



The Antediluvian

Ohio's Floodplain Management Newsletter



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THE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM MISSION: To provide leadership to local governments, state agencies, and interested parties toward cooperative management of Ohio's floodplains to ensure the reduction of flood damage and the recognition of the floodplain's natural benefit. This mission is accomplished through technical assistance, public awareness, education, and development / protection standards.

Ohio's Floodplain Management Program is honored to receive the Tom Lee Award

Leadership For Cooperative Management of Ohio's Floodplains Brings National Recognition to Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Floodplain Management Program

By Cynthia J. Crecelius, CFM
Program Manager, Division of Water

At the 26th annual conference of the Association of State Floodplain Managers in Phoenix, Arizona, June 23-28, 2002, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Floodplain Management Program was awarded the Platinum Level - *Tom Lee State Award for Excellence*. The Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) represents 4500 floodplain management practitioners, including the leading experts in flood hazard management throughout the United States and beyond. A key activity at the ASFPM annual conference is to recognize national excellence in flood hazard management.

ODNR Director Sam Speck nominated the Division of Water, Floodplain Management Program for the Tom Lee Award, which is given in recognition of outstand-

ing floodplain management programs or activities at the state level. The Ohio Floodplain Management Program is committed to leadership of public and private interests for cooperative management of Ohio's floodplains to reduce flood damage, and to

protect the natural resources and functions of floodplains. Broad strategies of partnership, planning, technology integration, education/awareness, and technical assistance are applied daily to accomplish this mission and promote local floodplain management capability.

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In accepting the award, Program representatives noted that the current effectiveness of the program is due to the many partners, resources, and creative energy behind their products and services. Ohio is very fortunate to have floodplain managers that are building local capability through professional development and the Ohio Floodplain Management Association (OFMA). Sister agencies and non-profit organizations have seen the value of flood risk reduction and floodplain resource protection and incorporated flood protection standards and policy into their programs and activities. Ohio

private sector partners are on the leading edge of the new technologies and tools for effective floodplain management. The cooperative framework of the National Flood Insurance Program has also positioned Ohio communities well to address the problems and challenges of balancing the flood hazard areas and development needs in their communities.

The ODNR Administration and Division of Water, Floodplain Program are dedicated to continuing the progress that has been made and confident that there is a solid foundation for

floodplain management policy and a clear vision to support our continuing partnerships and quality products and services.

Chief Jim Morris commented, *We are pleased to see the hard work and creativity of our dedicated staff recognized at the national level. The Division of Water will continue to look for opportunities to improve our floodplain management services and products.*

Thank you to each of you for your participation and contributions to the excellence of Ohio's Floodplain Management Program! 💧

Floodplain Management in Ohio—Statewide Conference 2002

BY ALICIA SILVERIO, CFM
ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST
DIVISION OF WATER

For the third consecutive year, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Ohio Floodplain Management Association (OFMA), and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) worked in cooperation to coordinate another successful statewide conference. The conference was held on August 28th and 29th, 2002 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel and Conference Center in Columbus, Ohio. The 2002 conference was expanded to provide Basic, Advanced, and Engineering / Technology in Floodplain Management Concurrent Sessions throughout both days. Sessions included *Administering Flood Damage Prevention Regulations Through Building Codes, Considerations for Hydraulic Modeling, Utilizing GIS for Comprehensive Floodplain Management, and How to Administer a Flood Hazard*

Mitigation Project (to name a few). The conference boasted 38 different speakers to cover 27 sessions. Approximately 193 registrants (consisting of community floodplain administrators and other local officials, federal and state government officials, and representatives of the private sector) attended the two-day training.

ODNR, OFMA, and FEMA designed *Floodplain Management in Ohio—Statewide Conference 2002* to develop and expand the capabilities of officials responsible for local floodplain management, private sector representatives involved in flood-related projects, and government officials from various state and federal agencies whose work traverses floodplain boundaries.

In preparation for the conference, the planning committee sought topics that would familiarize attendees with various concepts

and processes common to floodplain management (such as *Letter of Map Changes, Mitigation Planning, and the Flood Loss Reduction Workshop*) while incorporating new and innovative concepts to creatively address flood damage prevention (*i.e., Strategies for Addressing Flooding in Unmapped Floodplains and Multiple Objectives in Stream Management*). The conference planning committee also tried incorporating more workshop-based sessions into the conference to allow attendees to be trained in various National Flood Insurance Program processes and concepts. The conference also featured Dr. Alan Weinstein, a Professor of Law from Cleveland State University, as the Keynote Speaker. In his address, Weinstein reviewed many precedent setting land-use planning court decisions and how these have affected the regulations local officials utilize today.

The Certified Floodplain Manager

(CFM) Exam was also administered in coordination with the Statewide Conference. The CFM is a nationally recognized examination devised to further professional development as well as promote continuing education amongst those employed within the floodplain management discipline. *Floodplain Management in Ohio—Statewide Conference 2002* has been allocated twelve Continuing Education Credits (CECs) (six per day) that can be applied toward maintaining CFM certification. The conference was also given two credit hours of continuing education for all classes of certification from the Ohio Board of Building Standards.

[Editor's note: Congratulations to Ohio's newest Certified Floodplain Managers: Mike Mihalisin (Geauga County) and Jim Latchaw (FMSM Engineers)].

Various services and products available to local floodplain officials were demonstrated at the conference by 18 sponsors and exhibitors. Conference Sponsors included: Burgess & Niple, Limited (B&N); Evans, Mechwart, Hambleton, & Tilton (EMH&T); Fuller, Mossbarger, Scott, & May Engineers (FMSM); Miami Conservancy District (MCD); PBS&J, Flood Control America (FCA); and Floodwater Bags. Exhibitors consisted of the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM); Building Officials & Code Administrators, International (BOCA); Franklin Soil & Water Conservation District; Ohio Department of Natural Resources - Floodplain Management Program (ODNR-FMP); Ohio Department of Natural Resources - Division of Natural

Areas & Preserves (ODNR - DNAP); Ohio Environmental Protection Agency - Ohio Environmental Education Fund (OEPA - OEEF), Ohio Floodplain Management Association (OFMA); United States Geological Survey (USGS); and Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO).

Overall, it appears that *Floodplain Management in Ohio—Statewide Conference 2002* was well received by those who attended. The Conference Planning Committee is already examining ways to improve the 2003 conference and is very receptive to any comments you may have regarding the 2002 event. (This is also a great opportunity to suggest topics for the 2003 conference.) Please contact us at 614-265-6750.

OFMA Recognition Awards

Last year, OFMA created four awards to acknowledge individuals for their involvement, dedication, and service to the field of floodplain management. At the 2002 Statewide Conference, these awards were presented to five persons nominated by their peers for their professionalism and enthusiasm for floodplain management.

The following are 2002 OFMA Awards honorees:

Floodplain Administrator of the Year was awarded to **James Fox** (Butler County Building and



2002
Floodplain Administrator
of the Year
James Fox

Zoning Department).

Peter G. Finke Award for Most Valuable Contribution to Floodplain Management was presented to **Cynthia Crecelius** (ODNR, Floodplain Management Program).

Distinguished Member Service Awards were given to **Ray**



(Left to right) Gary Ziegler, Cindy Crecelius, Jim Morris

Sebastian (Clermont County Building Department) and **Alicia Silverio** (ODNR-FMP).

