



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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# Protecting Thousands

An Inside Look into Ohio State Football  
Game Day Preparedness Operations



# Please Keep In Mind:

- Information provided today is what works best for Ohio State
- Each institution is different
- Reach out to peer institutions/rivals
- R & D – Replicate & Duplicate
- Partnerships are key



## Quick Facts (Columbus Campus):

- 56,387 students
- 32,091 Faculty/Staff (FTE's)
- 451 buildings
- 36,000+ on campus parking spots
- 1,765 Acres
- 1 Airport (OSU owned/operated)
- 5 Hospitals (University, James, East, Ross & Harding)



## Quick Facts (OSU Public Safety):

- 6 Divisions

Police (46 Officers – including Command Staff)

Central Campus Security (50 staff)

Hospital Security (87 staff)

Communications & Central Alarm Center (19 staff + 6 students)

Emergency Management & Fire Prevention (.5 EM, 2.5 Fire)

MS/IT (5)

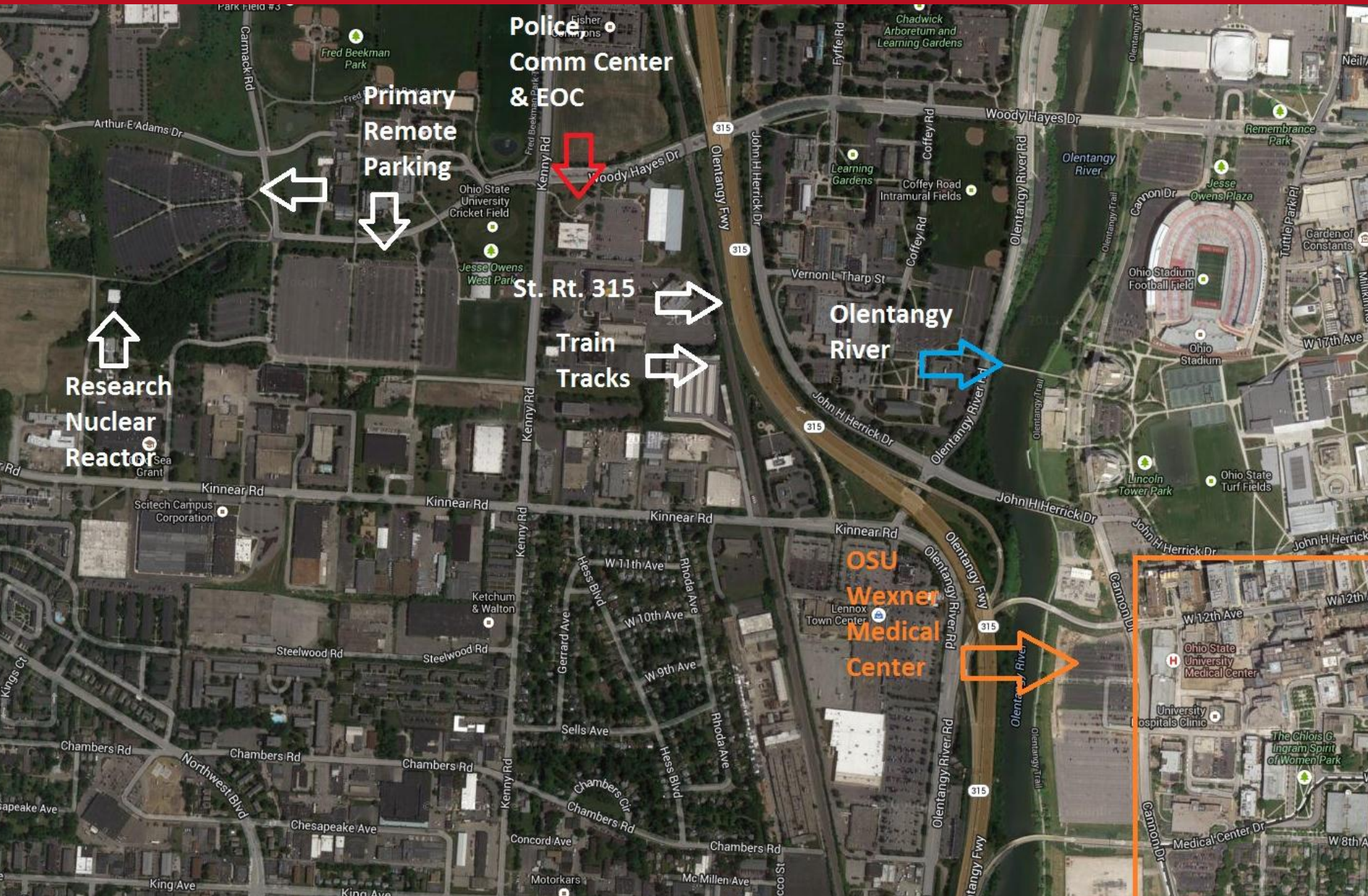


## Quick Facts (Ohio Stadium):

- Built in 1922 – Remodeled in 2001
- Concrete construction
- Seating capacity of 102,329
- Largest crowd was 106,102 in 2012 vs. Nebraska
- About 30,000 student tickets each game
- OSU moved the Olentangy River in 1922 to build the stadium
- Located in the 100 year flood plain









