

# IAEM-USA Region 5 Highlights

## #IAEM24 Poster Showcase

# 5

## A Snapshot of IAEM-USA Region 5 Emergency Management Work Over the Past Year!

The IAEM Region 5 Virtual Symposium took place on June 24, 2024. Key sessions included:

- Welcome & Updates from IAEM and FEMA Region 5 leadership.
- A presentation on the East Palestine (OH) Train Derailment by Peggy Clark, EM Director for Columbiana County.
- A discussion on Criminal Mass Violence and victim care, featuring journalists and victim service experts.
- The Power Hour highlights emergency management insights from Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois, covering topics from hazard dashboards to public information strategies for the 2024 Solar Eclipse.



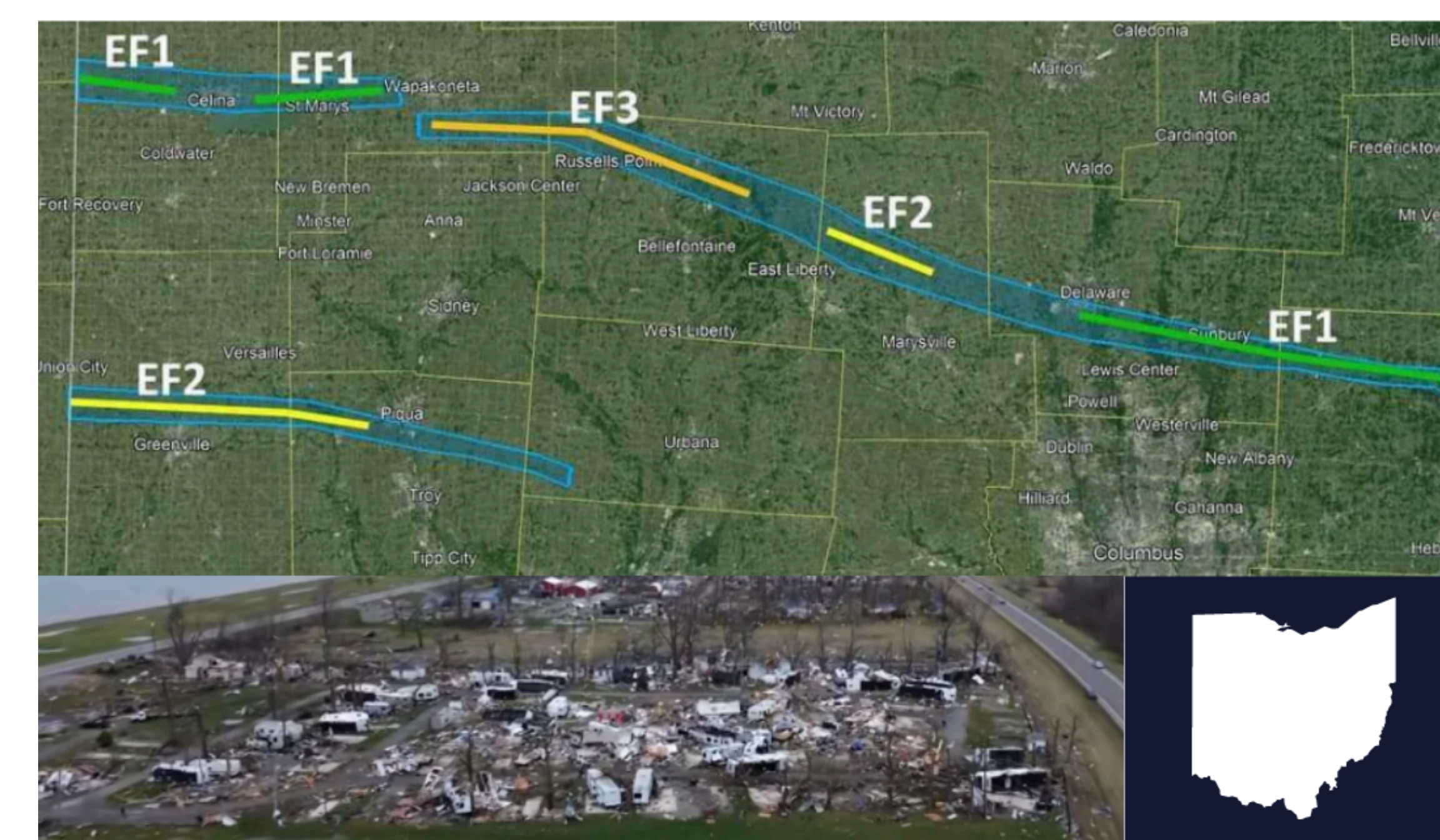
In collaboration with the County Telecommunications Department, Warren County EMA has recently upgraded its weather monitoring systems to better serve the community. Key updates include the installation of 5 weather stations at strategic locations across the county and the introduction of the Radar Omega platform. This advanced system provides live camera feeds, real-time weather data, current watches/warnings, and power outage updates. The platform is accessible on both desktop and mobile devices, making it easy to work remotely when needed. Additionally, we've partnered with the National Weather Service, allowing them to use these weather stations to enhance their operations. These upgrades have already proven invaluable during recent severe weather events, including 6 tornadoes (5 on May 7th, 2024, and 1 on July 30th, 2024)!



