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## PRESS RELEASE

**For immediate release:**

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**ALLEN COUNTY OFFICIALS READY FOR WINTER**

(LIMA, OH) – The week of November 11 – 17, 2001 is “*Winter Safety Awareness Week*” in Ohio and officials in Allen County announced at a press conference today that they are ready for the winter season here.

Allen County Sheriff Dan Beck stressed the importance of safe driving in snow and icy conditions and urged everyone to allow a little extra time in getting to your winter driving destinations. The sheriff also issued a reminder regarding Emergency Snow Condition Levels (I, II, III).

County Engineer Wayne Gerdeman discussed his department’s readiness for snow removal. Gerdeman said his office works cooperatively with area township crews to keep all county and township roads safe for travel.

Emergency Management Agency director Russ Decker reminded everyone of the county’s webpage at [www.allen-ema.com](http://www.allen-ema.com) that provides current weather advisories and warnings for county residents 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. “Last year the webpage proved to be a valuable source of information for the public, we would expect to see that usage increase this season”.