

# Butler County EMA

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MONTHLY



Volume 3, Issue 8  
October 2019

### Training Opportunities:

- November 8—Southwest Ohio Regional Safety Summit
- November 14—Decon IQ
- December 10—Advanced HazMat IQ
- December 11-13—Workplace Community Emergency Response Teams
- January 22—MGT 414—Advanced Critical Infrastructure Protection

Information for registering for any of the above courses can be obtained on our website at [butlercountyohio.org/ema](http://butlercountyohio.org/ema)

### Butler County EMA

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### Butler County EMA Mission Statement

Coordinating people and resources to protect the lives and property within Butler County by working together to achieve one goal for Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery for Disasters and Emergencies

## BUTLER COUNTY IMT RESPONSE TO HURRICANE DORIAN

The Butler County Incident Management Team (IMT) deployed emergency response personnel from Ohio on Saturday, August 31, 2019 to provide assistance to Florida for Hurricane Dorian. The Team was prepared for a 16 day mission on behalf of the State of Florida Emergency Management, though the team would only be needed for six days. The Butler County IMT left from the Butler County EOC and traveled to Tallahassee, FL to receive their mission in response and recovery to Hurricane Dorian. Members of the following departments made up this regional Type 3 team on this deployment: Deerfield Township Fire Department, Western Joint Ambulance District, Fairfield Township Fire Department, Liberty Township Fire Department, Monroe Fire Department, Morgan Township Fire Department, City of Oxford Division of



Butler County IMT members work inside the Watch Office adjacent to the State of Florida EOC. Team Members worked for six days to assist in the coordination of Hurricane Dorian relief efforts.

Police, Oxford Fire Department, St. Clair Township / New Miami Life Squad, Toledo Fire Department, and West Chester Fire Department.

Throughout the duration of their deployment, the Butler County IMT worked with officials from the State of Florida to identify and fulfill outstanding needs, coordinate missions for other IMTs, and assist in the long-term planning. Additionally, the team worked with officials from the State of Florida EOC and the Florida Department of Children and Families to develop plans to assist refugees who fled to Florida after the Hurricane made landfall in the Bahamas.

Ultimately, Hurricane Dorian's path shifted and the threat posed by the storm subsided. The Team was demobilized and all team members returned safely to the Butler County EOC on Thursday September 5, 2019. ■ For more information regarding the Butler County IMT, go to <http://butlercountyohio.org/ema>



The Butler County IMT worked in the State of Florida EOC (pictured above) to coordinate missions for incoming IMTs. This is the team's third deployment to Florida.

## *2019 BUTLER COUNTY LEPC TABLETOP EXERCISE*

The 2019 Butler County LEPC Tabletop Exercise was hosted on October 15, 2019 at the Sabin Center located in the heart of Liberty Center. The 2019 Butler County LEPC Tabletop Exercise brought together many partners from the fire service, law enforcement, hospitals, public works, and private sector to discuss a simulated response to a mock scenario. This year's scenario focused on a simulated release of anhydrous ammonia from a tanker truck traveling northbound on I75 in the area of West Chester Hospital.

This year's mock scenario was based upon a real-world event which occurred on October 28, 2018. Just before 9:15 am, a tanker truck carrying anhydrous ammonia through Butler County rolled over after a car in front of the tanker performed a lane change. The tanker surprisingly survived the rollover with minimal damage and was structurally intact despite sliding down the highway at a high rate of speed. The Butler County LEPC wanted to use this scenario to present a highly-plausible scenario that could be used to provide better prepare the county's first



Stakeholders from several agencies, organizations, and departments within Butler County participated in the 2019 Butler County LEPC Tabletop Exercise. This year's scenario was based off of a real-world incident that occurred in October of 2018.

responders and other partners to respond to this type of emergency.

Butler County EMA Director Matthew Haverkos said "we had the opportunity to be really hands-on with this response last year, working with the first responders and our partners in the region to ensure we were ready to re-

spond should the tank fail. Luckily, the tank was intact and we were able to get it moved without releasing the product. After the real-world event, we realized that this would be a great scenario to test our capabilities to respond to such a hazard. It just made sense to use this as our scenario for this year's exercise."

The 2019 Butler County Tabletop Exercise was the third exercise in the current four-year exercise cycle. The Butler County LEPC has tested all required objectives for this exercise cycle despite having one year remaining in the cycle. Special thanks to Liberty Township and West Chester Fire Department for their help in developing the exercise.■

## *BUTLER COUNTY EMA SUPPORTS WEST CHESTER PREPAREDNESS DRILLS*

The Butler County EMA will be supporting a local EOC functional exercise for West Chester November 7, 2019. The exercise will focus on supporting first responders with resources and information coordination after a simulated EF-3 tornado strikes a mobile home community. Exercise participants will be provided opportunities to complete ICS forms, simulate ordering resources, and conduct long-range planning.

Butler County EMA Director Matthew said of the exercise, "we're really happy to continue to work with and improve our great relationship with West Chester. These exercises provide us an opportunity to help communities prepare for emergencies. Preparing for disasters now ensures that our communities will be more resilient when a disaster occurs."

This exercise will be the third exercise in a series of four

total exercises focusing on various activities related to disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.

"We are thankful that West Chester chose to engage us in the development of these exercise," Director Haverkos went on to say. "Not only were we able to engage a large community within our county, we are also able to use these exercises as a template to roll this out to our

other stakeholders. Exercises, such as these, provide excellent opportunities for us to engage our emergency plans and make revisions to these plans based on what we learn. This is just another way for us to help make Butler County a safer place to live, work, and play."■ For more information regarding these exercises, contact Deputy Director Jim Bolen at [BolenJA@ButlerCountyOhio.org](mailto:BolenJA@ButlerCountyOhio.org)