



ANNUAL REPORT

2021



DELAWARE COUNTY

Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management

(DCOHSEM)



Table of Contents



Director's Letter	3	Local Emergency Planning Committee	7
Leadership	3	COVID Response	8
Grants & Planning	4	Volunteer Program	8
Financial Summary	4	Outreach & Communication	9
Weather & Alerts	5	Meet the Team	10
Donate a Fan Program	5	The Year in Pictures	11, 12
Training & Exercises	6	Conclusion	12
Mitigation Projects	6		
Emergency Operations Center	6		

DCOHSEM Mission Statement



Letter from the Director

Dear Partners:

Your local emergency management office worked diligently throughout 2021 to meet the immediate and long-term needs of Delaware County on numerous fronts. While there will be no surprises that the lingering COVID-19 pandemic remained an operational focus during the past twelve months, many other noteworthy efforts, initiatives and accomplishments occurred. Despite the pandemic, DCOHSEM updated plans, supported or conducted numerous disaster preparedness exercises, hosted trainings, applied for grants and aided with pre-planned events.

While the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) supply chains were generally in better shape than they were in 2020, DCOHSEM continued to distribute various types of such supplies in order to do the most good for the community. This effort included several distribution pushes to partners, including area school districts. Additionally, the office was able to aid the Delaware County District Library in obtaining test kits in a collaboration with the Delaware Public Health District.

Numerous plans were updated, including the Delaware County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). While Ohio law requires this plan to be updated annually, it is noteworthy this year as it now encompasses major recent upgrades to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Furthermore, DCOHSEM coordinated the 2021 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) full-scale hazardous materials exercise in June and supported numerous school exercises throughout the year.

The office aided in planning and coordination for the Ironman Half-Triathlon and the Delaware County Fair. These events involved DCOHSEM team members being present in the Incident Command Post and staffing the EOC, respectively. Training efforts also continued with DCOHSEM hosting hazmat training and the National Emergency Management Advanced Academy graduation in the fall as significant highlights.

As you review the 2021 annual report, it is my sincerest hope that you will come away with the feeling that your emergency management office stands at the ready to serve Delaware County, no matter what challenges 2022 brings.

Very respectfully,
Sean D. Miller

DCOHSEM Leadership

The Delaware County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Executive Committee has nine members representing 26 political subdivisions (the cities of Dublin, Westerville, and Columbus are not included). Representation from fire and law enforcement is also on the Committee.

The 2021 Executive Committee members are:

- Steve Hrytzik, Powell Police Chief –Chair and represents the City of Powell
- John Donahue, City of Delaware Fire Chief – Vice-Chair and represents the City of Delaware
- Barb Lewis, Delaware County Commissioner – represents the Delaware County Board of Commissioners
- Scott Vance, Delaware County Sheriff Captain – represents the Delaware County Sheriff's Office
- Joe Ponzi, Genoa Township Fire Chief -represents the Delaware County Fire Chief's Association
- Russ Baron, Shawnee Hills Police Chief – represents villages
- Charles Miley, Brown Township Trustee – represents townships
- Sandra Stults, Scioto Township Trustee – represents townships
- Dewey Akers, Kingston Township Trustee – represents townships



Grants & Planning

Delaware County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DCOHSEM) utilized the following grants in 2021:

The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG), State Emergency Response Committee Grant (SERC), and the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant (HMEP). Below are some of the grants awarded to Delaware County EMA in 2021.

“These grant funds are vital as they cover more than 50% of the DCOHSEM budget; this means the office is a very good value for local jurisdictions.”

Grant Award Highlights	
EMPG	\$ 107,906.62
SERC	\$ 24,581.00
HMEP – Special Training Project (federal and local)	\$ 12,000.00

Planning Highlights

DCOHSEM staff continues to create, review and update county plans, and guides, in accordance with local, state, and federal guidelines. In 2021, DCOHSEM personnel and volunteers continued work on numerous plans including Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), All-Hazards Mitigation Plan, Hazardous Materials Plan, and the Donations Management Plan.



Financial Summary

During Fiscal Year 2020, EMA's operations were funded through a combination of grants (local, state, and federal) and by an apportionment assessment on the jurisdictions it serves. The figures below are from the main operating fund and do not include special projects. The figures on this page are preliminary.

