

Summary of the

OHIO EAS PLAN



oab
ohio association
of broadcasters

Summary of the Ohio EAS Plan (rev. 06/2026)

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I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to outline procedures for activation of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) for the State of Ohio or any of the 12 Local Operational Areas in the state. EAS allows designated federal, state and local government officials to quickly disseminate emergency information, instructions and warnings to the general public.

This document is not a replacement for the official Ohio EAS Plan, which was submitted to and approved by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) via its Alert Reporting System (ARS), and was reviewed by the State Emergency Communications Committee (SECC) prior to submission. Because the official Ohio EAS Plan may not be accessible by broadcast stations and cable systems, this summary document was created as a guide.

Please consult the Ohio SECC to ensure any information used from this guide is current. You may contact Greg Savoldi, the Ohio SECC Chair, at gregsavoldi@iheartmedia.com or 614-496-2121. Participating broadcast stations and cable systems are also encouraged to review the FCC's EAS Operating Handbook (here is a link to the [2023 version of the handbook](#)). OAB members may also contact the OAB's FCC counsel of Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey and Leonard, LLP, at 919-839-0300.

II. AUTHORITY

[47 CFR, Part 11](#), Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Rules and Regulations.

III. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. The Ohio EAS utilizes digital message encoding/decoding equipment, which complies with the standards in the FCC rules, Part 11, and is certified by the FCC.
- B. This document summarizes the Ohio EAS Plan, which provides background data and prescribes specific procedures for the broadcast and cable television media to disseminate emergency information and warnings to the general public throughout the State of Ohio at the request of designated federal, state and local government officials, known as "Notifiers." The State of Ohio EAS Plan may be activated on a day-to-day basis in response to such emergencies as: tornadoes, severe storms, flash floods, widespread fires, discharge of toxic chemicals or gases, nuclear incidents, widespread power failures, industrial explosions, civil disturbances, child abductions or any other occurrence that poses an immediate threat to health, life, safety or property.
- C. The Ohio EAS Plan provides for access to the EAS by designated officials working in conjunction with the State Primary (SP) station and the Operational Area Local Primary (LP) EAS stations. The Ohio EAS Plan also describes EAS access via the Integrated Public Alerting and Warning System (IPAWS). The State of Ohio EAS area consists of all Ohio's 88 counties, which are grouped into twelve Local Operational Areas (Appendix I). The Ohio EAS Plan also envisions involvement of the broadcast media, as may be appropriate, in counties of Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Michigan, Indiana and West Virginia adjacent to the counties making up the Ohio EAS Local Operational Areas. This is a two-way involvement, providing for EAS messages originated by Ohio stations to be disseminated over stations in adjacent states that have Ohio coverage, and for EAS messages originated by stations in adjacent states to be disseminated over Ohio stations having coverage in those adjacent states.

D. Participation in the Ohio EAS Plan does not prohibit a broadcast licensee or cable TV operator from exercising independent discretion and responsibility in any given situation. Stations originating EAS emergency communications shall be deemed to have conferred rebroadcast authority.

E. The following are the FCC designations reflecting the EAS status of key participants:

NP (National Primary) Stations – These stations are contracted by FEMA to serve as the primary source of national EAS alerts. In Ohio, WTAM and WLW are NP stations. These stations will feed national level alerts to the State Primary Stations identified below.

SP (State Primary) – The entry point for statewide Ohio EAS announcements. WNCI, Columbus, serves as the State Primary (SP-1) station. The Alternate State Primary (SP-2) station is WBNS-FM, Columbus.

LP-1 and LP-2 (Local Primary) – EAS entry point stations for activating the EAS in each operational area. There are at least two in each area. The LP-1 is the primary Local Primary station. The LP-2 is the Alternate Local Primary station. LP-1 and LP-2 stations are to be monitored by all participating stations in the area.

LP-3 (Local Primary 3) – LP-3 stations are designated in some areas to bridge operational areas. LP-3 stations also serve as monitoring points for stations that cannot pick up a signal from an LP-1 or LP-2.

PN (Participating National) – All broadcast stations and cable systems are designated as PN. They monitor the area LP stations and deliver EAS alerts directly to the general public.

IV. OHIO EAS CONFIGURATION

The Ohio EAS is a fully automated system allowing Notifiers, through dedicated encoders, to selectively provide Ohio citizens with timely emergency information and warnings. The Ohio EAS Plan outlines general guidelines for EAS configuration, activation and use, and state activation procedures.

Notifiers must have EAS encoder equipment. Notifiers without EAS equipment must activate the EAS through a Notifier with the proper EAS encoder. LP stations serve as the primary contact point for EAS entry and, therefore, carry an extra EAS responsibility (Appendix II). Participating broadcast stations and cable systems monitor the designated LP stations in their operational areas.