Award for Innovation in Floodplain Management was



Alicia Silverio receives award from Gary Ziegler

presented to **The Honorable Cornelia M. Dettmer, M.D., Ph.D.** (Mayor, Village of Manchester).

Congratulations to the 2002 OFMA Award recipients!

If you would like to nominate a peer or colleague for any of the OFMA Recognition Awards, don't wait! Nominations are currently being accepted for 2003 honors. The deadline for submission is May 1st, 2003. For

criteria, application forms, or more information, please call 614-265-6750 or email: cindy.crecelius@dnr.state.oh.us

Many Thanks!

Organizing a conference is quite an elaborate process. Much gratitude and thanks should be extended to:

- **FEMA** for providing support and funding to enable the coordination of the Statewide Conference.
- the **2002 Conference Planning Committee** [Chad Berginnis (DNR-FMP), Doug Cade (CT Consultants), Cindy Crecelius (ODNR-FMP), Miles Hebert (EMH&T), Kari Mackenbach (FMSM), Theresa Ours (Village of Hebron), Mary Sampsel (Union County Engineer's Office), Ray Sebastian (Clermont County Building Department), and Gary Ziegler (Findlay Development Services Department)] for all their time,



OFMA Chair Gary Ziegler (left) presents award to Past-Chair Ray Sebastian (Cindy Crecelius at lectern)

effort, and dedication to planning this worthwhile and useful training experience.

- the **Presenters** for all their work to prepare and convey information to conference attendees with the purpose of promoting wise and effective floodplain management throughout Ohio.
- the **Sponsors** for their participation as well as their financial support of the conference.
- the **Exhibitors** for showcasing their programs and services to conference attendees so that communities could examine opportunities to improve local floodplain management.
- the **Attendees** for their time and effort to learn how to improve flood damage prevention throughout their communities.

Thanks so much to all of you! 

This symbol indicates an **Online** resource.



Left to Right: DOW Chief Jim Morris, Mayor Cornelia Dettmer, OFMA Chair Gary Ziegler, and Floodplain Management Program Manager Cindy Crecelius

Beyond the NFIP-Ohio's Higher Standards Model Floodplain Management Regulations

BY MICHAEL K. GEASE, SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST
DIVISION OF WATER

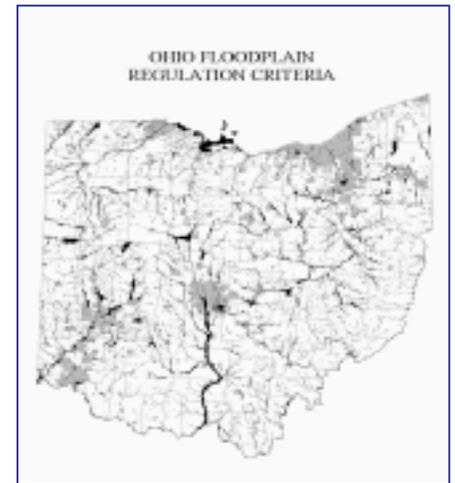
The term “floodplain management” encompasses a wide range of public policy and action for ensuring wise use of floodplain areas. It includes collection and dissemination of floodplain information, acquisition of floodplain lands through the purchase of easements, flood control structures such as dams and levees, and “nonstructural” measures such as the enactment of land use regulations that are designed to encourage wise floodplain development and require—at minimum—the protection of buildings and other development from flood damage. The goal of floodplain management is to strike a balance between the natural, beneficial functions and values of the floodplain and the potential costs and benefits to society arising from its use and development. In order to assist community planners, floodplain administrators, and legislative bodies with fulfilling the need for comprehensive floodplain management, the Division of Water is revising and publishing the fourth edition of the *Ohio Floodplain Management Criteria: Recommendations for Floodplain Management*.

The purpose of *Ohio Floodplain Regulation Criteria* is to acquaint local officials, professionals, and the general public with floodplain management and regulation in Ohio. *Ohio Floodplain Regulation Criteria* was first published by the Division of Water in 1976 and—at that time—contained

progressive recommendations for standards that went beyond minimum standards of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Through the 1990's, it became evident that those recommendations were important in reducing the risk of loss of life and property damage due to flooding. Today, many of those recommendations have become mainstream as communities in Ohio and nationwide are taking steps to have truly effective floodplain management programs.

Ohio Floodplain Regulation Criteria is meant to serve as a guide to understanding the various criteria that must be addressed in order to manage the natural resources of the floodplain, to adequately protect floodplain development from future flood damages, and to reduce adverse impacts of floodplain development. The fourth edition revision now contains the basic ODNR Model Regulations in a combined ordinance / resolution format. The model has been reorganized and rewritten for more effective interpretation and administration.

Through research of community regulations, the Floodplain Management Program compiled a listing of local regulations that exceed minimum NFIP standards, representing more than 260 communities. The various higher standards were classified into



distinct individual criteria that can be incorporated into floodplain regulations following the new model format. A compendium of the locally adopted higher standards is included in the appendices. *Ohio Floodplain Regulation Criteria* is in final legal and peer review, and is expected to be available beginning Autumn 2002 in a variety of formats, including print, electronic, and web download on the Division of Water website at www.dnr.state.oh.us/water.



WANTED FLOOD MAPS?

Anyone needing copies of
FEMA flood maps or
Flood Insurance Studies
can now go to fema.gov.

Select the  icon

Or you can still call,
(800) 358-9616



Don't Bank On It (until you get a levee permit)

By KEITH BANACHOWSKI, P.E., PROGRAM MANAGER
DIVISION OF WATER



Keith presenting at the 2002 Statewide Floodplain Management Conference in Columbus

Levees provide an important benefit to the citizens of Ohio by protecting areas from inundation by flood waters. A properly designed and well-constructed levee will provide its owner and the public with many years of service. Section 1521.06 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) requires that any person or government agency desiring to construct a levee, to follow the permit procedure prescribed in the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rules. The purpose of the laws and rules is to protect life, health and property from damages due to failures of levees.

A levee is a unique part of the infrastructure and its failure can be devastating. Levee failure can destroy valuable property and even cause loss of life. It is important to note that a levee is only as strong as its weakest

component and the levee will be tested at the worst possible time: during a major flood. Consider a levee that has a strong, impermeable embankment, is not susceptible to overtopping, but does not have adequate control of *underseepage*. Although a majority of the levee has been constructed properly and it appears satisfactory during visual inspection, it has a significant design and construction flaw. This flaw will become evident during a major flood. When a problem occurs under these circumstances, it is often too late for remediation and the levee ultimately fails, allowing flood waters to damage property and jeopardize public safety. With this in mind, it is clear that a qualified engineer must design and supervise construction of a levee.

When desiring to build a levee, the applicant must submit a preliminary design report to the Division of Water. A registered professional engineer must prepare this report as well as all other engineering documents required in the design process. The content of the report is outlined in the OAC. The report must include a statement of the proposed classification. Levees have four classifications: Class I, II, III and IV. Classification is based on the potential for damage should the levee fail. Class I levees are the most hazardous (loss of life), and Class IV levees are the least hazardous (damage to the owner's property and rural lands). You may refer to the OAC for a detailed discussion of classification at [\[andersonpublishing.com/oac/home.cfm\]\(http://andersonpublishing.com/oac/home.cfm\) \(see Chapter 1501.21\). !\[\]\(10f8862fc183b400327470ea85afe9ae_img.jpg\)](http://onlinedocs.</p></div><div data-bbox=)

The Division of Water will review the preliminary design report within thirty days of receipt and notify the applicant—in writing—of approval or disapproval. For Class IV levees, approval of the preliminary design report is the last step in the regulatory process, and the owner may proceed with construction. For Class I, II, and III levees, the applicant must proceed with the final design submittal and obtain a construction permit.

