



NEWS RELEASE



Contact: Lynn Cook
614.253.2740 ext. 2477 Cell: 614.332.4929

For Immediate Release

32 Teams from Across Ohio Set to Compete in State Lifeguard Competition in Dublin on Saturday

August 2, 2007 – The American Red Cross of Greater Columbus is proud to host the 2007 Ohio state-wide Lifeguard Competition on Saturday, August 5th at Dublin Community South Pool located at 6363 Woerner Temple Road in Dublin. The competition begins at 8 am and is scheduled to run until noon. The public is invited to attend this free event. 32 teams from across the state have registered to participate in the competition that tests the lifesaving skills lifeguards use everyday. Every year more than 4,000 people drown across the country and there is no doubt that many more drownings would occur if both public and private pools did not employ trained lifeguards to watch swimmers.

Greater Columbus area teams that advanced to the state competition include: Dublin North, Hilliard East, Dublin Recreation Center, Dublin South, Hilliard West and Groveport Recreation Center. These six teams will join others from across the state including teams from as far away as Cleveland to test their skills in events including rescuing a distressed victim, demonstrating first aid and CPR skills and more. Participating lifeguards will swim a combined length of 80 football fields by the end of the competition, all in the name of saving lives.

Note: The best opportunity for visuals is between 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. The competition should end by 11:00 a.m. with award presentations at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Results will be released to the media on Monday, August 6 and are available by phone on Sunday between 12:30 and 2:30. Call Lynn Cook at (614) 332-4929.

The American Red Cross of Greater Columbus is dedicated to helping make families and communities safer at home and around the world. Sustained by over 700 volunteers, the Red Cross provides assistance to nearly 500 families each year after home fires and other disasters strike. Last year the organization trained and educated more than 113,000 area residents in vital lifesaving skills like first aid, CPR and how to prepare for emergencies. The Red Cross also sent more than 800 emergency messages between members of the military and their families. The community transportation program provides rides to medical appointments for seniors and individuals with disabilities, logging nearly 17,000 trips last year. All these programs and more are made possible by the donations of time and money from the greater Columbus community.

Michael Carroll is the CEO of the American Red Cross of Greater Columbus and Michael Schoedinger serves as the board chair.

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