Expenditures	
Materials and supplies	\$ 5,862.91
Capital equipment	\$ -
Services & charges	\$ 10,544.69
Salaries & benefits	\$ 269,218.20
Total	\$ 285,625.80
Revenue	
Apportionment amount	\$ 139,256.02
Grants	\$ 140,812.89
Total	\$ 280,068.91

Severe Weather & Alerts

Severe weather can happen any time of the year. DCOHSEM works closely with the National Weather Service (NWS) during inclement weather. In 2021, DCOHSEM sent approximately 12 “Heads Up” weather email briefings to our partner agencies to allow them time to prepare for the impending weather systems. This is coincidentally equated to the number of alerts as in 2020. Social media was also utilized as a means of communicating information to the community.

KNOWING WHERE TO GET RELIABLE, ACCURATE, AND TIMELY INFORMATION IS VERY IMPORTANT

Warnings & Notifications

Receiving timely, accurate information is important during severe weather or any emergency. Warnings and notifications, outdoor warning sirens, weather radios, local media, social media, and DCOHSEM briefings, are key in getting messages out to the public. We strive to provide information in a timely and accurate manner.

For more information on alerts, warnings, and notifications, visit us on the web at www.delcoema.org

Donate a Fan Program

It's FANtastic!

As DCOHSEM kicked-off and promoted the annual fan drive for People in Need (PIN) of Delaware County, Ohio the community was ready to jump in and help! This annual, collaborative program is a way to mitigate the effects of heat on the residents of Delaware County through new fan donations. Fans are collected through public safety agencies within Delaware County and then distributed by PIN to families and individuals with the greatest need. The over 300 fans that were generously donated, went to our friends and neighbors who need them the most. Thank you to everyone who donated a fan, or helped spread the word. Delaware County continues to be a “good neighbor” community!



PIN Staff accepting donations from Delaware County
Prosecutor Schiffel, Director Miller & Deputy Director Mackey

TRAINING & EXERCISES

Why Train and Exercise?

The importance of training and exercising can't be understated. The DCOHSEM supports our local partners by providing various trainings and exercising the county's emergency plans. The DCOHSEM team also works with local school districts to exercise their district's emergency plans.

In 2021, the DCOHSEM team participated in several exercises and supported exercise planning efforts for the Buckeye Valley, Big Walnut, Delaware City, and Olentangy Local School districts. Staff members evaluated the Knox County Local Emergency Committee (LEPC) hazardous materials exercise. In June, the Delaware County L.E.P.C. full-scale exercise was held.

In May, DCOHSEM hosted the virtual G-191 Incident Command System (ICS)/Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Interface Course, and the HazMat IQ for area fire departments in September. The Delaware County Child Abduction Response Team (CART) tabletop exercise was held in November, DCOHSEM staff provided support, planning, facilitation, and evaluation efforts.

“BY FAILING TO PREPARE, YOU ARE PREPARING TO FAIL.”
-BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Mitigation Projects

DCOHSEM personnel continued working with our partners at Ohio EMA on three flood mitigation projects: one in Scioto Township, one in Radnor, and one in Harlem Township. The properties involved are single-family residential structures.



Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Upgrade

The importance of a functional EOC

The core functions of the Delaware County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) include resource sharing, communication, tracking information, and data collection. The EOC is also used for training with our partner agencies and the training allows us to exercise the over 25 Delaware County Hazard Specific Plans (HSP), Functional Plans (FP), and Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs). The EOC can be activated by DCOHSEM staff or at the request of a partner agency. It was activated in a monitoring phase in 2021 for the Little Brown Jug Harness Race in September and placed in a monitoring phase for several severe weather events.

In 2021, the EOC underwent a major upgrade to the AV system and furniture. Thanks to the efforts of the Delaware Area Career Center Cybersecurity instructor and students, the room is now more user-friendly and has been in use for activation during COVID, trainings and exercises, and meetings.



Local Emergency Planning Committee

LEPC

2021 LEPC update

As part of LEPC, DCOHSEM responds to hazardous materials spills. Staff also participate in the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA). In 2021, DCOHSEM responded to 23 hazardous material spills and 38 Right-to-Know (RTK) requests.



