



Department
of Commerce

NEWS RELEASE

John R. Kasich, Governor

**Jayme Brown, Interim Director
Department of Commerce**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SWIFT WATER RESCUE TRAINING ON THURSDAY IN ZANESVILLE

The Ohio Fire Academy and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Watercraft held a joint Swift Water Rescue Training today in Zanesville. Recipients of the training included emergency first responders from the New Franklin Fire Department, Scioto Township (Jackson County) Fire Department and Wellston Fire Department.

“It’s terrifying for someone to be trapped by rising flood waters,” said State Fire Marshal Larry Flowers. “When first responders are on the scene, this type of specialized training can make the difference between life and death for both the victim and the rescuer.”

According to the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, flooding is the most frequently-occurring natural disaster in Ohio as well as the United States. Floods in Ohio occur when flow exceeds the natural or artificial confines of a river, stream or body of water. Flooding peaks following winter thaws and spring rains.

This partnership between the two agencies helps to fulfill Governor Kasich’s vision of shared services within the state. The event coupled the Ohio Fire Academy’s long history of quality training for first responders with the Division of Watercraft’s expert knowledge of Ohio waterways.

Students learned the hazards found during typical water rescue incidents and worked with various types of equipment and rescue watercrafts. The training is available to first responders throughout the state.

For photos of the Swift Water Rescue Training, contact Michael Duchesne at (614) 752-7179 or Michael.Duchesne@com.ohio.gov.

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