



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

**DATE:**

July 16, 2024

**TO:**

The Honorable Josh Shapiro  
Governor  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

**FROM:**

Randy Padfield  
Director, PA Emergency Management Agency

**TIME PERIOD:**

This report covers the period from 0600 hours, July 15, 2024, through 0600 hours, July 16, 2024.

**STATUS REPORT:** (as of 0600 hours)

**THREAT STATUS:**

**National Terrorism Advisory System:** There are no current advisories.

**Commonwealth Response Coordination Center (CRCC) Status:** Normal Operations

**County EOC Activations:** Bradford - Remote

**Municipal EOC Activations:** None

**CAPABILITIES STATUS:**

**PA All-Hazards Type-3 Incident Management / Team – Mission Capable**

**PA-Task Force 1 (PA-TF1)** - Two members returned from College Station, Texas

**INFRASTRUCTURE STATUS:**

**Major Road Closures:** Interstate 80 East - Foster Township, Luzerne County

**Power Outage Reports:** As of 0550 hours, 34,923 customers

**Telephone Outage Reports:** None

**SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:**

**OPEN:**

**ROAD CLOSURE – Luzerne County, 7/16/24** – Interstate 80 East near mile marker 268 in Foster Township, Luzerne County is closed due to a crash between two tractor trailers. One tractor trailer was a car hauler and the other trailer contained cherries which breached. There is no backlog or trapped queue. Traffic is being detoured off exit 262 onto PA-309. One individual was transported to Lehigh Valley Hospital.

**ADVERSE WEATHER – Statewide, 7/16/24** – Severe storms crossed the Commonwealth Monday evening downed trees and wire which closed roadways, and cause power outages. Bradford County EOC activated, and a Tornado Warning was issued for Lycoming County which was allowed to expire. Bradford County 911 center is operating on generator power. Power outages in Troy Borough, Bradford County impacted the water supply pump.

**SHOTS FIRED DURING FORMER PRESIDENT TRUMP'S RALLY – Butler County, 7/13/24** - A suspected shooter fired multiple shots toward the stage during former President Trump's campaign rally at the Butler County Farm Show, 625 Evans City Road, Connoquenessing Township. The US Secret Service responded with protective measures and took the injured former president to the hospital for evaluation and treatment. He has since been released. The actor is deceased. At least one member of the audience was killed, and two others were critically injured and taken to a local hospital. Westmoreland County provided two light towers to the scene at the request of the Butler County Emergency Management Agency (EMA). In addition, the Allegheny County Police Bomb Squad canine team was requested to respond. PA-68 is closed in both directions, from the intersection of Eagle Mill and Kriess Roads to the intersection of Whitestown Road, in Connoquenessing Township, due to the incident. A press conference was held at 2345 hours on 7/13/24 by the PA State Police and FBI officials. The incident remains under investigation.

**SIX ALARM COMMERCIAL STRUCTURE FIRE – York County, 7/12/24** - At 1838 hours, emergency crews were dispatched to T C Warehousing, located at 951 Elm Street in the City of York, for a report of a structure fire. The first crews on scene reported a working fire, and shortly after their arrival, they requested a second, then a third alarm due to the partial collapse of a wall and debris falling into adjacent structures. Incident command requested a fourth alarm at 1958 hours, a fifth alarm at 2040 hours, and a sixth alarm at 2051 hours. An additional 10 tenders were requested to assist with water supply. Local police assisted with crowd control. Local roadways were closed in the area. The building is used to provide storage and distribution solutions for businesses of all sizes. One firefighter was transported from the scene to York Hospital for evaluation and treatment with unknown injuries. At 2257 hours, two tankers on their way to assist at the fire collided at Hill Street and Mount Rose Avenue. Four firefighters from Station 37 (Windsor Township) and two firefighters from Station 8 (New Salem Borough) were injured in the accident. Four of the firefighters from this crash were transported to York Hospital for evaluation and treatment. 7/14/24, units remain on scene conducting overhaul and controlling re-burns. All injured firefighters have been released except one who remains hospitalized with non-life-threatening injuries.