Photos show on-scene and EOC participants in FSE. Thanks to Glen Keating (DCEMS) for photo the on left of EM Specialist Stewart.

LEPC Hazardous Materials Exercise

June 14, 2021

After numerous months of planning and collaboration, the 2021 Delaware County LEPC hazardous materials full-scale exercise (FSE) came to fruition in Orange Township. DCOHSEM coordinated these efforts and eight separate objectives were evaluated by emergency management professionals from other counties and the State of Ohio. The exercise involved simulated field response to a transportation incident scenario with support coming from the Delaware County Emergency Operations Center. While there were numerous “lessons learned”, the exercise was deemed a success and was only possible due to tremendous support from numerous partner agencies and organizations.



EOC players working through exercise scenario

COVID RESPONSE

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) distribution

In 2021, the DCOHSEM team continued to distribute PPE to our partner organizations. Through the exceptional efforts of the DCOHSEM team, thousands of pieces of PPE were distributed for the safety of our first responders, long-term healthcare providers, schools, and other partner organizations.

“WE ARE HUMBLLED AND INSPIRED BY THE GENEROUS SPIRIT OF THE DELAWARE COUNTY COMMUNITY.”

DCOHSEM provided nearly 70,000 pieces of Personal Protective Equipment to area school districts for the 2021-2022 school year. Masks were an exceptionally important item and over 70,000 N95 and KN95 masks were distributed. Thousands of surgical masks, cloth masks, non-medical masks, gowns, gloves, and face shields were distributed to organizations in need. A PPE request email address was put in place to allow for requests to be filled as quickly as possible. Through the efforts of EM Specialist Stewart, two generators were secured through a generous donation.

THANK YOU, HONDA! American Honda Motor this week donated two Honda EG2800i generators to the Delaware Public Health District for use in the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines.

Honda donated its EG2800i portable electrical generators to state and county health departments to provide on-site power to vaccination clinics in Alabama, California, Georgia, Indiana, Ohio, North Carolina, and South Carolina, where Honda has major operations. The portable generators will provide reliable power for lighting and computer usage, as well as refrigerators and freezers critical for maintaining COVID-19 vaccines within manufacturer-recommended temperature ranges.

Pictured: DPHD Health Commissioner Shelia Hiddleston and Delaware County Emergency Management Specialist Cody Jackson with the Honda-donated generators.



Volunteer Program

Volunteers are the heart of any agency

Volunteers are the heart of any agency, and here at the Delaware County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, we agree! We appreciate the time and effort our administrative and technical volunteers put forth in helping keep our office running smoothly. The volunteer program is comprised of dedicated individuals wishing to serve their community by volunteering their time and expertise. The administrative volunteers are primarily dedicated to working on emergency management planning efforts, whereas, the technical volunteer team is comprised of technically skilled FCC-licensed amateur radio operators who maintain the EOC amateur radio station and assisted in the upgrade of the Delaware County EOC project. Their skill and knowledge with administrative and technological assistance have been greatly appreciated!

DCOHSEM VOLUNTEERS



Eli Cochran
Technical Volunteer



Gary Mackey
Technical Volunteer



Jarren Ringle
Administrative Volunteer



Outreach & Communication



Stay in the Know!

DCOHSEM understands the importance of education through outreach which is why we offer safety & preparedness and severe weather presentations to local schools, scouts, civic groups and other local organizations at their location or in the Emergency Operations Center.

Contact DCOHSEM to learn more about our outreach program, or to schedule a presentation for your group!



Social Media

Social media is a great way to receive information fast! Always make sure to get your information from a reliable source. Here at Delaware County Homeland Security & Emergency Management, we strive to bring timely and accurate information to our partner agencies and the public. We've worked hard to become a trusted source of information to the community, and we don't take that responsibility lightly. By working closely and coordinating information with partner agencies like the National Weather Service, Ohio EMA, Ohio EPA, local response agencies, and trusted local news sources, we can share information that we know is reliable.

Join over 15,000 of your friends and neighbors and like us on Facebook and Twitter. We are @delcoema.

