AGENCY MISSION
Warren County EMA coordinates and prepares for county-wide all-hazards disasters. This is accomplished through planning, community education, warning, training, grant funding, and response and recovery efforts to prepare and protect the citizens of Warren County before, during, and after natural and man-made disasters.

AUTHORITY
Warren County EMA in accordance with Chapter 5502 of the Ohio Revised Code is a county-wide emergency management program that coordinates all-hazards emergency management and disaster preparedness functions for 24 jurisdictions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village of Butlerville</th>
<th>Harlan Twp.</th>
<th>Salem Twp.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Village of Carlisle</td>
<td>Village of Harveysbug</td>
<td>Village of South Lebanon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clearcreek Twp.</td>
<td>City of Lebanon</td>
<td>City of Springboro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Village of Corwin</td>
<td>Village of Maineville</td>
<td>Turtlecreek Twp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deerfield Twp.</td>
<td>City of Mason</td>
<td>Union Twp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Franklin</td>
<td>Massie Twp.</td>
<td>Washington Twp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Twp.</td>
<td>Village of Morrow</td>
<td>Wayne Twp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton Twp.</td>
<td>Village of Pleasant Plain</td>
<td>Village of Waynesville</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PHASES OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

**PREVENTION:**
Actions taken to avoid an incident.

**MITIGATION:**
Activities that prevent an emergency, reduce the likelihood of occurrence, or reduce the damaging effects of unavoidable hazards.

**PREPAREDNESS:**
Activities taken in advance of an emergency that facilitates the implementation of a coordinated response.

**RESPONSE:**
Any action taken immediately before, during, or directly after an emergency or disaster that saves lives, stabilizes the incident, or minimizes property damage.

**RECOVERY:**
Short-term activities that return vital systems back to minimal operations and long-term activities designed to restore normal community functions.
FUNCTIONS OF WARREN COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

- Citizen Preparedness
- Public Alerting & Warning
- Public Information & Education
- Emergency Planning
- Emergency Response
- Recovery Operations
- Mitigation Efforts
- Local Emergency Planning Committee
- Hazard Mitigation and All-Hazards Emergency Planning
- Training & Exercise Coordination

WARREN COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS

Jurisdictional Event

Request resources from the county when capabilities are exceeded.

Request resources from State when capabilities are exceeded.

Receives requests from multiple jurisdictions

State assists with resource requests and delivers resources back to the county.

Federal Govt. coordinates resource delivery with the state.

Receives requests from multiple counties

Request resources from the Federal Government when capabilities are exceeded.

State requests resources from Federal Govt. when capabilities are exceeded.
WARREN COUNTY HAZARDS

In an effort to minimize the impacts of emergencies and disasters, Warren County EMA assesses the hazards that pose a risk to the County. The identification of these risks helps the County with preparedness, planning, and mitigation efforts to help reduce the negative consequences of a catastrophic event. As part of the Hazard Mitigation Plan, a committee of community stakeholders reviewed localized events, natural hazards trends, relevant documents, and previous incidents in order to rank natural and man-made hazards.

1. Temperature Extremes
2. Winter Storms
3. Earthquakes
4. Summer Storms
5. Tornadoes
6. Drought
7. Flooding
8. Wildfire
9. Dam Failure

PLANNING PROGRAM

Warren County EMA is responsible for countywide emergency planning, including the continuous maintenance of the Warren County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and all associated Emergency Support Functions (ESF) and Annexes, using a risk-based all-hazards approach.

During 2018, EMA staff updated the Emergency Operations Base plan, the Hazardous Materials Response Plan, and several Emergency Support Function plans. Additionally, EMA staff reviewed and/or provided input on multiple school plans and the regional pursuit communication plan.

REGIONAL PLANNING COLLABORATION

The Southwest Ohio counties collaborate often on planning efforts. By working collaboratively, this ensures that emergency response plans are consistent and don’t conflict with our neighboring jurisdictions.

Annually, Warren County leads a collaborative effort to compile the region’s Training and Exercise Plan. Working together on this plan strips out duplications in trainings and exercises and ensures that course offerings are spread throughout the region.
TRAINING/EXERCISE PROGRAM

Training and exercises are an essential part of community preparedness. 2018 saw the most aggressive training and exercise program in the history of Warren County EMA. Internally, EMA staff attended 11 regional course offerings, and employees David Wood and Lesli Holt graduated from FEMA’s Basic Academy. Externally, EMA staff taught 18 trainings to local and regional stakeholders throughout the year.

Warren County EMA was also busy exercising plans with multiple agencies around the county. EMA staff participated in the LEPC tabletop exercise and monthly state drills, evaluated three neighboring county exercises, and facilitated 5 other exercises with schools and other local partners. The department also ran through multiple tabletop scenarios in preparation for the POTUS visit to the county to identify needed resources, pre-plan staging areas, and prepare EOC staff for possible events.

In 2018, Warren County EMA had the privilege to work with the Warren County Career Center to develop a full-scale evacuation/family reunification exercise. EMA staff spent several weeks teaching the students in the Criminal Justice class how to conduct exercises and assisted students in developing the exercise Master Scenario Events List (MSEL), objectives, and evaluation forms. This exercise has been used as a benchmark for Warren County schools and lessons learned from it have developed into a comprehensive training course that EMA delivered to the Warren County ESC in 2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training Stats</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Training Courses Delivered</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Participants in Training</td>
<td>288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercises Facilitated by EMA</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMA Staff Training/Exercise Hours</td>
<td>378*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Does not include hours spent developing, planning, or meeting about exercises or trainings
**EMA OPERATIONS**

Warren County EMA is responsible for implementing plans, policies, and standard operating procedures developed to respond to and recover from events in the county.