# Game Day EOC Set-Up

- American Red Cross
  - CampusParc
  - Central Campus Security Services
  - Central Ohio Amateur Radio Emergency Services (COARES)
  - Central Ohio Transportation Authority (COTA)
  - Columbus Division of Fire
  - OSU Police
  - Transportation & Traffic Management
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- Franklin County Emergency Management (on & off-site)
  - OSU Off-Site Executive (off-site)
  - OSU Wexner Medical Center (off-site)
  - State of Ohio Fire Marshal's Office (off-site)



# Cameras:

- Around 2,000 total cameras on campus and throughout Medical Center
- Multiple views in and around the stadium
- Can access any camera from the EOC
- Assist Command Post by serving as backup (2 incidents at once)
- Provides 1<sup>st</sup> Aid and Medics with a good view of victim while responding



# Typical Game Day Timeline:

Kickoff +/- xx hours:

- - 48 hours – Check all EOC equipment
- - 48 hours – Meet with Athletics
- - 7.5 hours – Arrive to setup EOC
- - 6.5 hours - OSU Public Safety Command Staff briefing
- - 6 hours– Interagency Command Staff briefing
- - 5.5 -ours– EOC is opened
- - 5.5 hours– WebEOC activated
- - 5 hours– TTM & CampusParc arrives @ EOC
- - 4.5 Hours – CFD, ARC, COARES, Police, Security arrive @ EOC
- - 3 hours– EM does final walk around stadium
- - 3 hours – CFD Grill Patrol on duty
- - 2.5 hours – Full stadium Fire Inspection
- - 2 hours – Gates open
- - 2 hours – All “Pre-Signal” personnel in place
- + 3 Hours – OSU Public Safety Command Staff debrief



# First Aid/Medical Response:

## American Red Cross:

- Advanced 1<sup>st</sup> Aid/EMT's/Medic's
- 7 First Aid stations
- 4 – 6 personnel per First Aid Station
- Bike Patrol
- Mobile Communications Vehicle

## Columbus Division of Fire Medic's:

- 3 person team in each 1<sup>st</sup> Aid room
- 2 Transport Medic's
- Additional staff roving the stadium

50 – 70 Individuals treated in 1<sup>st</sup> Aid each game

5 – 7 Transports



## Pre-Signal:

- 7 personnel stationed throughout the stadium A, B, C Deck (East and West) and South Stands (6 CFD, 1 OSU)
- 2 Supervisors at the fire panel (1 CFD, 1 OSU)
- 2 Siemens Tech's at the fire panel
- Alarm Silenced throughout the stadium
- 5 minutes to respond



# Grill Patrol:

- 1 CFD Firefighter
- 3 hours before kickoff
- Parking Lots & Garages near the stadium
- No charcoal grills
- No generators inside garages
- No fire pits



# Columbus Public Health:

- Since 2011
- Attend Interagency Command Staff Briefing
- Credentialed through Public Safety
- Direct communications with the EOC
- CPH pre-game briefing in the EOC
- An extra set of eyes
- Provide assistance when needed (Police, Medic, Fire, etc.)



# WebEOC:

- Situational awareness
- Multiple agencies sharing information
- OSU Police, EM, Security, Med Center, TTM, CampusParc, Red Cross, CFD, COARES, Homeland Security Dispatcher, Franklin County EMA
- Stadium Command
- Athletics Command



# Evacuation:

- Shelter-in-Place when possible
- Pre-Designated evacuation spots for University leadership
- No options for sheltering 100,000+ people near the stadium
- ~85% of parking is 1+ mile away
- Estimate a +/- 20 minute evacuation time
- Stadium Command may turn command over to the EOC (practiced in 2012)
- Practice an unannounced closing of an exit each game
- RedCoats/Ushers stand on boxes



# Severe Weather:

- Telvent/DTN
- National Weather Service
- Social Media
- Scoreboard
- Lightning 30/10 mile warning
- Shelter-in-Place



# Heat Related Issues:

- 85 degrees or hotter 12pm game
- 80 degrees or hotter – 3pm/8pm game
- Water Monsters
- Extra medics
- 1<sup>st</sup> Aid overflow rooms
- Increase media/social media messaging
- Free small cup of water from concessions
- 2011 – 90 degrees – 320 treated
- 2013 – 87 degrees – 160 treated



# Communications:

EOC monitors 3 separate radio systems (radios can communicate on all 3 systems)

- Homeland Security
- Inside Response
- Outside Response
- Red Cross
- Columbus Fire Medic
- Pre-Signal
- Columbus Public Health
- Traffic
- Alcohol & Vendor details
- Others (parking lot attendants, etc.)



# Ohio Stadium Emergency Operations & Evacuation Plan:

- Reviewed Annually
- All-Hazards
- Complete re-write in 2011
- Brief training to Interagency Command Staff at pre-season meeting
- Annual training of RedCoats/Ushers
- Separate/integrated plan for Communications/Media



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