



**Ohio Emergency Management Agency**  
**HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING GRANT**

**FEMA-DR-1453.07P - OH**

**Quarterly Report**

**County Name:** **ASHLAND COUNTY EMA**

**Quarter Ending Date:**                     3/31/09                    

**Directions:** Please provide in narrative form, detailed information regarding the activities your county has completed under each heading. **Each entry should start with the quarter ending date.** If you have not addressed a particular component for the quarter for which you are reporting, no entry is necessary. Save the document to your computer hard drive. You will be adding to this same document each quarter, building towards your final grant closeout report. It is imperative that the information provided is detailed and complete.

**Component A: Getting Organized / Forming your mitigation team**

*This section should include a list of the members on your core committee and their affiliation.*

**3rd Quarter – Ending 9/30/05**

The Ashland County Mitigation Planning Committee for Natural Disasters (ACMPC) was established during August of 2005. Members were selected by the Director of the Ashland County Emergency Management Agency (ACEMA). Individuals were chosen on the basis of their affiliations with County political subdivisions as well as their involvement with County government. The names and relevant affiliations are as follows:

Chip Poland	EMA
Mark Burgess	Ashland City Fire
Pat Donaldson	Ash City-County Health
Rob McClaran	Volunteer Fire
Mike Welch	County Commissioner
E. Wayne Risner	County Sheriff
Vicki Rosser	Samaritan Hospital
Matt Miller	County Commissioner
Kim Edwards	Village Mayors

Kurt Brzyscz	City Public Works
Dan Scott	Solid Waste District
Anna M. Tomasek	Director of Accounting, City of Ashland
Bill Miracle	City Police Chief
Julia Nolan Woodruff	OSU Extension
Dan Mager	MCWD
Chester Millheim	Township Trustee

A formal contract was signed during the quarter that allowed planning activities to continue without delay.

During the quarter, a meeting was held between the Ashland County EMA Director Chip Poland and Dave Heinlen, mitigation planner, to discuss the processes involved in the development of the County Mitigation Plan.

Subsequent to the initial Committee meeting, the ACEMA Director held informal discussions on mitigation planning issues with Committee and community members.

#### **4th Quarter – Ending 12/31/05**

The ACEMA Director convened the initial meeting of the Planning Committee held at Ashland County Sheriff's Office in Ashland on October 19, 2005. An overview of the planning procedures was described as well as detailed provisions necessary for the development and approval of the County Plan. Committee members were informed of the steps that would be taken during the planning process and their specific roles as a part of that process. Community participation was described and stressed as a major component in Plan development.

Chester Millheim was not re-elected as Township Trustee and withdrew from the committee. George Parks was selected to replace Mr. Millheim on the Planning Committee.

#### **4th Quarter – Ending 12/31/06**

Kim Edwards, representing County Mayors, resigned and withdrew from the Planning Committee. That position on the Committee remains vacant.

#### **3rd Quarter – Ending 9/30/07**

Kim Edwards, as a newly-elected County Commissioner, re-assumed her position on the Mitigation Planning Committee.

Chip Poland was removed from the Planning Committee following his relinquishing his position as ACEMA Director.

#### **4th Quarter – Ending 12/31/07**

Mark Rafeld replaced Chip Poland as Director of the ACEMA, also replacing him as a part of the Mitigation Planning Committee.

Larry Paxton replaced Kurt Brzyszc on the Mitigation Planning Committee representing City Public Works.

#### **Component B:      Conduct Hazard Assessment**

*This section should include information on identification of hazards; a profile of hazard events; development of a community profile; vulnerability analysis; and estimate of losses.*

#### **4th Quarter – Ending 12/31/05**

The initial review of information on natural disasters that have impacted the County was conducted at the Ashland County Library. This information will be used to compile the Hazard Analysis section of the Mitigation Plan. Information on these disasters was also obtained from Mitigation Planning Committee members.

The issue of no GIS within the County was discussed with the Ashland County Auditor, other relevant County officials, BGSU personnel, and Rick Warren, OEMA.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter – Ending 3/31/06**

We continued to work on the hazard analysis section of the Mitigation Plan and attempting to determine the best mechanism for estimating losses to structures by use group and their project recovery costs.

#### **2nd Quarter – Ending 6/30/06**

Met with several Geographers at BGSU to discuss alternatives on estimating property use groups and associated loss values for the Plan Hazard Analysis.

Discussed property assessment difficulties with County Auditor and other County officials.

Obtained land use and floodplain maps from Yu Zhou, BGSU. These will be used in discussions with the County Auditor to determine their effectiveness in Hazard Analysis.

Continued to provide additional information to the Hazard Analysis section (non-land use/non-property value).

### **3rd Quarter – Ending 9/30/06**

Discussed property data information with Phil Leibolt, Ashland County Auditor and Yu Zhou, BGSU.

Completed initial draft of the Hazard Analysis section of the Plan and submitted it to Chip Poland, Director of the Ashland County EMA. Once his review is completed it will be forwarded to the Mitigation Planning Committee for their review and submission to the Ohio EMA for their review.

### **4<sup>th</sup> Quarter – Ending 12/31/06**

Submitted the draft Hazard Analysis to the Ohio Emergency Management Agency for their review.

## **Component C: Identifying the Problem(s)**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter – Ending 3/31/08**

The identification of problems was accomplished as a part of the Conclusions segment of the Hazard Analysis and as a part of Committee discussions held during the review of submitted mitigation project proposals. This assessment identified those hazards that were most likely to present the greatest degree of problems to the County. Problems were also identified on the basis of their potential of occurrence, the severity of their impact, and their potential for mitigation.