**FOUR ALARM APARTMENT BUILDING FIRE – Philadelphia County, 7/11/24** - At around 2130 hours, emergency crews responded to a four-story, approximately 200-unit apartment building fire at Roosevelt Apartments, located at 7400 Roosevelt Boulevard in the City of Philadelphia. When the first crews arrived, a second alarm was requested. Within 30 minutes, a third alarm, then a fourth alarm, was requested. An unknown number of occupants were evacuated. No injuries were reported. Approximately 150 firefighters and 57 vehicles responded to the fire. The Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management (OEM) deployed a liaison to the scene. The fire was reported to be under control after nearly three hours. The American Red Cross (ARC) and OEM opened a shelter for displaced residents at Samuel Fels High School, located at 5500 Langdon Street. As of midday on 7/12/24, ARC reported they

housed 42 individuals overnight, and the shelter will remain open today. 7/14/24, shelter operations were relocated to OEM Luzerne Shelter, 600 East Luzerne Street at 1426 hours today. The shelter census is currently at 24 people. ARC and the Salvation Army are continuing to support the operation. Property management at the apartment building is waiting on PECO for electricity support response to aid in restoration efforts. Philadelphia OEM convened another Mass Care conference call on 7/15/24 at 1100 hours. The American Red Cross reported the updated shelter occupancy count was twelve.

**WATER LEAK – Lancaster County, 6/1/24** - A 3/4" cap on a water line broke on the 3rd floor of the Lancaster County Government Building, 150 North Queen Street in the City of Lancaster. The leak caused water damage to the 3rd floor as well as the floors below. A damage assessment was conducted by the Emergency Management staff, the County Facilities Director, and Complete Restoration. On 6/2/24, the County Commissioners decided to close the government center on Monday, 6/3/24, while evaluation of water damage in the building continues. The center reopened to the public on 6/10/24, but many of the offices are out of their normal locations and the facility is still in recovery mode.

**ROAD CLOSURE DUE TO SUBSIDENCE – Cambria County, 4/25/24** - An engineer for West Taylor Township contacted the county EMA about subsidence of the roadway in the 100 block of Batzel Road. Emergency management staff responded and noted considerable subsidence of the roadway. This is reportedly an ongoing issue where the township lays down new asphalt as a temporary measure. Electrical service and a cable line are pulled tight between the nearby residence and a utility pole which seems to have shifted. There is also considerable twisting of the guardrail. Cement barriers will be requested to close the roadway. There are no residents that are currently affected by this closure. There will be a minor detour for emergency vehicles. Engineers are working with the township to develop a long-term repair plan.

**TRAIN DERAILMENT – Columbiana County, Ohio, 2/3/23** - On 2/3/23 at 2130 hours, mutual aid crews from Beaver County responded to a train derailment near Taggart Street, East Palestine, Ohio. Approximately 53 railcars derailed and some of them caught fire. There were five cars of vinyl chloride within the wreckage. Around 2330 hours a call was received from an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 3 representative, and they advised there was no current impact to PA. EPA Region 5 and Ohio EPA set up air monitoring equipment and they also used handheld monitors, and nothing was detected. Members of the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Southwest Regional Office were also onsite monitoring through daylight and maintained a presence until there was no threat to PA. An IMAAC model showed a potential impact to residences in PA if harmful chemicals were released from any of the derailed cars. Beaver County EMA Coordinator reported that they followed Columbiana County, Ohio's lead and a message was sent out to 16 registered users in the one-mile zone to shelter in place. Ohio later changed their message to an evacuation, but Beaver County remained as a shelter-in-place due to no residences being impacted. Shell Monaca was provided green foam to help extinguish the fires. Clean-up contractors from SPSI and Hepaco responded to the scene. The shelter-in-place order remained in effect for Beaver County. Beaver County sent tankers from nine departments and an engine to assist in drafting from a lake in town once the railroad deemed it was safe. As of 2/5/23, Columbiana County, Ohio EMA recommended a one-mile evacuation around the incident due to one of the vinyl chloride rail cars showing a temperature increase. This included the 10 homes that were sheltering in place within Beaver County. On 2/6/23, all 20 homes in the PA evacuation zone were evacuated. Beaver County Animal Response Team (CART) requested assistance for trailers from Washington and Westmoreland counties to assist with the evacuation of farm animals from Kindred Spirits Rescue Farm. The recommended evacuation zone remained at one mile. The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) ordered a partial