Monitoring assignments in the Ohio EAS structure are designated based on station coverage areas with an emphasis on the ability to span state, local area and county boundaries. This focus provides Ohio with an approach for disseminating EAS messages over all stations and cable systems with coverage serving an impacted area, regardless of the physical location of the transmitter or cable head-end equipment. To achieve this capability, cross monitoring and multiple Local Primary (LP) monitoring assignments are required.

The ability to fully utilize the automated technology of the EAS to assure 24-hour system reliability and selective signaling is crucial to its effectiveness. Emphasis is placed on Notifiers having EAS encoders and on the reliable interface of the National Weather Service's Specific Area Message Encoder (SAME) into the Ohio EAS structure. Ohio EAS monitoring assignments specify the monitoring of the Operational Area LP-1 and LP-2 stations by all broadcasters and cable operators. Broadcasters and cable operators may also wish to monitor the NOAA weather radio station issuing weather warnings for counties within their coverage area (see Appendix III). The approval to monitor an LP-3 station may be granted when difficulties are encountered in receiving an LP-1 or LP-2 station.

V. ORIGINATING STATIONS

- A. The State of Ohio EAS's originating station is WNCI (FM), Columbus, Ohio (97.9 MHz), designated the State Primary (SP-1) station. The State of Ohio EAS's alternate originating station is WBNS-FM, Columbus, Ohio (97.1 MHz), designated the Alternate State Primary (SP-2) station. If WNCI cannot be contacted, WBNS-FM should be notified and requested to activate the State of Ohio EAS.
- B. In the case of localized emergency situations not involving the entire state, state level Notifiers may request activation of the EAS on a local operational area basis through the local area Local Primary (LP) stations serving the affected area.

VI. EAS MESSAGE PROTOCOL

- A. The EAS system uses a four-part message structure for emergency activation. The four parts are: (1) the preamble and EAS header codes; (2) the audio attention signal; (3) the EAS message audio text; and, (4) the preamble and end-of-message code. The description of the protocol that follows is provided for informational purposes only. The actual generation of EAS messages is accomplished through the use of FCC-accepted EAS encoder/decoder equipment. EAS encoder/decoder equipment software generates the header and end-of-message codes using plain English entries, through menu prompts.

The FCC protocol is as follows:

1. **The Preamble and EAS Header** – The preamble and EAS header code contains specific information related to the origination, handling and routing of the EAS message. An EAS encoder transmits the code three times with a one-second pause between transmissions.

The originator code part of this header is pre-set once by the user. The code is then sent automatically by the encoder as part of each message activation. The following originator codes are used as part of the Ohio EAS:

<u>Originator</u>	<u>Code</u>
Broadcast station or cable system	EAS
Civil authorities	CIV
National Weather Service	WXR

Within the EAS header is an eight-character identification code. These eight characters identify the broadcaster, cable operator, NWS office, or civil authority transmitting or retransmitting the message. Once programmed, the EAS encoder will automatically affix this code to outgoing EAS messages. Identification codes in Ohio will follow the convention shown in the examples below, except for cable system codes, which may vary:

WHBCAMFM	Broadcast station combo (<i>Example: WHBC AM/FM</i>)
WHBCFM	Single broadcast station (<i>Example: WHBC-FM</i>)
WLWAM	Single broadcast station (<i>Example: WLW-AM</i>)
NWS/KCLE	NWS, NOAA weather radio
STARCOEM	County Emergency Management (<i>Example: Stark County</i>)
STARCOSO	County Sheriff (<i>Example: Stark County</i>)
OHIOSTEM	State Emergency Operations Center/Emergency Management Agency
CMHOH2B	Cable System (<i>Example: Breezeline, Columbus – Region 2B</i>)

2. **Audio Attention Signal** – The audio attention signal is a two-tone signal transmitted after the EAS header code. This signal is 8 seconds in duration and serves to alert listeners to an upcoming emergency broadcast.
 3. **EAS Message Text** – The EAS message text is the actual text of the emergency message to be transmitted. All Ohio statewide EAS messages will begin with the statement: “WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM TO ACTIVATE THE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM” and end with the statement: “THIS CONCLUDES THIS EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM MESSAGE.” This audio message – including open, close and body – must be limited to two minutes in order to fit within the recording space provided in the EAS encoder/decoder.
 4. **End of Message Code** – The end-of-message-code is transmitted by the encoder three times with one second pauses between transmissions. Its purpose is to return automated broadcast programming equipment to normal programming after an EAS interruption.
- B. The EAS Message Protocol described above is taken from the FCC Rules, Part 11, and shall be used exclusively by the Ohio EAS. Each participating station and subject cable system and Notifier in the state should program its EAS decoder to facilitate the proper functioning of the system as described in the Ohio EAS Plan.
- C. **Ohio EAS Event Codes:** The Ohio SECC has authorized use of the EAS Event Codes for use under the authority of the Ohio State EAS Plan. The following are the only EAS Event Codes to be used in Ohio by anyone for any purpose. No other codes may be added without SECC/FCC approval. This list will be maintained as a “Master List” for all event codes used in the State of Ohio.

