



# Delaware County Commissioners

Ken O'Brien  
Dennis Stapleton  
Tommy Thompson

County Administrator  
Tim Hansley

Clerk to the Commissioners  
Jennifer Walraven

Contact: Teri Morgan, Communications Manager  
740/833-2109, 614/323-3219  
February 27, 2012

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### *Delaware County—Delaware County EMA Offers Free Weather Radios to Institutions*

The Delaware County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) presented a plan today to the Delaware County Commissioners for the distribution of weather radios for an expanded public notification system for weather and natural disasters. The 295 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) radios were recently-awarded as a grant from the Ohio Emergency Management Agency and are part of the county's plan to become a "StormReady" county, a designation given by the National Weather Service to designate counties that are ready to save lives and property when damaging weather strikes.

ABC 6 Chief Meteorologist Jerry Martz and Liberty Township Administrator David Anderson were on hand to talk with the Commissioners about the importance of weather alerts. Martz shared that the radios are free to institutions, such as nursing homes, schools, libraries, and others who can reach a larger number of residents in a short period of time.

"We are fortunate in Delaware County to have the CodeRED automated dialing system to reach our residents, as well as text alerts and television and radio coverage, but we don't always reach the businesses, organizations and institutions with immediate alerts. This new opportunity expands our safety net of disaster planning," shared Commissioner Ken O'Brien and member of the EMA Advisory Board.

**--more--**

**2-2-2**

The radios will be programmed by the Delaware County EMA and others to restrict severe weather alerts to our area. Cody Creech, Eagle Scout candidate, and Sandra Stults, Scioto Township Trustee and Cody's Scoutmaster shared with the Commissioners that several local Boy Scout troops have volunteered to help with the distribution and programming. According to Creech, "we will be picking a date soon to gather the Scouts in the Delaware County Emergency Operations Center to place batteries, program alert areas, and plan for the distribution of the weather radios.

For those locations who feel they would benefit from a weather radio and are within Delaware County excluding the areas covered by Franklin County EMA, please submit your name and location by contacting Program Coordinator Sean Miller at [smiller@co.delaware.oh.us](mailto:smiller@co.delaware.oh.us) or (740) 833-2180.

###