, be generous in your support of this worthwhile campaign. The 2001 Operation Feed food drive runs through May 31. This year's theme is:

**"Just don't sit there!
Spring into Action"**

The critically-needed food items for 2001 are:

**Chicken/Beef Stew
Peanut Butter
Canned Meat
Canned Fruits
Canned Pasta Meals**

This year's co-chairs are Russ Rauch and Dianna McConnaughey. Let's all "spring into action" before May 31.



DAYTON BOMBERS HOCKEY SCORES GOAL WITH SOBER TRUTH



The Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) Investigative Unit has recruited professional hockey players to help promote the Sober Truth program. Aimed at middle and high school students throughout Ohio, this program encourages students to make responsible decisions concerning alcohol and drugs.

Recently, the Dayton Bombers, the "AA" minor league team for the Columbus Blue Jackets, teamed with ODPS to hold a Sober Truth poster night at one of their scheduled games. Team co-captain Jeff Mitchell, a second-year Bomber, agreed to support the Sober Truth message by allowing the Investigative Unit to produce a poster using his photograph. About 1,000 of these posters were distributed to youth attending the game between Dayton and the Peoria Rivermen. Following the match-up, Mitchell autographed numerous posters for the kids.

Mitchell has also taped public service announcements for ODPS discouraging underage drinking that air during Bomber games. Additionally, he has expressed an interest in accompanying agents to Sober Truth presentations in the schools. Advertisements for Sober Truth appear on the boards outlining the ice rink, as does the Investigative Unit's hotline number, 1-877-4MINORS, for reporting liquor violations.

Since September 2000, Investigative Unit agents have presented the Sober Truth program to more than 17,000 students across Ohio. To request the program for your school or group, please call Julie Ehrhart at (614) 752-8845.



Dayton Bomber Jeff Mitchell signs Sober Truth posters for fans

National Employee Health & Fitness Month

May has been designated National Employee Health and Fitness Month. **Ohio Public Safety employee health services is participating by having a contest (with prizes) to improve your fitness.** Examples of contest entries include the following:

- ♦ I took the steps instead of the elevator all day
- ♦ I did 30 minutes of aerobic exercise at home or at the Wellness Center (x 1 day)
- ♦ I did a 30-minute walk during lunch period today
- ♦ I ate 2-4 fruits today
- ♦ I ate 3-5 servings of vegetables today
- ♦ I did not eat high-calorie, high-fat snacks today, but ate fruit and vegetables instead
- ♦ I drank 6-8 ounce glasses of water today
- ♦ Ask the nurse to calculate your body mass index, waist measurement and weight



Prizes will be awarded to employees with the most entries submitted per day. Call the Nurse Barb Smith at 752-7955 for more information.

Grant/Riverside - Mammograms

Attention all women! The Mobile Mammogram unit will be making a stop at the Shipley Building from June 19-21. A mammogram this year could save your life next year. Call Nurse Barbara Smith at 752-7955 for more information.

ORANGE BARREL POLKA

Seen any orange barrels lately? They are everywhere in and around Columbus due to one of the Ohio Department of Transportation's (ODOT) largest construction seasons to date. The Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) and ODOT kicked off a Work Zone Awareness Week in mid-April with the aim of saving lives.

"Every year thousands of people nationwide, both motorists and highway workers, are injured or killed in construction zone crashes," said Gordon Proctor, ODOT Director. "We want to make everyone aware that speeding or even being distracted by a cell phone in a work zone can endanger their safety."

"Following a few simple rules can mean all the difference in keeping your family safe," added Lt. Governor Maureen O'Connor, Director of Ohio Public Safety.

Here are a few guidelines to follow when driving in work zones:

- ✓ Stay alert and give driving your full attention
- ✓ Follow all posted signs and obey flaggers
- ✓ Don't tailgate
- ✓ Be aware that normal traffic patterns may be shifted
- ✓ Don't speed

Remember, fines are doubled for traffic violations in construction zones.

Print-on-Demand Registration Sticker

In March, the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) began utilizing a new registration sticker that can be printed on demand. The registration sticker is part of a form that is printed as the registration renewals come in by mail, Internet or telephone. After printing the registration number on the form, it is folded and mailed. It is no longer necessary to place these forms with stickers in an envelope for mailing. A huge savings is also generated as the new process eliminates the need to carry an inventory of preprinted numbered stickers and the need to maintain an inventory bookkeeping system. The BMV pays the vendor for only what is printed, and sticker waste is reduced to almost zero.