Warning Codes – These are codes critical to the rapid dissemination of emergency information. This entire list must be programmed into each station’s EAS encoder/decoder.

Emergency Action Notification	EAN
Emergency Action Termination	EAT
Required Monthly Test	RMT
Required Weekly Test	RWT
Child Abduction Emergency	CAE
Civil Danger Warning	CDW
Civil Emergency Message	CEM
Earthquake Warning	EQW
Evacuation Immediate	EVI
Fire Warning	FRW
Flash Flood Warning	FFW
Hazardous Materials Warning	HMW
Law Enforcement Warning	LEW
Local Area Emergency	LAE
National Information Center	NIC
National Periodic Test	NPT
9-1-1 Telephone Outage Emergency	TOE
Nuclear Power Plant Warning	NUW
Radiological Hazard Warning	RHW
Shelter In Place Warning	SPW
Tornado Warning	TOR

Optional Codes – These codes are authorized for use by stations on an as needed or optional basis. The programming of these codes into station EAS equipment is at the discretion of each participating EAS station.

Administrative Message	ADR
Blizzard Warning	BZW
Blue Alert	BLU
Extreme Wind Warning	EWV
Flash Flood Watch	FFA
Flash Flood Statement	FFS
Flood Warning	FLW
Flood Watch	FLA
Flood Statement	FLS
High Wind Warning	HWW
High Wind Watch	HWA
Network Message Notification	NMN
Practice/Demo Warning	DMO
Severe Thunderstorm Warning	SVR
Severe Thunderstorm Watch	SVA
Severe Weather Statement	SVS
Special Marine Warning	SNW
Special Weather Statement	SPS
Tornado Watch	TOA
Winter Storm Warning	WSW
Winter Storm Watch	WSA

VII. MONITORING ASSIGNMENTS

- A. As indicated in Section V, WNCI is the State Primary station and is the originator for State of Ohio EAS messages. WBNS-FM, the Alternate State Primary station, serves as the alternate originator for the State of Ohio EAS and will monitor WNCI.
- B. All participating broadcast stations and cable systems shall monitor the LP-1 and LP-2 stations serving their local operational area (Appendix II). LP-3 stations have been designated in some operational areas to ensure signal coverage throughout the operational area. Broadcast stations and cable systems in operational areas where an LP-3 has been designated are expected to monitor the LP-3 if reception of the LP-1 or LP-2 is unreliable.
- C. In addition to their assigned LP stations, all stations and cable systems participating in the Ohio EAS may wish to monitor the appropriate NOAA weather radio station serving their area. A complete list of NOAA weather stations and the counties for which they provide weather warnings is provided in Appendix III.
- D. If monitoring difficulties are experienced, participating stations and cable systems should consult with the SECC Chair to resolve the problem.

VIII. RESPONSIBILITIES OF LOCAL PRIMARY STATIONS

- A. Local Primary (LP) stations serving the Ohio EAS System are chosen on the basis of signal coverage and their ability and willingness to serve in this important key capacity. LP stations are required to operate 24 hours per day. A list of all LP stations is provided in Appendix II.

- B. In accepting this role, all LP stations agree to transmit any EAS messages requested by official EAS Notifiers identified in the Ohio EAS Plan. To do this, LP stations must install telephone coupler equipment for use in providing Notifier access. Additionally, LP stations, as they deem necessary, agree to re-transmit any received message carrying any of the warning event codes specified in Section VI C, which originates in their area or any adjoining local operational areas. This will ensure message dissemination through all broadcast and cable media, which may have listeners, viewers or subscribers in the area affected by the emergency. This will require effort and attention to detail in EAS decoder programming. LP station engineers or other responsible personnel should consult their adjoining area chairs and the state chair in coordinating this important function.
- C. LP stations must program their EAS decoders to accept emergency messages carrying location codes for all counties that are covered, in whole or in part, by any station or cable system in their local operational area. All other participating stations must program their EAS encoders to accept emergency messages carrying location codes for all counties, which are covered, in whole or in part, by their secondary coverage contour.