The final design submittal must include a completed construction permit application form, a final design report, construction plans and specifications, a detailed cost estimate, a statutory filing fee, and a surety bond between the applicant and the State of Ohio. It should be noted that the final design report must demonstrate that the levee will be consistent with local floodplain regulations and will not cause unlawful flooding. You may refer to the OAC for details concerning the final design submittal.

The Division of Water will review the final design submittal within thirty days of receipt and provide comments. A construction permit will be issued after all requirements of the OAC and ORC have been met. The OAC also has additional requirements that apply to construction of the levee, but they will not be discussed at this time.

For more information concerning the permitting of levees, please contact the Dam Safety Program office at (614) 265-6731. 

Court Backs Couple, Finds Flood Insurance Agent Negligent



BY ADOLPHO PESQUERA,
BUSINESS WRITER

Editor's note: The following reprint from the San Antonio, Texas Express News of May 3, 2002 reinforces a message we have been carrying from the beginning of the NFIP; Any property in an NFIP-participating community may purchase federal flood insurance, regardless of whether their property is in a floodplain. The lawsuit described below also brings home the point that citizens depend upon professionals—both public and private—to provide accurate and timely floodplain-related information.

A Guadalupe County couple suing State Farm Fire & Casualty Co. won a decision this week when the 4th Court of Appeals said a lower court should not have dismissed their claim that an agent was negligent when he discouraged

them from buying flood insurance.

After their neighbors suffered severe flood damage in June 1997, Roy and Billie Nast tried to buy flood insurance from Dan Clark, the State Farm agent they'd relied on for 18 years.

Their suit alleges that Clark told them they were not eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency flood insurance, and any alternative would cost them \$2,500 a year. Roy Nast questioned why his neighbors were getting policies for \$400.

According to the lawsuit, the agent said he had heard that a "shyster" was selling those policies and the purchasers likely wouldn't collect in the event of damages.

The Nasts' house flooded in October 1998. When the Nasts

applied for disaster relief, FEMA required them to show proof that they had attempted to buy insurance. The suit says the Nasts asked Clark for a letter to that effect, but he gave them a letter back-dated to 1997 that covered up his alleged misrepresentation.

Clark told them that they were not eligible, Justice Karen Angelini wrote in her opinion. The Nasts trusted Clark because he had been their agent for 18 years. Because of Clark's misrepresentations, the Nasts did not make any further attempts to acquire flood insurance.

Justices Catherine Stone and Sarah B. Duncan concurred and reversed the district judge's ruling on the grounds of misrepresentation and negligence under the Deceptive Trade Practices Act. 

Flood Map Modernization and FEMA's Mapping Needs Update Support System



BY MICHAEL K. GEASE,
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST
DIVISION OF WATER

In the Summer 2002 edition of *The Antediluvian*, the article "Ohio State Profile (Mapping Needs)" discussed the aging National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) flood maps and studies in Ohio, and outlined the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)'s Map Modernization Program, which is intended to update the nation's flood maps and update them at least every five years. In August 2002 the ODNR, Division of

Water finalized its Flood Study Production Plan to meet three major FEMA goals in accordance with the Government Performance Results Act over the next five years:

- Reduce the average age of the 90% of Ohio's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) that are greater than 11 years old to six years or less
- Produce digital flood hazard maps (up-to-date flood hazard data is desired) for the

15% highest priority areas

- Develop flood hazard maps for 50% of the highest priority unmapped, flood-prone communities

To evaluate the mapping needs in Ohio, ODNR's Division of Water is in the initial phase of performing a mapping needs assessment. The State of Ohio supports using the FEMA Mapping Needs Update Support System (MNUSS) database to assess and evaluate community mapping needs. FEMA Region V staff provided access and introductory training to Division of Water staff in April 2002. Efforts that are now underway to collect and populate the database

so that priorities and assessment will be as comprehensive as possible began in May 2002. The initial mapping needs assessment for approximately 150 of Ohio's 700+ floodprone communities is focused on reviewing and completing the "MNUSS Data Worksheets" that support updating the information in the FEMA MNUSS database. FEMA's Map Coordination Contractor, PBS&J, Inc. has lead responsibility for organizing and entering the data into MNUSS. The Division of Water has been soliciting map needs information from several communities and organizations participating in FEMA's Cooperating Technical Partnership program, that provides for accelerated flood study production using local resources in partnership with FEMA and other federal and state agencies. Among the

leading communities and organizations in this effort are the Miami Conservancy District, Summit, and Stark Counties.

Beginning early in federal fiscal year 2003 (which begins October 1, 2002) the Division of Water will be conducting an outreach effort to contact all Ohio's flood prone communities to assess flood map and study needs. Local communities may participate immediately in the Mapping Needs Assessment process by providing information to the Division of Water using the MNUSS Data Worksheet.

The accompanying *Guide to Input of Mapping Needs Into MNUSS* provides an overview of MNUSS and easy instructions on determining map maintenance needs (corporate limits and street

changes, new subdivisions, revised Elevation Reference Marks *etc.*) and flood data update needs (hydrologic needs-changes to land use in the watershed, comparison of recent flood events to the FIRM, *etc.*; and/or hydraulic needs-new bridges or culverts, changes in stream characteristics such as channel changes, or new development in the floodplain).

For more information or to download the MNUSS Worksheet and Guide, please visit the "What's New" on the Division of Water home page at www.dnr.state.oh.us/water/, or visit the Flood Hazard Mapping page on FEMA's website at www.fema.gov/mit/tsd. Information may also be provided by contacting the Division of Water at (614) 265-6750.

Appalachian Flood Risk Reduction Initiative

BY STEVE FERRYMAN, CFM, ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST
DIVISION OF WATER

In the last issue of *The Antediluvian*, readers were introduced to the Appalachian Flood Risk Reduction Initiative (AFRRI). Subsequent issues will provide updates on the progress of AFRRI in assisting communities to develop natural hazard mitigation plans and the status of the flood mapping effort.

First, let us recognize the communities that were selected to receive an AFRRI grant: The City of Athens, the villages of Caldwell, Corning, Crooksville, Dresden, Manchester, Trimble and Vinton, and Athens, Jackson, Lawrence, Muskingum, Noble, Ross, and Scioto counties.

ODNR staff members have been busy conducting AFRRI "kick-off" meetings in each of these communities. The kick-off meetings are designed to inform the community about AFRRI and the natural hazard mitigation planning process, and to generate interest in joining the "core group". The core group is responsible for developing and publishing the natural hazard mitigation plan.

To date, many of the AFRRI communities have held two or three planning meetings. After the community has organized their resources, they will conduct a hazard analysis. The hazard analysis is the foundation of the



plan, and must be completed prior to undertaking the remaining nine steps.