activation of the Commonwealth Response Coordination Center (CRCC) at 1100 hours and Beaver County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) partially activated. A planned controlled detonation was performed to empty five rail cars into a trench to burn off the vinyl chloride. Norfolk Southern established a Family Assistance Center for affected residents in New Waterford, Ohio; Beaver Valley Intermediate School remained open. On 2/7/23, the plume from the controlled detonation on 2/6/23 dissipated with no significant air detection identified by EPA Region 3 or PA DEP. Norfolk Southern conducted wrecking operations of damaged cars at the sight. Normal readings were reported by the Ohio Civil Support Team after monitoring the inside of three residences. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources reported approximately 1,800 fish killed within the streams and creeks that were affected. Air monitoring continued and there were no contaminants or concerns. The PEMA CRCC demobilized on 2/8/23 at 1600 hours. All roads that were closed in PA, including PA-51, were reopened. The Beaver County EOC deactivated at 1200 hours on 2/10/23. A public inquiry line remains operational. On 2/14/23, the EPA identified three other chemicals that were part of the train. They continued to monitor the air and waterways for contamination. On 2/23/23, PEMA, in conjunction with the Departments of Health (DOH) and Environmental Protection, launched a website to provide information to Commonwealth residents about the derailment. On 2/28/23, the Pennsylvania Department of Health opened a Health Resource Center in Darlington Township, Beaver County for residents of Beaver and Lawrence counties who have health concerns following the Norfolk Southern train derailment. On 3/1/23, door-to-door surveys were conducted for 22 households within the 1-mile evacuation zone. Additional discussion led to a decision to do CDC outreach (door knocking) within the 2-mile radius in Pennsylvania, which began on 3/2/23. Approximately 450 healthcare providers participated in three webinars conducted on 2/28/23 and 3/1/23 for major medical providers in the Southwestern Region. Sample testing and review on Norfolk Southern soil sampling continued by Commonwealth agencies. The EPA Region 3 Director accompanied by staff, Pennsylvania Senator Casey, and Representative Deluzio toured the site on 3/2/23. On Monday, 3/6/23, Pennsylvania Governor Shapiro announced that Norfolk Southern has agreed to pay Pennsylvania millions of dollars for the impacts of the train derailment. Norfolk Southern agreed to reimburse local fire departments to replace contaminated or damaged equipment used during the response to the derailment, to provide funds for a Community Relief Fund to be run by officials in Beaver and Lawrence counties, and to reimburse state agencies (DEP, DOH, and PEMA) for associated costs. Norfolk Southern collected soil samples with representatives from the EPA present. Removal of the train tracks closest of Pennsylvania began over the weekend and was completed 3/5/23. Excavation of the contaminated soil began, and odors were expected to be released into the air. Air monitoring was increased during the process which is expected to take at least three to four days depending on the depth of the contaminants in the soil. The EPA requested Norfolk Southern to provide additional financial assistance to residents within one mile of the derailment site if they are impacted by the odors released during the excavation of the soil which the company has agreed too. Pennsylvania state agencies supported another East Palestine Community Resource Fair this Thursday at the East Palestine High School. Beaver County coordinated a separate Community Resource Fair for Pennsylvania residents for the following week which the state agencies supported. U.S. Senator Bob Casey completed a quick tour and talk at the Health Resource Center Monday morning. A Norfolk Southern contracted company sampled 16 private wells in Pennsylvania. DEP sampled 27 private wells in the area as of Monday with more sampling expected 3/7/23. On 3/8/23 DHS coordinated a call with Beaver and Lawrence counties about the possibility of applying for a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Emergency Response Grant (SERG) to provide funding for additional behavioral health services that may be required following this incident. DOH and PEMA also participated in the call. Excavation work at the site was temporarily stopped due to elevated readings and release of odor. The excavation of the soil at the south tracks of the derailment site was mostly complete. As of 3/13/23, Norfolk Southern was waiting on soil

samples to come back from the elevated spots that were detected. Due to contaminants being detected during the initial excavation at two to four inches, additional sampling was done at 12 to 15 inches to make sure all contaminated soil is removed. Soil excavation for the north track was still in the planning process. As of 3/16/23, the excavation of the soil at the south tracks of the derailment site was completed. The Health Resource Center (HRC) completed its final daily operational period at 1400, 3/16/23. The HRC moved to operations on Thursdays beginning 3/23/23. Excavation of the north track and removal of contaminated soil and water continued. OSHA joined the on-site operations to provide support to the safety officer and ensure that the community and personnel are safe during operations. EPA Region 5 conducted an information session focused on air quality and air monitoring on 4/27/23. EPA Region 5 conducted an information session focused on surface water on Thursday, May 11, at the Way Station and First United Presbyterian Church in East Palestine. As of 6/27/23, excavation underneath Pleasant Drive was complete, and the roadway was opened for traffic on 6/28/23. Contamination underneath the north and south tracks was removed, and both tracks are fully operational. As of 7/11/23, surface and ground water sampling plans for the remainder of the cleanup have been approved by EPA. In addition, gravel was laid on the turnaround on East Martin Street in preparation for asphalt to help control erosion and dust. A site storm water inspection was conducted, and additional storm water controls were put into place to improve the existing storm water management plan. EPA hosted a site progress information session on 7/20/23 at the First United Presbyterian Church in East Palestine. Activities are ongoing. As of 7/31/23, Norfolk Southern offered help with indoor cleaning for homes and business for those within the one-to-two-mile Ohio-Pennsylvania evacuation zone. As of 3/22/24, the EPA and PA DEP continue to monitor wells in the area.