IX. CAP-BASED EAS ACCESS

Ohio has two delivery systems in place to distribute alerts digitally:

- A. The State of Ohio Emergency Operations Center/Joint Dispatch Facility (EOC/JDF) – which houses the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (EMA), the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and a State Highway Patrol Dispatch Center (JDF) – is fully certified and capable of originating approved EAS event codes via the federal Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (IPAWS). EAS messages are distributed to participating Ohio stations using FCC-approved EAS decoders via the IPAWS Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) server. The Ohio EAS Plan requires conducting a minimum of four statewide RMT event code tests annually via IPAWS.
- B. The State of Ohio EOC/JDF also has an IPAWS aggregator linked via secured fiber to a series of public television stations across the state. The Ohio Digital Emergency Alert System (OEAS) provides a redundant CAP-based network to transport EAS alerts within Ohio public television stations’ ATSC signals. All LP, SP, and NP stations across the state have ATSC receivers connected to CAP decoders that monitor these public television stations and forward received alerts to their respective operational areas via over-the-air transmission. The Ohio EAS Plan requires conducting a minimum of four statewide RMT event code tests annually via the OEAS CAP network.

X. NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

A. **Notifiers:** The agencies named below shall serve as Notifiers for the State of Ohio EAS. Other agencies may request activation of the State of Ohio EAS, but they must do so through one of the Notifiers listed below:

- 1. Governor of the State of Ohio
- 2. Ohio Emergency Management Agency
- 3. Ohio State Highway Patrol
- 4. National Weather Service (weather alerts only)
- 5. County Emergency Management Agency Directors (local operational area only)
- 6. County Sheriffs (local operational area only)

- B. **Request for Activation of a Statewide Alert:** Notification of a statewide alert can be accomplished by sending the pre-formatted alert from the EOC/JDF using an EAS encoder to the State Primary or Alternate State Primary station. The EOC/JDF serves as the EAS notification point and is connected to the State Primary station by a private radio link.
- C. **Requests for Activation of a Local Operational Area Alert:** Requests for activation of an alert within a local operational area can be made by sending the preformatted alert from an authorized Notifier using an EAS encoder to the Local Primary 1 or Local Primary 2 station for the operational area.

Notifiers with IPAWS capability may send alerts for their county via IPAWS, and regional IPAWS alert origination may be coordinated through the Ohio EMA. Ohio EAS messages will be formatted to begin with the following statement: "WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM TO ACTIVATE THE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM (text of emergency message)." Message will end with the following statement: "THIS CONCLUDES THIS EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM MESSAGE."
- D. **Weather Alerts:** The National Weather Service (NWS) will serve as the sole Notifier for all weather alerts and subsequent weather information. The primary means of NWS activation of the Ohio EAS will be over NWS-Specific Area Message Encoder (SAME) through station monitoring of the NOAA weather radio system.

XI. BROADCASTER AND CABLE OPERATOR PROCEDURES

- A. Upon receipt of a pre-formatted EAS alert from an authorized Notifier, the SP or alternate SP station shall re-transmit that alert immediately. The exception is Practice/Demo Warnings (DMOs), which should not be re-transmitted.
- B. All broadcast stations and cable systems in the State of Ohio monitoring the relevant LP stations will be alerted by their EAS decoders based on the event and location codes contained in the EAS digital header. Upon receipt of a valid EAS message, each participating station or cable system should broadcast the information contained in the message within 15 minutes of receipt.
- C. Participating broadcast stations and cable systems are strongly encouraged to use the Notifier's original audio message as transmitted through the EAS decoder/encoder equipment. Emergency messages with unconfirmed facts can lead to public confusion and heightened anxiety.
- D. Upon completion of the EAS transmission, appropriate notations must be entered into the station log.

XII. LEGAL MATTERS

- A. As a reminder to broadcasters and cable operators, the following legal points are made regarding emergency alert operations. (For complete information, consult [FCC Rules and Regulations, Part 11.](#))
- B. While the broadcast of EAS messages is encouraged, use of Ohio EAS material is solely at the discretion of individual station or cable system management. Although the activation of the EAS is discretionary at the state and local levels, if it is activated, all communications facilities within the affected area that are participating in the EAS at the state or local level are expected to take part in the activation and to follow the requirements of the FCC's rules, the [EAS Operating Handbook](#), and the Ohio EAS Plan. (See [FCC Rules, Part 11](#), Secs. 11.21, 11.41 and 11.55.)

- C. All participating stations and cable systems have permission to rebroadcast Ohio EAS messages. Such rebroadcast permission begins with issuance of the EAS signaling and alert tones, and ends with the EAS end-of-message code. Stations and cable systems are encouraged to configure their EAS encoders for automatic relay of EAS messages. Unattended stations must operate EAS encoders in automatic mode.
- D. In the event of an EAS activation, stations with certain power, pattern and operating hours limitations may forego those limitations subject to FCC Rules and Regulations.