The core groups will first look at all the possible natural hazards that could affect their community and then "profile" each of these hazards to determine which hazards present the greatest risk. The profiles will include information on any natural hazard events that have occurred in the community, and any loss of life and property damage attributed to the event. Having this information will allow the core group to determine the community assets that are vulnerable to each hazard, and estimate the potential losses to those assets should that particular hazard occur.

Anyone interested in mitigation planning can print a copy of

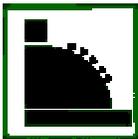
Ohio's Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidebook online at: <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/water/>. 

This is the document that AFRRRI communities are using to develop natural hazard mitigation plans that will be compliant with the

Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA2K). An interim final rule published February 26, 2002 outlines information that is required to be included in DMA2K compliant mitigation plans.

The field surveying for the flood-mapping portion of AFRRRI has

been completed for five of the fifteen communities. The remaining field surveys will be completed from late fall to early spring, when field conditions are optimal for surveying. Crooksville should be the first AFRRRI community to have a completed flood study and map. 



FEMA Makes Funding Available For Mitigation Planning

BY RICHARD ROTH, AICP, FEMA REGION V

For years, disaster recovery was based on a disaster response driven system where the only thought was to get the communities back on their feet as soon as possible. That rationale has led to ever increasing costs for disaster relief to communities, states, and the federal government as sites are damaged multiple times. After reevaluating this strategy, Congress decided that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) should place more emphasis on the planning process to promote and support sustainable, disaster resistant communities. Towards this end, FEMA is working with state and local partners to be contributing players in moving communities to meet the challenges of reducing future damages through mitigation planning.

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) amended the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act by adding a new section, **322-Mitigation Planning**. Mitigation is defined as *sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and their property from hazards and their effects*. Mitigation Planning is a

collaborative process whereby hazards affecting the community are identified, vulnerability to hazards assessed, and consensus reached on how to minimize or eliminate the effects of these hazards.

Effective November 1, 2004, a mitigation plan approved by FEMA and the state is required from any community that wishes to obtain funding from the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) to reduce potential damages.

The mitigation planning process should not be new to planners. This is the same process that planners go through in preparing comprehensive plans. Communities submitting Mitigation Plans so that they are eligible for project funding to reduce risks must address the following topics in their plans:

- Documentation of the planning process
- Identification of hazards
- Profile hazard events and impacts on the community
- Evaluate the assets in the community that are vulnerable
- Estimate potential losses to the community
- Analyze development trends

- Address the local mitigation goals of the community
- Identify and analyze potential mitigation measures
- Implement mitigation measures
- Identify the procedures for implementing, monitoring, evaluating and updating the plan
- Identify how the plan will be implemented through existing programs
- Identify how the public will continue to be involved after the plan is adopted.

FEMA is coming out with a "How-To" series to address these topics and is also working with the American Planning Association on other issues.

FEMA is also looking at ways to help fund mitigation plans and projects. For the last several years, FEMA has made funding available under the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program for the preparation of flood mitigation plans. This has helped fund one to two mitigation planning efforts per state per year, along with associated projects.

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 is expanding the availability of funding for mitigation planning

by allowing states to use 7% of the Hazard Mitigation Grant they receive after a Presidentially declared disaster to fund mitigation planning efforts and requiring mitigation plans in order for communities to be eligible for HMGP funds. The 7% could provide a substantial amount of funding for mitigation planning, depending on the size of the disaster. The HMGP, which also could be sizable, based on the disaster, provides funding for activities that are designed to reduce damages from natural hazards to a community, such as buy-outs and retrofitting of structures.

On December 21, 2000, the FEMA Mitigation Directorate announced that the mitigation

planning funding provision of Section 322 of the Disaster Mitigation Act was effective for disasters declared on or after October 30, 2000. States are encouraged to make these funds available to local and tribal governments to support their planning efforts.

The funds can be used to help pay for stand-alone mitigation plans or mitigation plans that are part of your comprehensive plan.

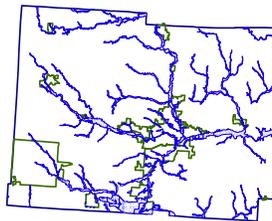
In the future, funds will also be available to communities regardless of whether a disaster has been declared. The program is known as the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program. We will provide more information as this program develops.

For more information on the availability of planning funds, contact the Hazard Mitigation Officer at your state emergency management agency. For more information on mitigation planning, you can access the FEMA mitigation website at www.fema.gov/mit/planning.htm 

This website includes information on products currently available or under development. Included is information on the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program, HMGP, the Community Rating System (CRS) and long-term recovery. You may also contact ODNR, Division of Water, Floodplain Management Program at (614) 265-6750. 

DEVELOPING A CANHMP (*Countywide All Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan*) **FOR LICKING COUNTY: OUR APPROACH**

BY JIM MICKEY, ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER
LICKING COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT



MISSION/VISION STATEMENT

In order for Licking County (the second largest county in terms of area and the seventh largest county in terms of population in Ohio) to better plan for natural hazard events, the county has decided to develop a Countywide All Natural-Hazards Mitigation Plan, or CANHMP. Our initial concerns were to meet the mandates of the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and complete the requirements of our *Project Impact* grant with FEMA. We also wanted to develop a working plan that would meet the needs of Licking County and not be merely a “shelf document.”

In order to better define our objectives, a small “Base” group of county officials developed a Mission/Vision Statement.

The mission of the Countywide All Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (CANHMP) for Licking County, Ohio, is to develop a working document, by researching and planning for future natural hazards and implementing appropriate mitigation techniques, that all of Licking County can utilize

to save lives and protect property, reduce the cost of disasters, and provide for a rapid and efficient recovery by coordinating response efforts, as well as increase the educational awareness of natural hazard events and their effects on the people, property, and resources of all of Licking County;

Further, the CANHMP for Licking County will fulfill the mandates of the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, and satisfy the requirements of FEMA and OEMA, as well as meet the needs of all of Licking County.

GOALS

The primary goal of the development of a CANHMP is to

prepare Licking County for future natural disasters, and lessen the human and economic losses that otherwise would occur. Additionally, the CANHMP will satisfy the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, and allow the county to receive continued funding and/or to obtain new funding. Other goals include reducing the adverse and deleterious impact of disasters on the county, maintaining economic growth and development, protecting our natural resources and our environment, and maintaining the quality of life here in Licking County.

The steps that were followed to achieve our goal of developing a CANHMP for Licking County included:

- 1) Identify Hazards—What types of hazard events can occur in our county;
- 2) Profile Hazard Events—How bad can the hazard event get in our county;
- 3) Inventory Assets—What assets in our county will be affected by the hazard event;
- 4) Estimate Losses—How will the county’s assets be affected by the hazard event.

We also discussed and refined our *Project Approach*.

PROJECT APPROACH

We decided on and utilized a comprehensive, coordinated, and collaborative approach to this project for the creation of a useable and suitable CANHMP for Licking County, to meet our previously stated goals and needs.

Comprehensive in the sense that FEMA requirements and guide-

lines will be followed, with input from OEMA. The plan must meet current and anticipated future needs in Licking County, with an eye toward versatility of the plan. The plan will be tailored to conform to our local circumstances. For instance, the development and implementation of this plan should be tied with some of the requirements for the Community Rating System (CRS) program when appropriate in order to increase Licking County’s discount on premiums for flood insurance;

Coordinated in that we will pull information and pool resources from various and numerous sources within Licking County and the State. This will allow us to develop the best possible plan within the given parameters of time and money. The use of existing plans, documents, and information to be consolidated and incorporated into the plan will increase the efficiency of this planning process;

Collaborative because we will strive to work together with the different agencies in the county, state, and federal government, as well as with businesses, industries, utilities, other entities, and—most importantly—citizens, in a coordinated approach to construct a comprehensive and useful CANHMP.