**CLOSED:**

None

**DISASTER DECLARATIONS:**

6/7/24 - City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to a multi-residential structure fire at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Commons Shelter on 6/4/24.

4/11/24 - Oakdale Borough, Allegheny County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/10/24 - Jefferson Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/10/24 - Jackson Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/10/24 - Perry Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/10/24 - Wayne Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/10/24 - Center Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/9/24 - Aleppo Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/8/24 - Washington Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/8/24 - Richhill Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/5/24 - Gilmore Township, Greene County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/4/24 - Nippenose Township, Lycoming County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

4/4/24 - Deemston Borough, Washington County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

9/25/23 - Blawnox Borough, Allegheny County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to a water main break and damages to Freeport Road.

9/19/23 - Fairchance Borough, Fayette County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to a dam issue that has caused or threatens to cause injury, damage, and suffering to the persons and property of Fairchance Borough on or about 9/19/23.

8/14/23 - Plum Borough, Allegheny County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to a house explosion on 8/13/23.

9/10/21 - The Honorable Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, requested a major disaster declaration from the President through the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide additional support for state, county and municipal governments, and individuals affected by the remnants of Hurricane IDA between 8/31/21 and 9/5/21. The declaration includes Individual Assistance to individuals and households in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia, and York counties, and assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program in all areas of the Commonwealth. Public Assistance is under review. The President approved the declaration on 9/10/21 under Major Disaster Declaration FEMA-4618-DR. 9/24/21 - Amendment No. 1 designates Bedford and Northampton counties for Individual Assistance. 10/8/21 - Amendment No. 2 designates Bucks, Chester, and Montgomery counties for Public Assistance (already designated for Individual Assistance). 10/14/21 - Amendment No. 3 designates Bedford, Philadelphia, and York counties for Public Assistance (already designated for Individual Assistance). Plus, Fulton, Huntingdon, Luzerne, and Schuylkill counties for Public Assistance. 10/20/21 - Amendment No. 4 designates Delaware County for Public Assistance (already designated for Individual Assistance), and Dauphin County for Public Assistance.

8/31/21 - The Honorable Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, signed a statewide Proclamation of Disaster Emergency on 8/31/21 in response to severe weather event Hurricane Ida that impacted the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania causing widespread threats of serious flash and riverine flooding and other adverse impacts throughout the Commonwealth.

3/30/20 - Governor Tom Wolf requested a major disaster declaration from the President through the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide additional support for state, county and municipal governments and certain nonprofits, as well as individuals who are struggling during the COVID-19 outbreak. The request for a major disaster declaration will provide the same emergency protective measures available under the nationwide emergency proclamation; the following Individual Assistance programs: Disaster Unemployment Assistance, Crisis Counseling, Community Disaster Loans, and the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Program; and Statewide Hazard Mitigation. The President approved the declaration on 3/30/20 under Major Disaster Declaration FEMA-4506-DR.

11/27/18 - A Major Disaster Declaration was declared on 11/27/18 for severe storms and flooding that occurred 8/10/18 - 8/15/18. Public Assistance (Cat A-G) was approved for Bradford, Columbia, Lackawanna, Lycoming, Montour, Northampton, Schuylkill, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, and Wyoming counties. In addition, all areas in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are eligible for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The designation is FEMA-4408-DR.

#### **CONTIGUOUS STATE EVENTS OF POTENTIAL INTEREST TO PENNSYLVANIA:**

Delaware:	Normal Operations
Maryland:	Normal Operations
New Jersey:	Normal Operations
New York:	Normal Operations
Ohio:	Monitoring severe weather that moved through the state
West Virginia:	Normal Operations

#### **24-Hour Projected Weather Statewide:**

##### **National Weather Service, 0558 hours, 7/15/24**

Heat and humidity will peak in most places across the Commonwealth this afternoon, with the heat wave continuing Wednesday for the Lower Susquehanna Valley.

