

STATE OF OHIO

Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Columbus

IN RECOGNITION OF
Flood Safety Awareness Week
March 15-19, 2010

Floods are one of the most common – and most costly – natural disasters in the United States. In fact, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) estimates that 90 percent of all natural disasters involve flooding. Flood effects can be local, impacting communities and multiple counties, or very large, impacting entire river basins and multiple states.

In a coordinated effort with the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH), the National Weather Service, and FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program, the state of Ohio is participating in flood preparedness and awareness efforts during National Flood Safety Awareness Week, March 15-19.

State agencies also promoting flood safety and preparedness include the Ohio Department of Insurance, Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety.

During this week, Ohioans are encouraged to learn about the hazards associated with flooding and know what safety steps to take to save themselves and their property in the event of a flood. Ohio homeowners should invest in flood insurance coverage. Citizens should have an emergency plan and know what to do and where to go should evacuation orders be enacted. Everyone should have an emergency supply kit for the home and an emergency supply kit for their automobile in the event of an evacuation order. When driving during inclement weather, NEVER drive through flood roads or low water crossings. Turn around and go another way.

Now, therefore, I, Ted Strickland, Governor of the state of Ohio, do hereby proclaim

March 15-19, 2010 as Flood Safety Awareness Week

I encourage all Ohio citizens to update and practice their emergency plans and know what actions they can take to prepare for, respond to and recover from severe weather events such as flooding. I call upon state and local governments, emergency managers, educators and the media to remind and inform Ohioans about flood safety and preparedness, and provide information about the resources available.

On this 15th day of March 2010,



Ted Strickland
Governor