ORGANIZATION

Licking County developed a “3-tier group system” in order to facilitate the flow of information into the CANHMP and allow ample opportunity for every one in Licking County, and other entities, to have access and input

into the CANHMP planning process. This helped ensure that the CANHMP would truly be a county-based, useable document. The following is the initial outline of our 3-tier groups:

Base Group

- City of Pataskala, Director of Planning,
- Licking County Emergency Management Director and Assistant Director, and
- Licking County Planning Commission Director, Assistant Director, and Environmental Planner

Core Group = Base Group +

- County Board of Commissioners’ Office,
- Sheriff’s Office,
- County Associations for Fire, EMS, and Police,
- County Township Trustees Association,
- County Engineer’s Office,
- Representative from the Cities Newark and Heath,
- Representatives of all of the villages in Licking County,
- Red Cross, and
- News media

County Group = Base Group + Core Group +

- County Farm Bureau,
- County Soil & Water Conservation District,
- OSU Extension Licking County,
- Health Department for the county and the City of Newark Code Enforcement,
- Home Builders Association,
- Realtors Association,
- Financial Institutions,
- Utilities: Electric, Gas, Phone, CATV, various Water /

- Wastewater Districts,
- Salvation Army,
- School Systems and County Board of Education,
- ODNR–Parks & Recreation,
 - . Natural Areas & Preserves,
 - . Wildlife, Water, *etc.*
- OTHERS, including interested parties and the citizens of Licking County.

Our BASE Group was utilized to initiate the planning process; our CORE Group are those who will be directly affected by the CANHMP; our COUNTY Group represents agencies that will be indirectly affected by the CANHMP and who can also provide input to the planning process.

Initial research started in late October of 2001, and we were soon relying on FEMA document 386-2 (*Understanding Your Risks: identifying hazards and estimating losses*) as a guideline. By the time we received the Federal Register Part III FEMA 44 CFR Parts 201 and 206, *Hazard Mitigation Planning and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program; Interim Final Rule* dated Tuesday, February 26, 2002, we had already developed our strategy to commence and manage the development of our CANHMP.

During all of this research and initial planning for the CANHMP, a consensus was reached that the interests of the entire county for this project would be best served by retaining the services of a consultant to help guide the planning and development process, in order to produce the best possible resulting plan.

Background research included re-

viewing the plans and operations guides that already existed for Licking County, and other plans and documents that may have potential use in the development of the CANHMP. From our research, the following lists were compiled:

LIST OF CURRENT COUNTY PLANS

- 1) Emergency Operations Plan
- 2) Licking County Planning Disaster Assistance Plan
- 3) Newark-Heath Airport Air-space Zoning Resolution
- 4) Commodities Study–Rail, Truck, and Extremely Hazardous Sites (EHS)
- 5) Licking County Class I, II, & III Dams
- 6) Flood Damage Prevention Regulations for Licking County
- 7) Licking County Comprehensive Plan

Other Plans and Documents of Potential Value

- 1) *Understanding Your Risks, Identifying Hazards and Estimating Losses*–FEMA 386-2, August 2001
- 2) *Multi-Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment*–FEMA
- 3) *Mitigation Planning–A Guide for Local Officials and Planners*
- 4) *Play It Safe–How to Safeguard Your Community, Save Lives, & Minimize Damage From Disasters*–MHEI & MHI, June 1999
- 5) *A Governor’s Guide to Emergency Management*–National Governor’s Association
- 6) *Safety and Security Round-table, Rural and Small Urban Systems*–Ohio Transit
- 7) NFIP/CRS Example Plans

- 8) *Mitigation Planning–A Guide for Local Officials and Planners*–Project Impact
- 9) *CRS Coordinator’s Manual*–NFIP/CRS, January 1999

NAURAL HAZARDS

The Base Group researched the various natural hazards encountered in Licking County, and developed a preliminary list for consideration for the CANHMP.

- 1) FLOOD EVENT
 - A) Dam Failure
 - B) Storm Event
- 2) SEVERE WEATHER EVENTS
 - A) Drought–especially communities with central water supply
 - B) Extreme Heat
 - C) Extreme Cold
 - D) Hailstorm & Ice Storm
 - E) Severe Winter Weather
 - F) Blizzard
 - G) Windstorm
 - H) Tornado
- 3) WILDFIRE
- 4) EARTHQUAKE

The *final list* of natural hazards for the CANHMP for Licking County included all types of flooding (storm events in floodplain and non-floodplain areas, including repetitive loss properties, as well as potential dam failures), severe weather events and tornadoes, and as stand-alone hazards, droughts, and earthquakes.

PROJECT TASKS/SCOPE OF WORK

After obtaining the services of FMSM Engineers (Fuller, Mossbarger, Scott & May) as a consultant, the work continued in

earnest. The consultant has infused our process with new energy. Basically, we were faced with the demanding task of condensing what could be an 8 to 12 month process into about 5 months. The following tasks were, and are, being pursued:

Task 1) Kick-Off Meeting—Identify participants for the Core Group, and County Group and develop their responsibilities, adopt schedules (meetings and deadlines), identify budget considerations, develop processes and procedures, *etc.*

Task 2) Data Gathering—continue the collection of the necessary data for hazards identification, hazard events profiling, asset inventory, and loss estimations. Data needs included a base map of Licking County, GIS Information (current and future land uses, structures at risk, repetitive loss structures, *etc.*), disaster history information, demographic information, current county plans, policies, and procedures (comprehensive plans, zoning regulations, *Flood Damage Prevention Regulations, etc.*), disaster response plans, *etc.*

Task 3) Hazards Assessments and Problems Identifications—Assess each type of hazard event using the data collected above. Emphasis on the results and consequences or problems of the hazard events, *not the event itself*, based on the probability, frequency, duration, extent, and intensity of each hazard event.

Task 4) Establish Goals and

Objectives—Formulate goals and objectives *for dealing with each hazard event*. Establish priorities based on goals and objectives. This task is closely tied to Task 3.

Example: a hazard or problem identified in Licking County is flooding. A goal may be to reduce the property damage due to flooding. An objective is to reduce the property damage due to flooding by retrofitting or flood proofing “at-risk” homes. A priority is to focus on repetitive-loss homes.

Task 5) Develop Alternatives and Evaluation Criteria—Once Hazard Events Assessments and Problems Identifications are completed, organize, review, and formulate alternatives in order to address the individual hazards or problems, and formulate evaluation criteria to evaluate the various alternatives.

Task 6) Evaluate Alternatives—Review and Evaluate each Alternative that addresses the individual hazard event. Prioritize and Rank Alternatives in order of perceived implementation.

Task 7) Prepare Draft Plan for Review—Consideration and Review of the Draft Plan by first the Core Group, then the County Group, *prior* to public review. Consider revisions, alterations, changes, additions, deletions, and completeness of the document at this time.

Task 8) Public Meeting—Obtain Public Questions, Comments, and Concerns.