XIII. STEPS BROADCASTERS AND CABLE OPERATORS MUST TAKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

- A. The Ohio SECC has set the following requirements for participation in the Ohio EAS Plan. The success of the Ohio EAS depends upon proper equipment configuration and adherence to these steps.
- B. All stations and cable systems must have an EAS encoder/decoder installed with audio inputs from the LP-1 and LP-2 stations serving their Local Operational Area. In addition, stations may wish to have an NWS weather radio source connected to their decoder.
- C. The following encoder/decoder programming must be accomplished in order to participate in the Ohio EAS Plan:

For Radio and TV Stations – Decoders must be programmed to accept alerts using all the warning event codes included in Section VI C, at a minimum. Decoders must also be programmed to accept alerts containing all county location codes within their secondary coverage contour. TV stations must transmit all received alerts in accordance with FCC Rules 11.51 (d).

For Cable System Head Ends – Decoders must be programmed to accept alerts for all warning event codes given in Section VI, C. Decoders must be programmed to accept alerts containing county location codes for all counties covered, in whole or in part, by the system. Cable systems must transmit all received alerts in accordance with FCC Rules 11.51 (g) and 11.51 (h).

EAS equipment should be configured to notify station personnel of any EAS activation. LP stations must program their decoders for additional location codes as prescribed in the Ohio EAS Plan. Unless a facility is attended 24 hours by operators trained in EAS operation, encoder/decoder equipment should be configured to automatically rebroadcast properly addressed EAS messages.

NOTE: The SECC recognizes the problems encountered in large cable systems, where selective delivery to specific areas may not be possible, resulting in alerts being received by subscribers who may not be affected by the alert. However, the SECC expects that all alerts be sent. The information contained in the alert itself is sufficient to allow subscribers to determine if the alert applies to them.

- D. Stations and cable systems should develop their own standard operating procedures for each facility based on the Ohio EAS Plan. Station personnel should post step-by-step operating procedures at the EAS equipment for quick reference by operating personnel to use at the time of an activation.
- E. The Ohio EAS has both audio and video capabilities. Television stations and cable systems participating in the Ohio EAS should have systems configured at all times to air the EAS message crawler as well as audio during EAS messages. All participating stations and cable systems are encouraged to purchase EAS equipment with multiple monitoring capabilities. This should include at a minimum the ability to monitor two over-the-air broadcast stations plus an NWS weather radio station. LP station equipment should also allow for the telephone interface of Notifiers' encoders or

the interface of existing remote pickup unit equipment, if appropriate. LP stations should pay particular attention to their multiple monitoring responsibilities when selecting EAS equipment.

XIV. TEST PROCEDURES

- A. Weekly tests of the EAS header and end-of-message codes must be conducted by all stations and cable systems in accordance with FCC Rules. This is known as Required Weekly Test (RWT).
- B. Monthly tests of the EAS system, known as Required Monthly Tests (RMTs), will be conducted on a statewide basis in accordance with FCC rules and regulations. The State of Ohio EOC/JDF will originate all RMTs on the following schedule:

<i>Month</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Time Frame</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Relay Station</i>
January	2 nd Wed.	Daytime / 8:30 a.m. to Local Sunset	9:50 a.m.	SP/LP-1
February	2 nd Wed.	Nighttime / Local Sunset to 8:30 a.m.	3:50 a.m.	SP/LP-2
March	1 st Wed. *	Daytime /Severe Weather Awareness Week	9:50 a.m.	SP/LP-1
April	2 nd Wed.	Nighttime / Local Sunset to 8:30 a.m.	3:50 a.m.	SP/LP-1
May	2 nd Wed.	Daytime / 8:30 a.m. to Local Sunset	9:50 a.m.	SP/LP-2
June	2 nd Wed.	Nighttime / Local Sunset to 8:30 a.m.	3:50 a.m.	SP/LP-2
July	2 nd Wed.	Daytime / 8:30 a.m. to Local Sunset	9:50 a.m.	SP/LP-1
August	2 nd Wed.	Nighttime / Local Sunset to 8:30 a.m.	3:50 a.m.	SP/LP-1
September	2 nd Wed.	Daytime / 8:30 a.m. to Local Sunset	9:50 a.m.	SP/LP-2
October	2 nd Wed.	Nighttime / Local Sunset to 8:30 a.m.	3:50 a.m.	SP/LP-1
November	2 nd Wed.	Daytime / 8:30 a.m. to Local Sunset	9:50 a.m.	SP/LP-1
December	2 nd Wed.	Nighttime / Local Sunset to 8:30 a.m.	3:50 a.m.	SP/LP-2

* The March test will be conducted on the first Wednesday of the month at 9:50 a.m., or in conjunction with the Ohio’s “Severe Weather Awareness Week” activities.

