

ORS WATER Technical Advisory Committee

Ohio Department of Public
Safety
1970 W. Broad St.
Columbus, OH 43223

From: Paul Moledor, TAC Chair

Date: July 1, 2018

Re: 2018 Status Report

**Ohio Fire Chief's
Association**



ORS



State of Ohio Water TAC Mission Statement:

To develop, implement, and maintain recommended guidelines, practices and oversight for a strategic response to all issues involving water as it relates to public safety within the State of Ohio.

Water incidents cause millions of dollar in damages each year and result in numerous injuries and fatalities to the citizens of Ohio. The Water TAC continues to work to improve the water awareness levels of all citizens and responders in Ohio. Additionally, we strive to improve the safety of swiftwater/flood rescue personnel.

With the help of funding from OEMA, the State of Ohio Water TAC has begun the build out of water rescue capabilities across the State of Ohio in the various Homeland Security Planning regions.

Working closely with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources- Watercraft Division, the Water TAC has developed swiftwater operations and technician level training classes. All the classes are completed and it has been distributed to all the swift water instructors.

A Statewide SOP/SOG on Water response that includes a hypothermia near drowning protocol, that has been developed and shared with the participating agencies

There is one team typed as a type 1 swiftwater team. Two more teams have submitted verification paperwork to be typed. The site verifications for these two teams is in the process of being scheduled.

In late 2017, NIMS develop a draft revision of what equipment and training swiftwater teams need for the various levels of typing. This draft is completed and has just been released. The Water TAC will be working to incorporate these new changes.

Ohio EMA is working to set up a more formal arrangement with the Water TAC. Holly Welch from OEMA has been tasked with job along with the Water TAC

Our goals for 2018 include the following:

- Continue to support the awareness program.- It is available at Bowling Green State University website.
- Other teams will need to go through the site verification process.
- Instruct Swiftwater Operations Classes and Technician Classes as funding allows.
- Secure permanent funding for swiftwater rescue teams in Ohio.
- Continue to identify teams in across Ohio to participate in regional and State development of water capabilities.
- Evaluate the matrix for requesting a water response team under the OFCA's Ohio Response Plan.
- Begin development of an Ohio Ice rescue program.

The water TAC always welcomes any suggestions and comments. Attached are the names and contact information of the Regional Coordinators for the Water TAC. For additional information, please contact me at the following email or phone.

Sincerely,



Paul Moledor
Chief, Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department
Chairman, Water Technical Advisory Committee
330-971-8400
moledorp@cityofcf.com