Task 9) Final Plan—Questions, Comments, and Concerns from the Public Meeting incorporated into the

Draft Plan to revise, modify, and produce Final Plan.

Task 10) Adoption—Review and comments on the CANHMP by the Licking County Board of Commissioners. Review, comments, and approval from OEMA and FEMA. This will be followed by final formal adoption of the plan by the Board of County Commissioners.

Task 11) Implementation—Responsibility of Licking County Government and other government entities and agencies as appropriate.

At the time of this writing, we are a little more than halfway through our 11-task procedure. The combined Base and Core Groups are now actively engaged in Task 6, evaluating alternatives. We are on track to meet our target date to have a Final CANHMP reviewed and approved by OEMA as well as by FEMA. Based upon these approvals, we expect the Board of Licking County Commissioners to formally adopt this plan by our target date of November 30, 2002. However, we have a lot of work yet to be done.

It has been a pleasure to share with you the approach that Licking County has taken in the development of a Countywide All Natural-Hazards Mitigation Plan, or CANHMP. Should anyone have questions, comments, concerns, or wish to obtain more information on this topic, do not hesitate to contact us. If time permits and as space available, perhaps we can share our results in the next issue of *The Antediluvian*. Thank you.

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Floodplain Management From the National Perspective –ASFPM Conference

City of Phoenix

By CYNTHIA J. CRECELIUS, CFM
PROGRAM MANAGER
ODNR, DIVISION OF WATER

Phoenix, Arizona hosted the nation’s floodplain managers from June 23-28, 2002. The event was the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) annual conference. Approximately 4,500 floodplain management practitioners, including leading experts in flood hazard management throughout the United States and other countries, are represented by ASFPM. This year’s theme *Breaking the Cycle of Repetitive Flood Loss*, inspired nearly 700 government and private professionals with techniques to mitigate against the effects of flooding before floodwaters rise. The annual conference is recognized as the most comprehensive flood management training event in the country and draws floodplain managers and planners at all levels of government, as well as engineers, consultants, researchers, insurance and non-profit organization participants.

Ohio representatives included: local and state government agencies, consultants, engineers, non-profit organizations and Ohio Floodplain Management Association (OFMA) members. During the kick-off ASFPM general membership session, OFMA was provided a charter recognizing “Chapter Status” in the ASFPM.

The following benefits are now available to OFMA as a Chapter of the ASFPM:

- A forum for becoming involved in national issues that affect all flood hazard managers.
- A Chapter is able to place issues of a regional nature on the ASFPM agenda.
- The ASFPM Officers and Board place a significant emphasis on the views brought forth by the Chapters.

Membership benefits for the Chapter include:

- The Chapter receives one vote at general membership meetings.
- Members are represented on the Board of Directors at a ratio of one Board member for every five chapters.
- Chapter members may serve on ASFPM policy committees.
- Chapter members receive discounts on the purchase of all ASFPM publications.
- One Chapter officer receives all ASFPM mailings for distribution within their association.
- All Chapter members are eligible for the membership registration rate at ASFPM conferences and workshops.
- Chapters may reproduce or excerpt information from ASFPM newsletters and publications (with proper credit).

Ohio’s Floodplain Management Program was also recognized during the Awards Luncheon (see

related cover article) and Chad Berginnis – Program Supervisor, ODNR, Division of Water was elected as the new Vice Chair of ASFPM. To learn more about the purpose and priorities of the ASFPM visit their website at <http://www.floods.org>.



The full six-day format included technical workshops, field tours, committee work sessions, plenary and breakout sessions all focused through seven key tracks. The tracks reflected current major issue or topic areas for floodplain management. The tracks were: no adverse impact; arid regions issues (a local focus that changes annually to reflect concerns of the host state area); community planning and mitigation; National Flood Insurance Program and floodplain management issues, technology and tools, floodplain mapping and technology, and public education and outreach. The topics most sought after were floodplain mapping / technology, community planning and mitigation. This should not be a surprise to anyone who has followed the policy and legislative changes from the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the last 12-18 months.

The interest in community and mitigation planning is being fueled by the criteria established in the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA2000). The impact of the DMA2000 on communities is more fully explained in the article titled *FEMA Makes Funding Available For Mitigation Planning* (see page 9). I attended a six-hour workshop “Flood Mitigation Planning–The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000” that focused on the local level community information needed to

support hazard mitigation planning. The Interim Final Rule published in the Federal Register (Volume 67, No. 38 / Tuesday, February 26, 2002 / Rules and Regulations) establishes a new requirement for local mitigation plans as a condition for disaster assistance. The workshop emphasis reinforced the link between pre-disaster planning, building and construction standards, and post-disaster recovery actions. ODNR, Division of Water (in cooperation with the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, Mitigation Branch) is developing some planning guides and preparing our GIS data (100-year flood risk areas, floodway boundaries and structure inventory) to support local community planning. Look for examples of the planning process and flood hazard data a related article about the Appalachian Flood Risk Reduction Initiative (see page 8).

The floodplain mapping and technology track was very popular due to the FEMA priority to modernize flood maps. There were several sessions focused on new technologies, such as automated mapping, geographic information systems, Light Detection and Ranging, digital flood map standards, and FEMA's funding and cooperating technical partner framework. The updating of the maps must address some specific performance measures that FEMA has identified:

- ✓ Reducing the average age of maps to 6 years from current of 13+ years;
- ✓ Producing digital mapping products with up-to-date flood hazard data for the highest priority areas;

- ✓ Developing flood maps for half of the unmapped communities that are flood prone;
- ✓ Encouraging state and local cost-share for projects.

FEMA has been tasked with making the maps more accurate and developing more effective and efficient procedures for creating, storing, updating, and distributing the flood hazard maps and studies. They will be relying on state and local partners to help accomplish the modernization and match federal funding.

The plenary sessions set the stage by focusing on the new directions for flood mitigation, the importance of community-based planning, the need to integrate flood risk reduction programs with floodplain resource protection programs, exploring new partners for flood risk reduction, identifying the economic incentives for supporting flood risk reduction, and how the new technologies for mapping and management of risk reduction can make floodplain management more efficient and effective.

Training workshops were held throughout the weeklong conference. Topics addressed everything from basic floodplain management, flood-proofing techniques, map revisions and amendments, FEMA guidelines for mapping partners to eliminating repetitive-loss structures. Completion of the training workshops resulted in accumulation of Continuing Education Credits to support the Certified Floodplain Manager annual training and professional development requirements.

Technical field tours were conducted to highlight best management practices, and show-case some of the arid regions unique floodplain challenges. There were also social and networking opportunities throughout the week that provided a chance to compare strategies, program activities and to just see things from another's perspective. Networking was carried on throughout an exhibit area that included demonstrations and discussions of the newest tools and services to support mitigation planning, hazard management and flood mapping. Flood-proofing product vendors were gathered to display their materials and answer questions. The conference truly offered something for everyone!

The ASFPM conference agenda and six days of concurrent sessions, technical workshops, field tours, panel discussions, policy development and exhibits of the latest technology and tools of floodplain management is a "consumer's best buy." This year's "package price" (including training workshop, field tour, early-bird sessions and evening socials) was only \$465 for ASFPM members. If you have never attended the national conference, consider including the registration and travel in your budget for next year. The ASFPM 2003 annual conference will be held in St. Louis, Mo. from May 11-17, 2003. The theme will be *Lessons Learned: Gateway to Flood Mitigation*. General Gerald Galloway has agreed to speak and revisit the recommendations and challenges that he was instrumental in developing after the 1993 Mississippi River flooding. 