These new mailer forms will be implemented for mail, phone and Internet renewals which have June expirations and then for mail-in renewals with June expirations beginning in mid-April. This same "print-on-demand" process will be used for automobile dealer registrations as well.

Excellence in Service Awards

Congratulations to the Excellence in Service Award (ESA) winners for the first quarter of 2001. Dale Shipley, Executive Director of the Emergency Management Agency (EMA), honored recipients Jill Hand, Marie Baker and Eddie Perry.

Hand, Assistant Chief of Titles, received the award in the Management category. Baker, Customer Service Assistant from Titles, received the award in the Clerical category. Both Hand and Baker have been with the state for over 20 years.

Perry, Maintenance Repair Worker for the EMA at the time of the nomination, received the award in the Technical Services category.



Quality Quote

Apologizing Isn't Easy

We are all human, and we all make mistakes. According to Stephen Covey, when we make withdrawals from the Emotional Bank Account, we need to apologize and do it sincerely. According to Covey, "Great deposits come in the sincere words: 'I was wrong.' 'That was unkind.' 'I showed you no respect.' 'I gave you no dignity, and I'm deeply sorry.' Even though I wanted to make a point, I never should have done it. I apologize."

Covey also says, "It takes a great deal of character strength to apologize quickly out of one's heart rather than out of pity."

Salute to Ohio

Proud to be a Buckeye



STATE FLOWER

The Scarlet Carnation was adopted as the "State Flower" in 1994, because of the love for it by the lamented William McKinley, originating during the McKinley-Lamborn debates in Alliance, proclaimed Carnation City. Excerpt from the resolution: "Be it resolved . . . that the scarlet carnation be adopted as the state flower of Ohio as a token of love and reverence for the memory of William McKinley."



The PSNEWS Roving Reporter

Q What is your favorite flower and why?

A "It would be the bird of paradise; it reminds me of my mom - it was her favorite flower." Cheryl Brickman, BMV Comptroller's Office

A "My favorite flowers are peonies. They are very large, white, pink or red and have a beautiful fragrance. Just make sure to shake them real well before you take them inside, or the counter will be covered with ants! I would like to add, however, that there was nothing sweeter than when my daughter, many years ago, handed me my first giant bouquet of dandelions. A dozen of the finest roses can't compete with the gift from a child's heart." Christy Redifer, Printing Coordinator, ACF

A "Dandelions - because you know spring is here...of course, in neighbor's lawns, not mine." Dan Burns, GHSO

A "First is yasmine. It is a flower grown in Asia, made into an oil base that is used to make many different perfumes. I have also named one of my daughters after this flower ('Yasmin'). The other flower is the rose because it has more than one color, it can be sent to convey friendship or love." Danielle Peyton, OTIS

A "I like them all. I really like plants that bloom outside because they are beautiful, and they last longer during the summer months. Some of the favorites are impatiens, rose bushes, gladiolus and mums." Edith Mason, RTLS

New Locations for IRP Processing

In an effort to enhance customer service, four new International Registration Plan (IRP) branch offices have been opened by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) across the state. The new branch offices are located in Canton, Cambridge, Findlay and Cincinnati. Each office can process renewal applications and accept payments on renewal and supplemental invoices. Each of these offices will make every effort to offer same day service depending on their workload. IRP is the program by which trucking companies who travel from state to state pay appropriately for the right to travel through the states. The companies pay at one place and the money is distributed to the various states or jurisdictions.

COVEY Comes to ODPS

Human Resources is planning a series of classes emphasizing Stephen Covey's book and principles, "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People." There are courses for managers and non-managers. If you need more information on when these classes are offered, please call 752-7742.

Some comments from others regarding the Seven Habits:

"The Seven Habits are keys to success for people in all walks of life. It is very thought-provoking."—Edward Brennan, Chairman and CEO, Sears Roebuck and Company

"Most of my learning has come from modeling after other people and what they do. Steve's book helps energize this modeling process through highly effective research and examples."—Fran Tarkenton, NFL Hall of Fame quarterback

"With all the responsibilities and demands of time, travel, work and families placed upon us in today's competitive world, it's a big plus to have Stephen Covey's *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* to refer to."—Marie Osmond, singer