



MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF OHIO

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, beginning on August 10, 2026, multiple rounds of storms moved through the state of Ohio prompting multiple severe thunderstorm warnings and flash flood warnings from the National Weather Service and bringing heavy rainfall to already saturated grounds; and

WHEREAS, there is as of the signing of this proclamation a Flood Watch in effect for most of the state; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Emergency Management Agency and its regional representatives have been and continue to engage with Ohio's counties to assess needs and provide assistance as needed; and

WHEREAS, Perry County has experienced widespread flash flooding resulting in significant downed power lines and trees and impacting roadways and travel, and resulting in multiple power outages, including loss of power at its Emergency Operations Center;

WHEREAS, over 200 Perry County residents have evacuated their homes as a result of flooding, and local officials along with the Red Cross have set up multiple shelters in that county; and

WHEREAS, local officials in Muskingum County are providing mutual aid to Perry County with water rescues, and the State, through the Department of Natural Resources is providing multiple swift water rescue boats to Perry County to assist with flash flooding response; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the state's emergency operations plan, the Ohio Emergency Operations Center has transitioned from Assessment and Monitoring to a Partial Activation to provide support and assistance to all Ohio counties impacted by this severe and rapid rainfall; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that excessive rainfall will continue through August 13, 2026, enhancing flood risks across the state, and it is anticipated that Perry and Muskingum Counties and potentially other counties will require assistance from the state to evaluate impacts and alleviate the threat of harm to person's and property; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the State of Ohio to assist State and local authorities by having all State departments and agencies be at the ready and prepared to utilize their personnel and resources as necessary to protect the lives, safety, health, and property of the citizens of Perry and Muskingum Counties, other impacted counties once those counties are designated, and all those traveling to or through the State; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio has determined that the severe rain, wind, and flooding from this storm may reasonably impact the life, health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Perry and Muskingum Counties and other impacted counties once those counties are designated; and

WHEREAS, it is foreseeable that a reasonable possibility exists that available local resources will be exhausted, and ongoing services will be necessary from State departments and agencies to assist in alleviating the consequences of this storm; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Ohio Constitution Article III Section 5 “[t]he supreme executive power of this state shall be vested in the governor” and pursuant to Section 6 the Governor “...shall see that the laws are faithfully executed”; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code sections 5502.22 and 5502.28, this proclamation is necessary to authorize previously-alerted State departments and agencies to prepare and respond as needed.

NOW, THEREFORE, on August 11, 2026, I Mike DeWine, Governor of the State of Ohio, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the United States, specifically the implied police powers of the Tenth Amendment, the Constitution of the State of Ohio, Article III, Section 5, and the laws of this State declare that due to the damage and dangerous conditions resulting from severe storms and wind, a state of emergency exists for Perry and Muskingum Counties. I hereby direct all State departments and agencies to as necessary and appropriate and within reason lend their services, equipment, supplies, and personnel to assist in the response and recovery effort from these events.

FURTHER, this is an ongoing event, and I may amend this declaration to include additional counties as state and local officials work to assess impacts, respond, and recover.

FURTHER, I direct the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, to coordinate the State and any needed federal response and to assist as necessary and appropriate in protecting the lives, safety, health, and property of the citizens of Ohio.

FURTHER, I hereby direct the Department of Administrative Services and other departments and agencies of the State to suspend purchasing and contracting requirements contained in Chapters 125 and 153 of the Revised Code, pursuant to Section 125.061 of the Revised Code, during the period of the emergency for the Ohio Emergency Management Agency and any other State agency participating in emergency assistance under this declaration, in order to procure any necessary resources or supplies to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the above listed counties and any other counties that subsequently declare a state of emergency due to the above described event.

FURTHER, I authorize as needed, in a state active-duty status, those personnel and units of the Ohio National Guard as designated by the Adjutant General, pursuant to Section 5923.21 of the Ohio Revised Code. Those units and personnel will act pursuant to the orders issued on my behalf by The Adjutant General, and through him, to the commanding officers to take whatever actions are necessary to protect and promote the life, health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Perry and Muskingum Counties, and other impacted counties once those counties are designated, and aid in recovery. The Adjutant General shall provide for all transportation, services, equipment, and supplies necessary for the designated units or personnel of the Ohio National Guard.

FURTHER, this Proclamation does not require the implementation of the Department of Administrative Services Directive HR-D-11 or the Department of Administrative Services' "Weather (Public Safety) Procedure." Accordingly, state employees' obligation to travel to and from work is not to be limited as a result of this proclamation.

FURTHER, this Proclamation shall take effect immediately. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code section 107.42, it shall remain in full force and effect for ninety days from the date of this order, unless otherwise extended by division of (C) of Revised Code section 107.42 or terminated by me or my designee earlier.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have
hereunto subscribed my name at Columbus,
Ohio, on the 11th day of August, 2026.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mike Dewine", written over a horizontal line.

MIKE DEWINE
Governor