The SP station will forward the RMT to LP stations to relay to monitoring stations and cable systems within their operational areas. All RMTs must be re-transmitted within 60 minutes of receipt by participating EAS stations and cable systems.

A minimum of four RMTs will be conducted annually via IPAWS, and a minimum of four RMTs will be conducted annually across the OEAS CAP aggregator and the public television network.

C. The following script will be used for statewide RMTs:

“THIS IS A STATEWIDE TEST OF THE OHIO EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM, ORIGINATING FROM THE STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER IN COLUMBUS. THIS IS ONLY A TEST. THE OHIO EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH TIMELY WARNINGS AND EMERGENCY INFORMATION. HAD THIS BEEN AN ACTUAL EMERGENCY, YOU WOULD HAVE RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION RELATED TO THAT EMERGENCY OVER THIS AND OTHER STATIONS IN YOUR AREA. THIS CONCLUDES THIS STATEWIDE TEST OF THE OHIO EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM.”

XV. STATE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

- A. The SECC is comprised of the SECC Chair, Vice Chair, the Cable Co-Chair, selected representatives of LP1 & LP2 stations, and other voluntary members appointed by the SECC Chair.
- B. Questions regarding the Ohio EAS Plan, including station monitoring assignments, should be directed to SECC Chair Greg Savoldi at gregsavoldi@iheartmedia.com or 614-496-2121.

XVI. ACRONYMS

The following acronyms have been referenced in the Ohio EAS Plan:

CAP	Common Alerting Protocol
EAS	Emergency Alert System
EMA	Emergency Management Agency
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EOC/JDF	Emergency Operations Center/Joint Dispatch Facility
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
IPAWS	Integrated Public Alert and Warning System
LP-1	Local Primary Station
LP-1A	Local Primary Alternate
LP-2	Local Primary Station, alternate
LP-3	Local Primary Station, alternate, relay
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NP	National Primary Station
NWS	National Weather Service
OEAS	Ohio (Digital) Emergency Alert System
RMT	Required Monthly Test
RPU	Remote Pickup Unit
RWT	Required Weekly Test
SAME	Specific Area Message Encoding
SECC	State Emergency Communications Committee
SP-1	State Primary Station
SP-2	State Primary, alternate

APPENDIX I

Ohio Emergency Alert System Operational Areas



- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| NORTHWEST | CENTRAL & EAST LAKESHORE | YOUNGSTOWN |
| LIMA | NORTH CENTRAL | EAST CENTRAL |
| WEST CENTRAL | CENTRAL | UPPER OHIO VALLEY |
| SOUTHWEST | SOUTH CENTRAL | SOUTHEAST |

APPENDIX II

Local Primary (LP) Stations and Contact Information

All participating broadcast stations and cable systems are required to monitor the LP-1 and LP-2 stations serving their local operational area. LP-3 stations have been designated in some operational areas to ensure signal coverage throughout the operational area. Broadcast stations and cable systems in operational areas where an LP-3 has been designated are expected to monitor the LP-3 if reception of the LP-1 or LP-2 is unreliable. Below is a list of Local Primary Stations for each operational area in the Ohio EAS Plan, along with an email address for the EAS contact at each station. Questions regarding station monitoring assignments may also be directed to the State Emergency Communications Committee Chair, Greg Savoldi, at gregsavoldi@iheartmedia.com.

CENTRAL Operational Area - Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Hocking, Licking, Madison, Muskingum, Perry, Pickaway, Union Counties

<i>EAS Designation</i>	<i>Station Call Sign</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Band</i>	<i>City of License</i>	<i>EAS Contact</i>	<i>Contact Info</i>
LP-1 + SP	WNCI	97.9	FM	Columbus	Greg Savoldi	gregsavoldi@iheartmedia.com
LP-2 + Alt SP	WBNS-FM	97.1	FM	Columbus	Greg Armstrong	greg.armstrong@radiohio.com
LP-3	WHIZ-FM	92.7	FM	S. Zanesville	Kevin Buente	kbuente@whizmediagroup.com

CENTRAL & EAST LAKESHORE Operational Area - Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Erie, Geauga, Huron, Lake, Lorain, Medina Counties

<i>EAS Designation</i>	<i>Station Call Sign</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Band</i>	<i>City of License</i>	<i>EAS Contact</i>	<i>Contact Info</i>
LP-1 + NP	WTAM	1100	AM	Cleveland	Ted Alexander	tedalexander@iheartmedia.com
LP-1A	WAKS	96.5	FM	Akron	Ted Alexander	tedalexander@iheartmedia.com
LP-2	WCLV	90.3	FM	Cleveland	Chuck Poulton	cpoulton@ideastream.org
LP-3	WKSV	89.1	FM	Thompson	Blake Thompson	blake@uakron.edu