## **Component D: Set Goals**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter – Ending 3/31/08**

The proposed mitigation goals were distributed to the Planning Committee for their review and final adoption. Formal and informal discussions and formal approval came in conjunction with the review and final approval of the individual mitigation project proposals.

## **Component E: Identify Potential Projects**

### **4<sup>th</sup> Quarter – Ending 12/31/06**

Prepared memo to County Commissioners, city and village mayors, and township trustees explaining the process of developing and submitting mitigation project proposals. The draft memo was submitted to the Ashland County EMA Director for his review and mailing to the aforementioned individuals. Included with the memo sent will be the mitigation project proposal form and examples of projects submitted by other counties.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter – Ending 3/31/07**

Submitted the aforementioned memo to those identified above and received project proposals from the following political subdivisions:

Ashland County  
City of Ashland  
Village of Bailey Lakes  
Village of Savannah  
Village of Perrysville  
Green Township/Village of Perrysville  
Lake Township  
Mohican Township  
Orange Township  
Perry Township  
Troy Township

A follow-up memo will be sent to representatives of the villages who have not submitted projects for consideration.

A news release has been developed for release by the *Ashland Times Gazette*, the newspaper of general circulation throughout the County. This release will describe the mitigation planning process, strongly urging citizen participation in that process, and describing how that participation can be accomplished.

### **2nd Quarter – Ending 6/30/07**

Submitted the aforementioned memo to those identified above and received project proposals from the following political subdivisions:

Village of Loudonville  
Village of Jeromesville  
Village of Hayesville

Ruggles Township

The EMA Director has contacted a representative from the *Ashland Times Gazette* to assist the planning process by including the article within an upcoming addition of the newspaper.

### **3rd Quarter – Ending 9/30/07**

The *Ashland Times Gazette* published an article that explained the development of the Mitigation Plan and the process in that development. The article also explained project proposal sub mission and requested the assistance of citizens in recommending projects to their respective government officials.

The Planning Committee received project proposals from the following incorporated political subdivisions:

Village of Polk  
Village of Mifflin

As previously indicated, the Director of the ACEMA relinquished his position during the quarter. With the Director's position remaining vacant, the Mitigation Planning contractor, in conjunction with the Ashland County Commissioner's Office, discussed the activities needed to complete the Plan and how to accomplish that task.

### **4th Quarter – Ending 12/31/07**

Copies of proposed mitigation projects were distributed to Planning Committee members for their review. A formal meeting of the Committee will be held during the next quarter to discuss the project proposals and determine those that will be incorporated within the Plan.

#### **Component F:      Select the Best Activities and Develop Action Plans**

*This section should include information on the methodology used to determine the best activities.*

### **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter – Ending 3/31/08**

The Planning Committee convened on February 12, 2008 to review the individual mitigation project proposals submitted and to discuss their inclusion within the draft Mitigation Plan. The Committee also discussed several additional projects and incorporated them within the draft Plan, as well.

From the projects accepted, Action Plans were discussed, developed, and approved for these and other general projects and incorporated within the draft Plan.

## **Component G: Prepare Your Draft Plan**

### **4th Quarter – Ending 12/31/07**

Initial development of the draft Plan began during this quarter. Common elements consistent with previously approved plans were used to begin the compilation of the draft Plan.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter – Ending 3/31/08**

Following the February 12<sup>th</sup> Planning Committee meeting, the accepted projects and action plans were incorporated within the draft Plan. The draft Plan was compiled and submitted to the Committee during the last week in February. Once the draft was accepted by the Committee, it was submitted to the Ohio EMA for their review.

## **Component H: Seek Public Input / State and Federal Review**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter – Ending 3/31/08**

Once the draft Plan had been submitted, it was incorporated into the Ashland County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security's web page. Information on accessing the draft Plan via the web page, e-mail attachments, and hard copy were provided in a newspaper article as well as radio spots provided by the ACOEMHS Director. This allowed the general public to view the draft and to make comment directly to the ACOEMHS Director, Planning Committee members, or the Plan developer prior to a formal Open House.

On March 18, 2008, a formal Open House was established to afford the citizens of Ashland County the opportunity to review hard copies of the draft Plan and to provide comment as to suggested modifications of the Plan.

## **Component I: Prepare the Final Plan**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter – Ending 3/31/08**

Initial preparations of the final Plan began following the Open House which included finalizing the wording within the Plan and completing many of the appendices.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter – Ending 3/31/09**

The crosswalk for the final Plan was completed following Plan revisions made from comments made from the OEMA review of the initial crosswalk submitted with the draft Plan. The crosswalk was submitted to OEMA for review in conjunction with the final Plan.

### **Component J:      Adopt the Plan**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter – Ending 3/31/08**

During the latter stages of this quarter, preparations were made to submit the final draft Plan to the political subdivisions within the County having final approval of the Plan. The final draft Plan will be sent to the County Commissioners, and the city and village councils throughout the County. It is their responsibility to discuss the Plan and make formal Resolution for adoption.

Once formal resolutions have been passed by the appropriate political subdivisions, they will be submitted to the Director of the ACOEMHS for incorporation within the final Plan. The final Plan will then be submitted to OEMA/FEMA for their final review and approval.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter – Ending 3/31/09**

Resolutions passed by the County Commissioners, City of Ashland, and the eight villages were received. Copies of the resolutions will be incorporated as Appendix A of the final Plan. Originals will be maintained in the ACOEMHS.

### **Component K:      Implementation, Monitoring and Adjusting the Plan**

*This section should include information on how this task will be carried out.*

Implementation, monitoring, and adjusting the Plan will commence as documented in the Plan following the formal approval of OEMA/FEMA.

### **Additional Comments:**

### **Questions / Concerns / Request for Technical Assistance:**