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440-279-2170

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
UPDATED STORM RESPONSE INFORMATION

The Geauga County Department of Emergency Services has been working since the recent storms to assist residents with storm response. The following information is the most up-to date available since the State of Emergency declared by Gov. Mike DeWine on Saturday. A state disaster declaration makes state assistance available to local governments and some private non-profits. **It is not designed to assist individual residents or businesses.** However, the State has NOT issued a Disaster Declaration at this point.

Residents and businesses with storm damage should contact their insurance carrier for assistance. FEMA has acknowledged receipt for Ohio's request for a Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment for the counties affected by the severe weather event.

Approximately 8,813 FirstEnergy customers remain without power, down from 430,493 customers who were impacted by the severe weather on August 6, 2024. FirstEnergy advises that power will be restored to most customers by 11:00 PM today in the Middlefield area.

- Ohio Department of Job and Family Services sent a reminder that Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients who experienced food spoilage during the power outages may be eligible for replacement benefits. Those that lost food purchased with SNAP benefits due to a power outage can apply to receive replacement SNAP benefits for the amount of food lost, as long as it does not exceed their monthly allotment. Impacted households need to fill out [JFS Form 07222](#) within 10 days of food loss and submit it to their County Dept. of Job and Family Services. Local JFS can also assist with information about local food pantries. Geauga County Job and Family Services offices can be reached at 440-285-9141.
- The Geauga County Department on Aging has been serving congregate meals for qualifying residents at their senior centers. If you want to attend, please contact your local senior center ahead of time. Department on Aging may be reached by calling 440-279-2130.

If you are experiencing an unmet need, **do not call 911**. Call the non-emergency number of your local fire department and assistance will be sent. If you're unable to reach anyone through your local Fire Department, contact the Geauga County Sheriff's office at 440-286-1234 and they will notify your Fire Department

Future updates on emergency response will be available at the Geauga County Sheriff's Facebook page @Gauga County Sheriff's Office Sheriff Scott A. Hildenbrand and the Department of Emergency Services Facebook page @ Geauga County Department of Emergency Services.

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