EAST CENTRAL Operational Area - Carroll, Coshocton, Holmes, Portage, Stark, Summit, Tuscarawas, Wayne Counties

<i>EAS Designation</i>	<i>Station Call Sign</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Band</i>	<i>City of License</i>	<i>EAS Contact</i>	<i>Contact Info</i>
LP-1	WHBC-FM	94.1	FM	Canton	Dale Lamm	dlamm@whbc.com
LP-2	WQMX	94.9	FM	Medina	Melissa Lauby	mlauby@rcrg.net

LIMA Operational Area - Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Van Wert Counties

<i>EAS Designation</i>	<i>Station Call Sign</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Band</i>	<i>City of License</i>	<i>EAS Contact</i>	<i>Contact Info</i>
LP-1	WIMT	102.1	FM	Lima	Greg Savoldi	gregsavoldi@iheartmedia.com
LP-2	WKXA	100.5	FM	Findlay	Greg Savoldi	gregsavoldi@iheartmedia.com

NORTH CENTRAL Operational Area - Ashland, Crawford, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Wyandot Counties

<i>EAS Designation</i>	<i>Station Call Sign</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Band</i>	<i>City of License</i>	<i>EAS Contact</i>	<i>Contact Info</i>
LP-1	WVNO-FM	106.1	FM	Mansfield	Jeromy Bolen	jeromyb@wmfd.com
LP-2	WNCO-FM	101.3	FM	Ashland	Greg Savoldi	gregsavoldi@iheartmedia.com

NORTHWEST Operational Area - Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Ottawa, Sandusky, Seneca, Williams, Wood Counties

<i>EAS Designation</i>	<i>Station Call Sign</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Band</i>	<i>City of License</i>	<i>EAS Contact</i>	<i>Contact Info</i>
LP-1	WRVF	101.5	FM	Toledo	Greg Savoldi	gregsavoldi@iheartmedia.com
LP-2	WIOT	104.7	FM	Toledo	Greg Savoldi	gregsavoldi@iheartmedia.com
LP-3	WDFM	98.1	FM	Napoleon	Greg Savoldi	gregsavoldi@iheartmedia.com
LP-3	WCKY-FM	103.7	FM	Pemberville	Greg Savoldi	gregsavoldi@iheartmedia.com

APPENDIX II

Local Primary (LP) Stations and Contact Information

SOUTH CENTRAL Operational Area - Adams, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Vinton Counties

<i>EAS Designation</i>	<i>Station Call Sign</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Band</i>	<i>City of License</i>	<i>EAS Contact</i>	<i>Contact Info</i>
LP-1	WSGR	88.3	FM	New Boston	Greg Savoldi	gregsavoldi@iheartmedia.com
LP-2	WKKJ	94.3	FM	Chillicothe	Matt Erhard	matterhard@iheartmedia.com

SOUTHEAST Operational Area - Athens, Gallia, Meigs, Morgan, Washington Counties

<i>EAS Designation</i>	<i>Station Call Sign</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Band</i>	<i>City of License</i>	<i>EAS Contact</i>	<i>Contact Info</i>
LP-1	WOUB	91.3	FM	Athens	Steve Skidmore	skidmore@ohio.edu
LP-2	WXTQ	105.5	FM	Athens	Justin Drummond	engineering@yourtotalmedia.com

SOUTHWEST Operational Area - Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, Highland, Warren Counties

<i>EAS Designation</i>	<i>Station Call Sign</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Band</i>	<i>City of License</i>	<i>EAS Contact</i>	<i>Contact Info</i>
LP-1 + NP	WLW	700	AM	Cincinnati	Greg Savoldi	gregsavoldi@iheartmedia.com
LP-2	WRRM	98.5	FM	Cincinnati	Ron Gaier	ron.gaier@cumulus.com

UPPER OHIO VALLEY Operational Area - Belmont, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Monroe, Noble Counties

<i>EAS Designation</i>	<i>Station Call Sign</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Band</i>	<i>City of License</i>	<i>EAS Contact</i>	<i>Contact Info</i>
LP-1	WEGW	107.5	FM	Wheeling, WV	Greg Savoldi	gregsavoldi@iheartmedia.com
LP-2	WBNV	93.5	FM	Barnesville	Joel Losego	jlosego@yourradioplace.com
LP-3	WOUC-FM	89.1	FM	Cambridge	Steve Skidmore	skidmore@ohio.edu

WEST CENTRAL Operational Area - Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Logan, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby Counties

<i>EAS Designation</i>	<i>Station Call Sign</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Band</i>	<i>City of License</i>	<i>EAS Contact</i>	<i>Contact Info</i>
LP-1	WHKO	99.1	FM	Dayton	Bud Cowden	bud.cowden@cmg.com
LP-2	WTUE	104.7	FM	Dayton	Matt Erhard	matterhard@iheartmedia.com
LP-3	WEEC	100.7	FM	Springfield	Jesse Diller	jesse@godsfm.org
LP-3	WHIO-FM	95.7	FM	Pleasant Hill	Bud Cowden	bud.cowden@cmg.com