BY CAROLYN WATKINS, CHIEF,
OEPA, OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Looking for a way to fund your outreach programs, or get the word to a specific stakeholder group? Consider the **Ohio Environmental Education Fund (OEEF)** at Ohio EPA. OEEF provides \$1 million annually to support education projects targeting the regulated community, the general public, and pre-school through university students and teachers. OEEF offers mini-grants of \$500 to \$5,000, and general grants up to \$50,000. The next application deadlines will be January 15 and July 15, 2003.

OEEF provides funding for training seminars, workshops, how-to guides, videos and slideshows, publications and on-line resources. Two recent examples illustrate how floodplain managers might be able to use this funding source. The Home Builders' Association of the Mahoning Valley (HBA) received a

\$5,000 mini-grant to train 200 builders, 79 developers and 38 landscapers in the application of Urban Best Management Practices for storm water and construction sites, whenever one or more acres of ground is disturbed. The project uses ODNR's *Rainwater and Land Development Manual* to target builders in Columbiana, Mahoning, and Trumbull counties.

The Chagrin River Watershed Partners also received a mini-grant, for audiovisual equipment to help local officials and citizens understand the causes of and solutions to increased flooding, erosion, and water quality problems. Like most grant makers, OEEF is reluctant to provide funding strictly for equipment. The CWRP made a persuasive case by documenting that during the first year, the projector would be used for 8 public forums, 1 seminar for planning professionals, 6 presentations to local government councils, 2 workshops for local zoning officials, and 2 Board of Trustee meetings.

Some tips on getting your project funded:

- Collaborate with other stakeholder groups, or associations that represent the audience you are trying to reach.
- Adapt good quality education materials available from other sources to your local conditions, rather than reinventing the wheel.
- Provide hands-on activities and demonstrations that let participants try new techniques for themselves.
- Start early, and ask the staff at OEEF to comment on a draft of your proposal.

The OEEF is interested in increasing the number of grants it awards for projects that target regulated entities and the general public.

OEEF staff also offers free grant-writing workshops (see page 18). More information is available online at www.epa.state.oh.us/other/oeef/oeemain.html, and prospective applicants can also email oeef@epa.state.oh.us or call (614) 644-2873.

2002 Severe Weather Awareness Contest Winners Honored

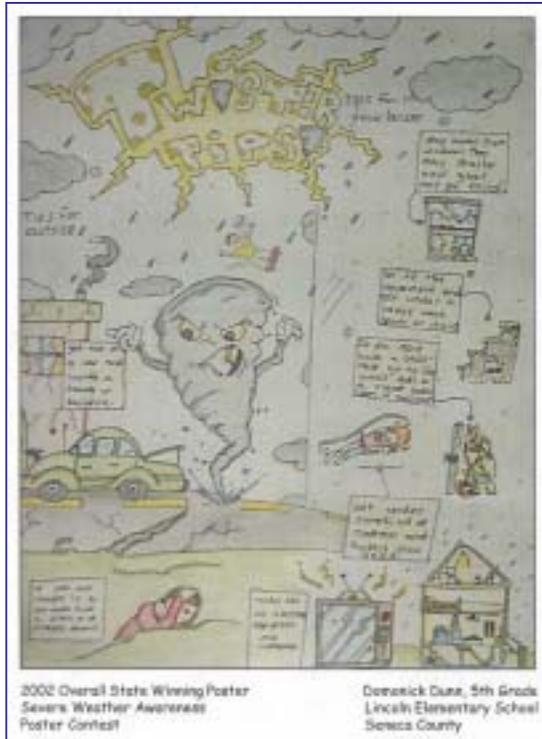
BY CHRISTOPHER M. THOMS, CFM, ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST,
DIVISION OF WATER

Domonick Dunn, a 5th grade student from Lincoln Elementary School in Seneca County was recognized at the Ohio State Fair as the overall state winner in the 25th annual Severe Weather Safety Awareness Poster Contest.

Domonick's poster (shown at right) was chosen as most informative, accurate and creative from hundreds of entries received by the Ohio Committee for

Severe Weather Awareness as part of its annual statewide poster contest.

I had the honor of being the Master of Ceremonies this year and with other committee members was able to personally thank the poster contest participants who contribute so much to Ohio's severe weather awareness.





Christopher *MC-ing* at Severe Weather Poster Award Ceremony

Fifty-seven students from 22 Ohio counties were honored as Regional Winners. They are:

1st Grade

- Taylor Curtis of Adams County
- Morgan Goubeaux of Montgomery County
- Linsey Grzeschik of Stark County
- Cade LeLonde of Williams County
- Devyn Kent of Wayne County
- Teresa Kuhns of Guernsey County
- Shane McQueen of Licking County
- Chad Plummer of Crawford County

2nd Grade

- Clinton Bigelow of Crawford County
- Leslie Becker of Montgomery County
- Heath Gerber of Wayne County
- Taylor Henning of Cuyahoga County
- Allison McManaway of Guernsey County
- Paige Newman of Adams County
- Kristy Payne of Washington County
- Katie Schwendeman of Fairfield County
- Dylan Stark of Williams County

3rd Grade

- Brett Beadling of Stark County
- Andrea Etchen of Williams County
- Jonathan Harper of Adams County

- Sarah Hill of Washington County
- Ashley Laughbaum of Crawford County
- Nicole Montgomery of Columbiana County
- Lindsey Shaffer of Pickaway County
- Lauren Tharp of Montgomery County
- Brittany Tosatto of Wayne County

4th Grade

- Shae Carter of Seneca County
- Taryn Hanzie of Wayne County
- Bronson Knecht of Williams County
- Kayla Kozar of Columbiana County
- Lindsay Mayors of Summit County
- Nicole Otte of Mercer County
- Tarasa Rauch of Washington County
- Jessica Tharp of Fairfield County
- Breann Voytko of Guernsey County
- Tabitha Wheeler of Adams County

5th Grade

- Haley Carr of Washington County
- Breonna Carter of Mahoning County
- Allison Chiles of Clark County
- Kelsey Dorsey of Lorain County
- Hugh Dresbach of Pickaway County

- County
- Domonick Dunn of Seneca County
- Alesia Hollinger of Williams County
- April Paskins of Adams County
- Rachel Phillips of Columbiana County
- Scott Rainey of Pickaway County

6th Grade

- Bridget Bowman of Lawrence County
- Lacey Jo Elliott of Pickaway County
- Chelsea Esenwein of Columbiana County
- Laura Miske of Cuyahoga County
- Travis Parish of Adams County
- Danielle Schroeder of Putnam County
- Kelsey Schafer of Greene County
- Sarah Striker of Crawford County
- Michelle Vesely of Lorain County

All winners received a duffel bag filled with a variety of prizes donated by the member organizations that make up the severe weather awareness committee.

Seven of these Regional Winners were chosen as State Winners. They are:

- 1st grader Taylor Curtis of Adams County,
- 2nd grader Katie Schwendeman of Fairfield County,
- 3rd grader Lindsey Shaffer of



OEMA's Dale Shipley and Red Cross' Lynn Cook with just a few of the winners

Pickaway County, 4th grader Lindsay Mayors of Summit County, 5th graders Hugh Dresbach and Scott Rainey, both of Pickaway County, and 6th grader Sarah Striker of Crawford County.

