



## NEW National Weather Service Cold Weather Policy

As winter approaches, the National Weather Service (NWS) is rolling out significant changes to its cold weather advisories, which will affect how residents of Ohio prepare for and respond to extreme cold.

Effective October 1, 2024, the NWS will replace the Wind Chill Advisory, Wind Chill Watch, and Wind Chill Warning with a new Cold Weather Advisory and Extreme Cold Warning system. These changes simplify hazard communication and enhance public safety during harsh winter conditions.



Under the New Advisory System:

- **Cold Weather Advisory:** Issued when air temperatures or wind chill values range from -15°F to -24°F. This advisory serves as a warning for potential hazards that can arise from prolonged exposure to these temperatures.
- **Extreme Cold Warning:** Issued for air temperatures or wind chill values of -25°F or lower. This warning indicates an elevated risk of frostbite and hypothermia, urging residents to take immediate action to protect themselves and their property.

This streamlined approach is part of the NWS's Hazard Simplification initiative, designed to reduce confusion and make it easier for the public to understand weather threats. The new cold weather policy from the NWS marks a significant shift in how winter hazards are communicated.

*Information provided by Freddie Zeigler NWS Cleveland*

## Cold Weather and Extreme Cold

Before October 1, 2024

Wind Chill Advisory  
Wind Chill Watch  
Wind Chill Warning



As of October 1, 2024

Cold Weather Advisory  
Extreme Cold Watch  
Extreme Cold Warning

New for  
2024-2025  
Winter  
Season!



- This is the next phase of NWS Hazard Simplification
- "Wind Chill" headlines only allowed NWS to issue products if the combination of wind (> 6 mph) and temperature met local criteria. There "had" to be wind to issue the product!
- These new Cold Weather and Extreme Cold products allow for NWS to issue products for cold temperatures or wind chill - cold is cold!



## Feeling Like the

# Last to know?



Have you ever found out about a hazmat spill in your county from another agency that you felt shouldn't know before you?

Well, that has happened to several county EMAs that we spoke with and here is why-

**You may not have an application on file with the NRC (National Response Center).**

Picture this, you are sitting at your desk, and the Ohio EMA Watch desk calls to ask you if you have any additional information on a derailment and hazmat spill in your jurisdiction. This is the first you have heard of this situation. So you obviously have no additional information, but also are starting to wonder how they knew before you. On the other end of the phone, the Watch Desk references a report they received from the NRC. You then call your local EPA contact, and they already know too and reference the same report. They assumed you had been called also, but upon skimming the report they see that many state and federal agencies were, but not one local department (including the local fire department).

In this situation, the spiller made notification to the NRC and then all of those with applications on file with their agency were notified. Conducting a quick, small sample size survey of county directors, we learned that many of you also were never told by your predecessor to file an application with the NRC. Likely because they weren't told, so on and so forth.

**If you are a government agency and would like to receive real-time incident notifications from the NRC or update an application previously submitted, please download and complete the below application. NOTE: Real-time incident notifications are for agencies that have a regulatory/enforcement or response authority for environmental, railroad, or maritime security incidents.**

## [Application to Receive NRC Reports](#)

The good news is, it's fairly easy. You just need to fill out the application. After completing and submitting this, the turn around time was not too long, and soon enough you will begin to get those calls. If you are unsure if you have one on file or not, they are able to check your application status. For inquiries, email [nrc@uscg.mil](mailto:nrc@uscg.mil). If you have additional questions, or would like to discuss the application process further, please feel free to contact their Operations Officer at (202)372-2432.

EMAIO strives to advance public safety for Ohioans through effective collaborations with local, state, and federal partners.

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# Election Security



Provided by Matthew McCrystal,  
Office of the Ohio Secretary of State

Ohio's emergency management community has an important role in coordinating with partners to ensure the continuity of Ohio's elections. As we approach the November 05, 2024, general election, here are a few important reminders from the Office of the Ohio Secretary of State:

- Ohio's elections are safe and secure.
- Adversaries, foreign and domestic, are likely to attempt to disrupt the election process through use of disinformation and foreign malign operations.
- There is a high likelihood for contested election results regardless of outcome.
- Mother nature doesn't stop for elections – be sure to posture for a response to prioritize elections to ensure voters can access polling locations.
- Potential disruptions are not limited to Election Day; there is high likelihood for protests, counter-protests, and disinformation campaigns through the January 2025 inauguration.
- Reach out to your boards of elections; be sure to have confirmed contacts and know the needs of your partners.
- And most importantly, don't forget to VOTE!

## ILO/ OP3 FALL CONFERENCE

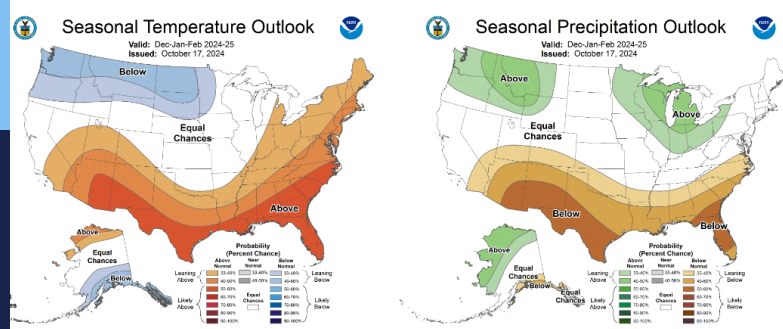
On October 10, 2024, many of our EMAIO members were in attendance of the Ohio Homeland Security ILO/OP3 Fall conference. Attendance for the conference was near 300 individuals from different sectors and disciplines. Some of the EMAIO members in attendance are pictured below.



## Winter Weather Outlook 2024-2025



**According to the Winter Weather Outlook for 2024-2025, (provided by NWS Cleveland's Freddie Zeigler) Ohio can expect temperatures to lean 33 to 40 percent above average, with precipitation likely to be 40 to 50 percent above normal. While average temperatures may trend warmer, the region can still experience extreme cold outbreaks. Residents should remain vigilant, as sudden drops in temperature could lead to dangerous conditions.**



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Building a Weather-Ready Nation // 4

**Save the Date**

**EMAIO Winter Conference**  
December 5-6, 2024  
**Salt Fork State Lodge and Conference Center**

**EMAIO Spring Conference**  
Date TBD