YOUNGSTOWN Operational Area - Columbiana, Mahoning, Trumbull Counties

<i>EAS Designation</i>	<i>Station Call Sign</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Band</i>	<i>City of License</i>	<i>EAS Contact</i>	<i>Contact Info</i>
LP-1	WMXY	98.9	FM	Youngstown	John Clarke	johnclarke2@iheartmedia.com
LP-2	WYSU	88.5	FM	Youngstown	Melissa Rogers	webmaster@wysu.org

LP = Local Primary

SP = State Primary

NP = National Primary (for national alerts)

rev. 12/2025 gs

**APPENDIX III
NOAA WEATHER STATIONS SERVING OHIO COUNTIES (rev - 12-2025)**

The following is a list of all NOAA weather station outlets serving Ohio points along with counties for which SAME encoded warnings will be carried. Warnings for some counties are carried on more than one station.

<u>City</u>	<u>Call Sign</u>	<u>Radar Site</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Counties</u>
Akron	KDO-94	CLE	162.400	Ashland, Carroll, Columbiana, Holmes, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, Wayne
Angola IN	KXI-94	IWX	162.425	Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Williams
Ashland KY	KIH-39	RLX	162.550	Gallia, Jackson, Lawrence, Scioto
Athens	KZZ-46	RLX	162.425	Athens, Gallia, Hocking, Jackson, Meigs, Morgan, Perry, Vinton, Washington
Sandusky (Bellevue)	KHB-97	CLE	162.400	Ashland, Crawford, Erie, Hancock, Huron, Lorain, Ottawa, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Wood, Wyandot
Bridgeport	WWF-35	PBZ	162.525	Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Tuscarawas, Washington
Cambridge (High Hill)	WXJ-47	PBZ	162.475	Belmont, Carroll, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Licking, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Tuscarawas, Washington
Carey	KZZ-47	CLE	162.525	Crawford, Hancock, Hardin, Marion, Putnam, Seneca, Wyandot, Wood
Cleveland (Chesterland)	KHB-59	CLE	162.550	Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Erie, Geauga, Huron, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, Summit
Columbus	KIG-86	ILN	162.550	Champaign, Clark, Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Greene, Hocking, Knox, Licking, Madison, Marion, Morrow, Muskingum, Perry, Pickaway, Union
Covington KY	KIH-42	ILN	162.550	Butler, Brown, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, Highland, Warren
Erie PA	KEC-58	CLE	162.400	Ashtabula
Ft Wayne IN	WXJ-58	IWX	162.550	Defiance, Paulding
Grafton	WNG-698	CLE	162.500	Ashland, Cuyahoga, Erie, Lorain, Medina
Toledo (Holland)	WXL-51	CLE	162.500	Fulton, Hancock, Henry, Lucas, Ottawa, Sandusky, Seneca, Wood. Warnings for Defiance and Williams Counties will be aired for the purpose of relay to the EAS.
Lima	WXJ-93	ILN	162.400	Allen, Auglaize, Defiance, Hancock, Hardin, Logan, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Shelby, Van Wert, Wyandot
Mansfield	WWG-57	CLE	162.450	Ashland, Crawford, Holmes, Knox, Licking, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Wayne, Wyandot
Marietta	WNG-734	RLX	162.400	Washington, Monroe, Noble
Maysville KY	KZZ-49	ILN	162.425	Adams, Brown
Dayton (Miamisburg)	WXJ-46	ILN	162.475	Butler, Champaign, Clark, Clinton, Darke, Greene, Logan, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby, Warren
New Philadelphia	WNG-735	PBZ	162.425	Carroll, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Stark, Tuscarawas, Wayne
Otway	WXM-69	ILN	162.525	Adams, Brown, Highland, Jackson, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Vinton
Pittsburgh PA	KIH-35	PBZ	162.550	Columbiana
Richmond IN	KHB-52	ILN	162.500	Butler, Darke, Montgomery, Preble
Youngstown	WWG-56	CLE	162.500	Carroll, Columbiana, Mahoning, Portage, Stark, Trumbull
Chillicothe	KJY-68	ILN	162.500	Fayette, Fairfield, Hocking, Jackson, Pickaway, Pike, Ross, Vinton
Meadville	KZZ-32	CLE	162.475	Ashtabula, Trumbull
Garfield	WXM-70	RLX	162.500	Athens, Gallia, Meigs, Washington
Adrian/Petersburg	WNG-647	DTX	162.450	Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Williams