In addition to their regional

awards, these seven received letters from Governor Bob Taft and the committee, and a \$50 savings bond.

As the Overall State Winner, Domonick Dunn also received a \$100 savings bond, and a weather radio along with a personal trophy. Dominick's school will

have the *traveling* trophy to showcase at his school for a year. This latter trophy has the names of the Overall State Winners honoring all the participants over the past 25 years for their efforts to help us all protect our families and ourselves before, during, and after severe weather. 

Winter Safety Awareness Week

BY CHRISTOPHER M. THOMS, CFM
ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST,
DIVISION OF WATER



Governor Robert Taft has proclaimed November 17th through 23rd as Winter Safety Awareness Week. Each year, the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness (OCSWA) sponsors two awareness weeks to draw attention to the need to prepare for severe weather.

OCSWA sends severe weather information packets tailored for teachers and media statewide. These packets contain statistics and safety tips about flooding, tornados, winter storms, and thunderstorms. Each year a Severe Weather Poster Contest is conducted for elementary students and since the threat of severe weather is with us throughout the year, the winner's

poster is used to promote severe weather awareness year-round.

National and state flood recovery costs exceed all other natural disaster costs combined. By incorporating flood damage reduction strategies—starting with the consistent enforcement of your community's flood damage prevention regulations—we can work to reduce the tragic loss of life and property.

The OCSWA consists of representatives from National Weather Service; State Fire Marshall; Ohio Departments of Aging, Education, Health, Insurance, Natural Resources, and Public Safety; County Emergency Management Director's

Association; Red Cross; Ohio Insurance Institute; and the Ohio News Network. These organizations are committed to promoting severe weather safety.

If you would like to receive more information concerning severe weather safety, please contact your county emergency management agency or the local chapter of the Red Cross. For a copy of the educational materials developed in support of this awareness effort contact the Ohio Emergency Management Agency at (614) 799-3695 or download the information from the Ohio EMA Website at state.oh.us/odps/division/ema/ 

The OSWC encourages you as a local floodplain administrator to take this occasion to promote wise floodplain management and flood hazard awareness. 



Grant Writing: Connecting with Community Resources

The Ohio Environmental Education Fund (OEEF) at Ohio EPA offers a workshop agenda that includes: Getting Started – Developing a Project Idea
Thinking Like A Funder exercise
Finding the Right Funder - Foundations, Corporations and Government Grant makers
OEEF Grant Cycle, Review Process,

Preferred Projects
Resources and Tips—Common Mistake Applicants Make

Writing a Successful Proposal
- Developing a Proposal from a Project Idea: the Need Statement
- Linking Objectives and Activities to the Need

Small Group Exercise: drafting a need statement, objectives, & activities
Outcome Measurements, Evaluating

Your Project's Success, and the Dissemination Plan
Making a Wish List: Realistic Budgets and Timelines
Lining up support letters and Insights from Successful Proposals

For information on upcoming workshops contact: Carolyn Watkins, Chief, OEPA, Office of Environmental Education at (614) 644-2873 or e-mail: carolyn.watkins@epa.state.oh.us or visit their website at www.epa.state.oh.us/other/oeef/oeemain.html  



NOTICE:

Ohio Floodplain Management Association (OFMA)



Elections to the OFMA Board will be held at the Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO) Fall Meeting on Thursday, October 24, 2002. If you are a WMAO member and would like to become active in OFMA or serve on the OFMA Board, please contact Gary Ziegler (Chairman) at 419-424-7109 for more information.

Workshop Watch



BY CHRISTOPHER M. THOMS, CFM,
ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST,
DIVISION OF WATER

We will be conducting our next Flood Loss Reduction Workshop in the Village of Bellevue on November 21, 2002.

Providing leadership to local governments, state agencies, and interested parties toward cooperative management of Ohio's floodplains to ensure the reduction of flood damage and the recognition of the floodplain's natural benefit is our mission. We accomplish this through technical assistance, public awareness, education, and development/protection standards. One effective way to accomplish our mission is by offering these workshops and so, each year we look for a variety of workshop locations and hosts.

By committing to be a local host, you provide the officials in your area an opportunity to increase their awareness and knowledge of National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) topics. The workshops focus on assisting local officials with understanding floodplain management concepts and specific NFIP participation responsibilities.

Workshop participants will be provided an opportunity to work in

small groups through a hands-on exercise simulating development review and permit issuance for a proposed development in a special flood hazard area. If you would like to be a host for a workshop in your area, please contact our office at (614) 265-

6750 or check our website at <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/water/> for information about Bellevue or any other scheduled workshops around Ohio. We will be happy to answer your questions, provide additional information, and discuss your training needs.



Floodplain Management Training Available

For the latest information about upcoming

Lender & Insurance Agent Seminars

visit:

 <http://www.fema.gov/nfip/wshops.htm>

or call: Rich Slevin, Regional Marketing Manager for the NFIP at
(630) 577-1407

FEMA offers on-campus & correspondence courses through the **Emergency Management Institute (EMI)** in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

For information or a course catalog describing EMI's Floodplain Management Courses visit:

 <http://www.training.fema.gov/>

or call
(800) 238-3358





In Memory of Peter G. Finke
November 4, 1942 – April 18, 2002

Peter Finke provided distinguished service and leadership for over three decades in the field of floodplain management. He utilized collaboration and creativity throughout his career and drew strength from his personal dedication and conviction to build a statewide floodplain management program. His efforts have helped to improve the quality of life for Ohioans present and future. His impact did not stop at the state boundary; he also was an integral part of developing the national policy on floodplain management. As a Committee Chair for the Association of State Floodplain Managers, he promoted legislation and initiatives that addressed the broad goals of reducing risk and promoting the natural benefit and function of the floodplain. Peter's career and contributions have provided a solid foundation for his colleagues and friends to build upon.

The Division of Water suggests, and his family concurs, that memorial contributions to the Association of State Floodplain Managers Foundation would be an appropriate tribute to Peter. Peter was one of the founding members of the Association of State Floodplain Managers and supported the purpose of the Foundation which emphasizes training, education / public awareness, and research. The Foundation financially supports a variety of projects and activities that focus on wise floodplain management as the means to address our flooding problems and the way to provide sustainable development for future generations.

Contributions to the ASFPM Foundation in Peter's memory can be sent to:

Association of State Floodplain Managers Foundation
2809 Fish Hatchery Road, Suite 204
Madison, Wisconsin 53713
(608) 274 – 0123

(Please make your checks payable to ASFPM Foundation and return the following with your check.)

I WOULD LIKE MY GIFT DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF PETER G. FINKE.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

(Personal data is for ASFPM use only. For more information on Foundation activities visit www.floods.org.)



DIVISION OF WATER
1939 FOUNTAIN SQUARE
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43224

Bob Taft,
Governor

Samuel W. Speck,
Director

James R. Morris,
Chief



ATTENTION READERS!



The Antediluvian is now Online. You can view or print out this edition as well as previous editions by visiting our website at <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/water/pubs/newsltrs/antediluvian/antediluvian.htm> We hope to offer this service in place of mailing a paper copy. Hopefully, this will reduce your paper load and our mailing costs. More information to follow...



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Christopher M. Thoms, Editor

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