On the Web

Visit the DCOHSEM website for more information on warnings & notifications, preparedness tips, staff information, and hours of operations. Check us out at www.delcoema.org.

Meet the Team

About Us

In 2021, the DCOHSEM office was staffed by a team of four employees. In April, Emergency Management Specialist Cody Jackson pursued another employment opportunity and left the office in early April. After a thorough search, Jecy Weber has joined the team and has hit the ground running. Jecy (pronounced Jay-Cee) has been a welcome addition to our team.

The DCOHSEM director and deputy director rotate an on-call schedule and include the EM specialist positions providing on-scene back-up. The on-call personnel will respond to emergencies, which may include severe weather and hazardous materials response that may occur during business hours, after hours, and on holidays as requested by partner agencies or Delaware County 9-1-1 (DELCOMM). DCOHSEM staff participates in multiple exercises, training, and educational courses throughout the year to better serve the community.



Sean Miller
Director



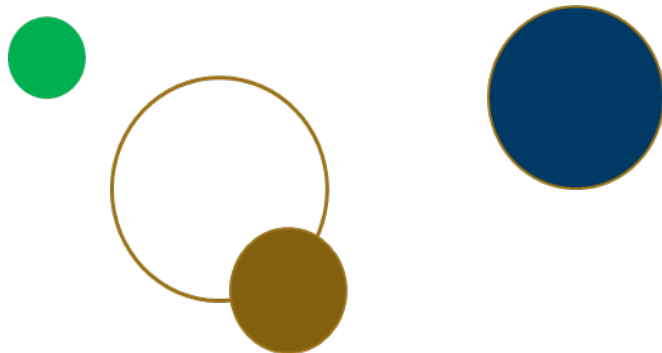
Sandy Mackey
Deputy Director



Jecy Weber
EM Specialist



Scott Stewart
EM Specialist



The Year in Pictures 2021



Throughout 2021, the DCOHSEM team has been fortunate to work closely with many of our partner agencies. Somedays are filled with grant work, planning, outreach, exercises, and deploying equipment, while other days are response days. This may include hazardous materials or severe weather response. The DCOHSEM team is trained in hazardous materials response and severe weather response. Please enjoy some photos from the past year.



On scene at the LEPC full scale exercise



In the EOC for the Delaware County LEPC full scale exercise



DCOHSEM hosted the Ironman planning meeting



Media interviews discussing preparedness



Delaware Public Health Commissioner Hiddleon accepts two generators from EM Specialist Jackson. The generators were secured through a grant thanks to the dedicated efforts of EM Specialist Stewart.



DCOHSEM staff enjoyed the EMAO annual winter conference. From L to R: Delaware Fire Chief Donahue, EM Specialist Stewart, Director Miller, EM Specialist Weber.



EM Specialist Weber, assisted by 9-1-1 therapy dog Coco, speaks about safety at the Powell Safety Day.



DCOHSEM facilitated the Delaware County Child Abduction Response Team (CART) exercise



DCOHSEM EM Specialist work with volunteer tech advisor Gary on AM radio station set-up for fair traffic information



DCOHSEM EM Specialist Weber met retired DCOHSEM Operations Manager Lavender at the Delaware County Fair



Deputy Director Mackey accepts her National Emergency Management Advanced Academy graduation certificate from Ohio EMA Executive Director Merrick.



Exercising local school districts plans



DCOHSEM staff participating in fire department outreach

The Year in Pictures 2021

continued



Paint improperly disposed of into a drain investigation



Seal-coat spill



Diesel fuel spill



Investigation of reported spill - natural occurrence of iron bacteria.



Conclusion

This document was compiled to provide relevant information on the DCOHSEM's projects, performance, and achievements in 2021.

The DCOHSEM prides itself on being fair, ethical, and transparent in all aspects of the Agency's operations.

If you have any feedback regarding this document, please reach out to Director Sean Miller, or Deputy Director Sandy Mackey at the contact information below.

Contact the Delaware County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (DCOHSEM) at:

Address

10 Court St.

Delaware, OH 43015

DCOHSEM Main Telephone

(740) 833-2180

Email

delcoema@co.delaware.oh.us.

Find us on the web at:

www.delcoema.org

Follow us on social media

@delcoema