Highs this afternoon will range from the low to mid-80s across the northwest mountains to around 100 degrees in the Lower Susquehanna Valley.

Max heat index values will be between 100- and 110-degrees F across much of South-Central and Southeastern Pennsylvania today.

Scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms will develop once again today, with the most likely period of rain coming this afternoon and early this evening with the brunt of the more intense thunderstorms impacting the Eastern half of the Commonwealth.

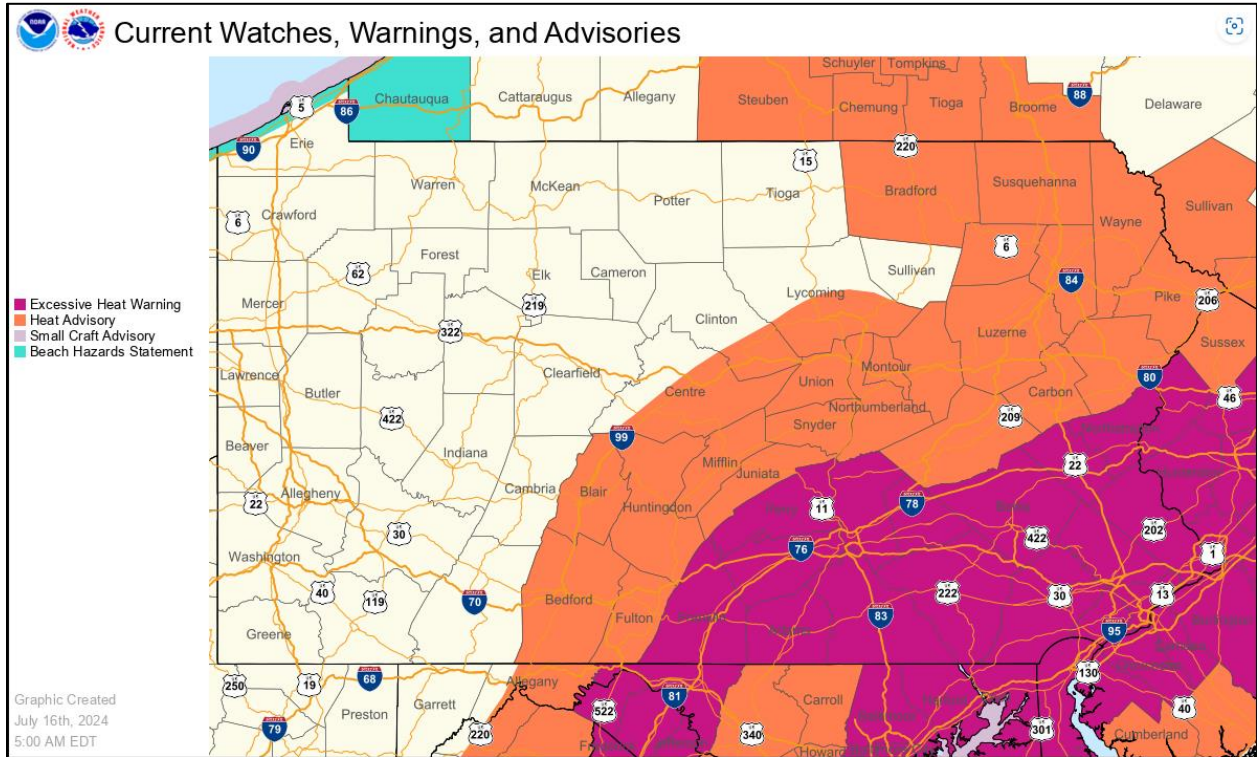
Tonight, will feature variable amounts of clouds with warm and muggy conditions. Lows will range from the mid and upper 60s across the higher terrain of the north and west to the low and mid-70s in the Central and Southern Valleys.

Another round or two of showers and storms is expected on Wednesday, as a cold front pushes east across the region. Slightly cooler and drier weather is expected late this week.

#### **WATCHES AND WARNINGS:**

An Excessive Heat Warning has been issued until 2000 hours, 7/16/24 for the following counties: Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry, and York

An Excessive Heat Warning has been issued until 2000 hours, 7/17/24 for the following counties: Berks, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton, and Philadelphia



**TROPICAL WEATHER OUTLOOK:**





## Two-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook

National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida

