

# NEWSLETTER



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

NOVEMBER 2023 VOL. V.

## Examples submitted of local eclipse events:

- County Fair will open their campground. They are planning events and food vendors. Auglaize Village is planning on offering camping, viewing location and food vendors. They might include a craft fair. The Visitor Bureau is planning a "Come and Stay" event. They are working on viewing locations, food vendors and possibly a concert to keep people in town Monday night to lessen traffic flow.
- The fair board is planning entertainment at the fairgrounds on Sunday night before the eclipse. I have to follow up with the Ministerial association of promoting a mass wedding during the eclipse

## Ideas to tackle communication challenges:

- Deploy mobile communications tower to provide supplemental antennas so repeaters can reach back to our tower.
- Using normal MARCS talkgroups and 2 800mhz talkgroups as backups. Investing also in a bigger First Net cache.
- Deploy ARES in key areas
- Using POTS lines, satellite phones, UHF radios, and MARCS
- Advertising landline phone number in case of emergency

## Ideas of resources to pre-position:

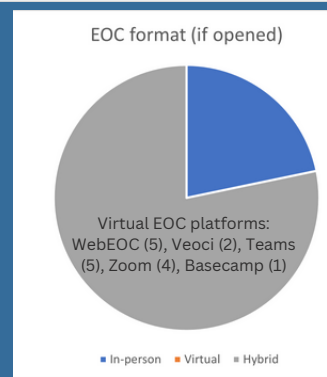
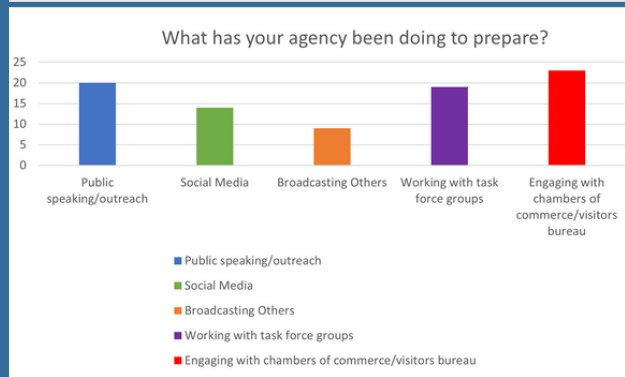
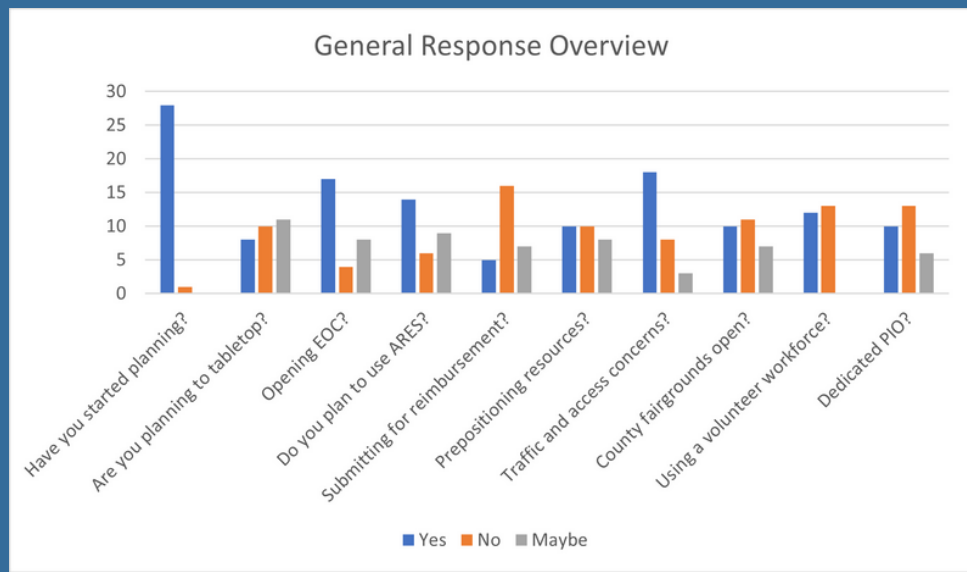
- Signage and camera trailers at key intersections
- Mass casualty trailer
- Fire, EMS, LE, ARES in strategic places (pinch points, response time considerations)
- ODOT message boards
- Cots for responder respite, outposts

## Traffic/ and emergency care mitigation strategies:

- Alternate mutual aid plan (county into quadrants)
- Keeping access to hospital clear
- Designation of emergency routes (no stoppage and do not block intersection signs)
- Becoming Waze/Google Partner
- Pre-identifying landing zones
- Aid stations at events
- Encouraging doctors offices to adjust their hours to stay open later
- Pre-positioning fire and EMS

## HOW DO YOU PREPARE FOR A SOLAR ECLIPSE? YOU PLAN-ET.

In all seriousness, 2024 total solar eclipse planning efforts have been a large recent focus for many of our members. We created a survey to provide you with a glimpse into what some of your neighbors and colleagues are up to. 29 agency representatives from across the state responded. Here is what they said...



## Staffing Modifications:

- Sheriffs office with additional staff
- Local HD to work remote that day
- LE and FD blocking out PTO, adjust shift times
- EMA, Health, 911 no vacations granted
- Fire, LE, Hospitals extra staff scheduled with OT

## Volunteer Groups to Use:

- Citizen Corps, MRC, CERT, Neighborhood Watch
- Incident Management Teams
- ARES
- Red Cross
- Volunteer Fire, EMS, EMA, and HazMat groups

## Lodging at present:

All Booked (7), Wide open (7), Limited (15), Inflated Prices (6)

## Reimbursement

## Request Ideas:

- OT for LE, EMS, Fire
- Rental or sheltering expenses
- Emergency services fuel
- Marketing
- Satellite phones
- Emergency Work
- Traffic and Access
- Debris management



## Eclipse Comments/Questions

### for the group at large:

- How far in advance do you plan to begin announcements to the public? I am thinking about March 1st, so there is plenty of time and notice, but not so much that they will tune it out.
- I have recommended to our local school districts to have early dismissal or cancel completely
- Starting in October I will be submitting a monthly article in the local newspapers and weekly starting in March. I will be hosting townhall meetings in each of the communities in Paulding County and having town townhall county meetings February and March.
- Speak with funeral homes about services/burials on day of eclipse in case people pull into cemeteries to watch eclipse.
- How do you get people involved, we have hosted 2 planning meetings, and everyone thinks it will not affect them.

## COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE UPDATE:

Over the past year, the Emergency Management Association of Ohio (EMAO) College and University Committee has been active in supporting a variety of initiatives to help broaden information sharing at the higher education level. On March 8, 2023 the EMAO College and University Committee hosted a free virtual event focusing on the upcoming statewide 2024 Solar Eclipse. Colin Campbell with the Ohio Emergency Management Agency presented information on the upcoming 2024 Solar Eclipse that will impact the majority of the state of Ohio. In addition to the presentation from Ohio EMA, subject matter experts from Bowling Green State University, The Ohio State University, and University of Toledo Astronomy departments also provided insight and ideas on how Universities can work together to expand community outreach and education for the Eclipse.

Upcoming events include but not limited to hosting a Community Awareness Briefing (CAB) with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Center for Prevention Programs and Partnership (CP3). The CAB course provides communities with information and tools that are available to assist them with understanding the problem of targeted violence & terrorism in our country, and how they can prevent it by working with mental health, social service, and other helpful community-based programs.

Update provided by Matt Keefe, BGSU

## DO YOU MISS THE OLD EMAO FORUM THAT EMAILED YOUR QUESTIONS TO THE ASSOCIATION? DON'T WORRY, WE HAVE A WORKAROUND!

- Email our Executive Director Michelle Fitzgibbon- [michelle@fitzgibbongroup.com](mailto:michelle@fitzgibbongroup.com)
- Include: Your question/ request and the email or phone number that you want members to respond to you at.
- Those responding, respond to the original request only (no need to include Michelle)



## EMAO WINTER CONFERENCE

December 7-8, 2023  
Salt Fork Lodge  
Cambridge, OH

Executive Director: Michelle Fitzgibbon  
88 East Broad Street, Suite 1305  
Columbus, OH 43215 (614) 378-2156

Officers: Thomas Smoot (Summit), President  
Sarah McNamee (Marion), President-Elect  
Alex McCarthy (Delaware), Vice President

Helen Norris (Logan), Secretary  
Jette Cander (Crawford), Treasurer  
Jeff Klein (Wood), Past President