Events can range from routine incidents such as receiving reports from hazardous materials handlers regarding chemical releases to extraordinary events such as natural or man-made disasters.

Warren County EMA operations ensure that the county is ready for emergency coordination response to all-hazards events 24 hours a day/7 days per week. To accomplish this, WCEMA incorporates an on-call system, assigning a staff member to continuously monitor county situational awareness during normal business hours and after hours. Based on current technology, EMA staff are able to monitor real-time weather reports, regional and state reports, and multiple news and social media streams from anywhere in the county. This system is vital to collecting information and being available to respond to after-hours emergencies.

**RESPONSE** Last year, WC EMA responded to over 74 incidents or events in the county. Response efforts included (but were not limited to) maintaining situational awareness of events, contacting state response/regulatory agencies (such as EPA or Ohio Utilities Protection Service), activating select EOC positions to monitor weather events, or partially activating the EOC for events of significance.

EMA staff also responded to a few incidents in the field. 2018 saw some instances of flooding in the county which prompted the need for damage assessments. Cataloging damages, interviewing homeowners, and quantifying the impact helped to determine if the county met thresholds for financial assistance. Additional responses included on-scene assessment of chemical releases with the Ohio EPA and manual river gauge readings on the Little Miami River.
The Warren County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) provides a central location for interagency and inter-jurisdictional coordination and executive decision-making to better manage disaster response and recovery in our county. The Warren County EOC is designed to foster effective communications, build situational awareness and establish a common operational picture for all involved in the incident response. The facility and its staff serve to support incident commanders and jurisdictional leadership through information collection, evaluation, display and dissemination; establishment of clear priorities; short-term and long-term planning; efficient resource management; and coordination of damage assessment and other recovery operations.

EOC Operations are scalable and modular. Daily operations include situational awareness and monitoring and can scale up to full activation of multiple positions on the EOC Org Chart.

Any incident commander can request the county EOC to activate if they feel their jurisdiction needs assistance with coordinating resources. The EOC Manager and/or WCDES Director can determine the scale of EOC operation based on the scope of the incident.

The Warren County EOC is typically activated at some capacity for every severe weather threat. EMA staff (and sometimes other EOC staff) maintain situational awareness, produce threat and hazard reports, and position for further activation and resource coordination.

The EOC can also activate for planned events that have significant impact on the county. An example would be the EOC partial activation for the Presidential visit in October 2018.
Public outreach is essential to helping our communities mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters. Warren County EMA has increased its public outreach program in 2018, participating in the following activities:

- Kings Island Safety Days
- National Night Out
- Educational Tours and severe weather preparedness for all 4th grade Donovan Elementary classes
- Severe weather preparedness and response presentation at Salem Twp. Public Library & Toddler Time Daycare Safety Days
- Intro to EMA with Warren County Career Center Legal class, Lebanon High School student Government class and Career Prep Class, and new dispatchers
- Personal Preparedness for Warren County CERT Basic Academy

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

Warren County EMA is very active on social media platforms, specifically Facebook and Twitter. Staff have worked hard to increase EMA’s social media presence, and have utilized the platforms to provide preparedness education and warnings to the public. These platforms provide essential communications to the public and encourage information flow for situational awareness back to the EMA.

Social Media accounts are linked to EMA’s website. If the public is seeking information during or after an incident the real-time posts can be found in multiple places!
GRANT FUNDING

Warren County EMA is responsible for administering and procuring grants that help improve local government’s abilities to prevent, protect, respond and recover from natural and man-made disasters. This funding is available through multiple state and federal agencies.

Warren County EMA Operations are primarily funded through the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG). EMPG requires quarterly reviews, surveys and compliance, and rule-based governance of funding. Since EMA also contracts with Warren County LEPC to carry out its functions, the State Emergency Response Committee (SERC) and LEPC grant is utilized to help carry out those functions of training, planning, and exercising.

In 2018, Warren County EMA also participated in evaluating projects for the State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHGP). This is a regional grant that helps fund counterterrorism programs and capabilities.

Along with grants that help fund operations, there are additional pass-through grants that fund other projects. Warren County EMA applied for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to fund additional river gauges that will help forecast river flooding for certain communities.

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)

The Warren County LEPC is a committed partnership between industry and government to improve emergency planning, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts for emergencies involving hazardous chemicals. LEPC’s are formed under the federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and they must develop an emergency response plan, review the plan at least annually, and provide information about chemicals in the community to the citizens.

Warren County LEPC strives to:

- Increase awareness in the community about the presence of hazardous chemicals and releases in the environment.
- Assist communities with the development of emergency action plans
- Maintain/Administer Tier II information
- Participate in public/private entity drills and exercise

The Warren County EMA office, along with local fire departments and state emergency response commissions, receives reports from businesses that store certain quantities of hazardous chemicals on an annual basis. These Tier II reports help identify where large quantities of hazardous chemicals are stored in the county, and provide vital information to response agencies who may be involved in emergencies at those facilities.

In 2018

- UPDATED THE COUNTY HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE PLAN
- HELD TABLETOP EXERCISE WITH OVER 20 PARTICIPANTS
- RECEIVED 154 TIER II REPORTS