



STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Brian M. Satula
Administrator

Scott Walker
Governor

DATE: July 18, 2011 12:00 pm

TO: Governor Scott Walker

FROM: Brian M. Satula, WEM Administrator

SUBJECT: Situation Report #1 on Severe Weather

Severe thunderstorms have been moving across Wisconsin overnight and this morning causing strong winds, lightning, hail and periods of heavy rain. The storms are expected to continue until mid afternoon. The strong winds have caused numerous downed trees and power lines. Despite the storms, the rain is providing little cooling relief. The National Weather Services has issued excessive heat warnings and advisories throughout the state as the hot, humid air continues. Temperatures will be in the upper 90's with afternoon heat indices between 100-110 degrees.

Power Outages - Several communities experienced power outages as straight line winds caused numerous downed power lines. As of 11:30, WPS reports 7700 customers without power in Eagle River, Green Bay, Rhinelander, Stevens Point, Waubeno and Waupaca areas. Crews hope to have power fully restored later this afternoon.

East Central Region

Straight line winds downed numerous trees and power lines in the Fox Valley. Winnebago County Emergency Management reports strong winds flipped several campers at an RV business near the town of Menasha this morning. No one was injured. The incident occurred at the intersection of Highways 10 and 76 when strong winds gusting to 60 mph tipped the campers over.

Northeast Region

Several counties reported downed trees and minor power outages. Numerous roads were blocked due to downed trees and power lines. In Portage County, a tree fell on a woman. Her condition is unknown. In Menominee County, phone service to the dispatch center went down but service has been fully restored. Most structural damage reported has been minor. Lightning damaged two houses in the Minocqua area.

Marinette County - Most of the damage of downed trees and power lines were reported in the City of Peshtigo and Town of Peshtigo. The power outages prompted the evacuation of the Whispering Oaks Care Facility early this morning. Local officials were told by WPS that power would not be restored until Monday evening. Officials began moving the 30 residents

to the Henry Drees Community Center in Peshtigo but fortunately, utility crews were able to get the power restored and the residents were returned to the care facility.

West Central Region

The western half of Jackson County was impacted by the storm with downed trees and power lines. Crews continue clear roadways. In addition, the National Weather Service has issued a Flash Flood Warning for West Central Jackson County. Clark County reported 4 culvert washouts as a result of heavy rains.

Northwest Region

Barron County has reports of road and culvert washouts in three townships as a result of heavy rains. In Sawyer County, straight line winds caused roof damage and downed trees and power lines in the Nelson Lake area. No reports of injuries.

Heat Issues - Several communities have opened cooling shelters this week for people to seek relief from the extreme heat. Public information messages have been issued reminding the people of the dangers associated with this extreme heat. The elderly, infants, people on certain medications or with health issues are more susceptible to heat stroke or other heat related illnesses. Milwaukee County is advising people who require special assistance to call their Community Information Line - 211.

Temperatures in the 90's combined with high humidity levels have made conditions hot and muggy. Most areas reported heat indices over 100 degrees yesterday. Some of the heat indices include: 109 degrees in Portage, 115 degrees in Eau Claire, 117 degrees in Ladysmith.

Wisconsin Emergency Management continues to monitor the storms and heat issues. At this time, there has been no request for state assistance.

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