Warren County Emergency Management visits the senior Criminal Justice class at the Warren County Career Center to introduce students to the EMA field and teach them about exercises. Students participate in various tabletop exercises and help develop the school's annual state-required exercise. The program concludes with a visit to the Warren County EOC, where students take on roles such as Section Chiefs and EOC Managers in a functional exercise using the D4H virtual platform. They also interact with other county EMAs and Ohio EMA staff. The program runs from October to December.



On March 14, 2024, tornadoes hit 11 Ohio counties, resulting in a Presidential Declaration for federal assistance from FEMA and the SBA. Auglaize, Crawford, Delaware, Hancock, Licking, Logan, Mercer, Miami, Richland, and Union counties were impacted by F1 to F3 tornadoes. Logan County suffered the most damage, particularly around Indian Lake, where 133 homes were destroyed, killing three people. Over 750 structures were damaged. In response, 25 Ohio County Emergency Management Agencies sent staff to support Logan County's Emergency Operations Center from March 14 to April 5, 2024.



Eaton County Emergency Management's web-based Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) offers quick, actionable insights into local risks, providing essential data for residents, planners, and officials. With detailed reports and dynamic visualizations, the platform empowers informed, data-driven decision-making to enhance community safety and disaster preparedness. This user-friendly tool supports proactive risk management while fostering a community-centered approach to strengthen Eaton County's resilience.



### Forward

The 2024 Eaton County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) offers comprehensive insights into natural, technological, and human-caused hazards that pose significant risks to Eaton County. By outlining the frequency and vulnerability of these hazards, this assessment equips local government officials and our collaborative partners with crucial information to evaluate risks effectively and strategize for their potential consequences.

In July of 2024, the City of Grand Rapids Emergency Management became the largest city in Michigan to become Storm Ready. Grand Rapids also established a POD to distribute water to the community after a water main break triggered a boil water advisory to 1/3 of the city for 4 days – March 2024.



In April, a winter storm caused widespread power outages across Door County for several days, leading to the establishment of shelters and warming centers with volunteer support. This event sparked the creation of the Door County CERT program, with 13 individuals completing the CERT course and joining the county's team. CERT has proven invaluable in enhancing disaster response and shelter operations, providing crucial public training to support emergency efforts. The contributions of CERT members continue to strengthen Door County's disaster preparedness and recovery capabilities.



**Tony Evers**  
Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin

Gov. Tony Evers signed Senate Bill 222, now Wisconsin Act 265, creating a pre-disaster flood resilience grant program. Administered by Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM), the program will provide grants to help local communities identify flood vulnerabilities and improve resilience.

Key Details include:

- Grants of up to \$300,000 for assessments and \$250,000 for implementation are available to local governments, tribes, and nonprofits.
- Projects must be in areas affected by presidential or state-declared flood disasters in the past 10 years or have a hazard mitigation plan.

This initiative aims to protect Wisconsin families, businesses, and infrastructure from future flood damage.



Scan the QR code for more  
information about Senate Bill 222!



Scan the QR code to visit  
the mobile HIRA!

