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PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE CHICAGO IL

631 PM CST TUE FEB 28 2023 /731 PM EST TUE FEB 28 2023/

...NWS STORM SURVEY FOR 2/27/2023 TORNADO EVENT UPDATE #1...

THUNDERSTORMS AND ROTATING SHOWERS SPAWNED MULTIPLE TORNADOES IN NORTHERN AND CENTRAL ILLINOIS DURING THE MORNING OF FEBRUARY 27TH. IN THE NWS CHICAGO FORECAST AREA, A PRELIMINARY TOTAL OF 3 HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED THUS FAR. THE THREE CONFIRMED TORNADOES INCLUDE AN EF-U TORNADO IN RURAL SOUTHEAST FORD COUNTY IN EAST-CENTRAL ILLINOIS AND TWO EF-0 TORNADOES THAT OCCURRED IN THE CHICAGO METRO: ONE ON THE FAR WEST SIDE OF JOLIET AND ANOTHER ON THE NORTH SIDE OF NAPERVILLE.

THIS UPDATED PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT INCLUDES UPDATED INFORMATION ON THE JOLIET, IL TORNADO, WHICH HAD ITS TRACK AND DURATION EXTENDED AND ITS MAXIMUM WIDTH ENLARGED, AS WELL AS THE NEW FINDINGS OF A STORM SURVEY IN BENTON COUNTY, IN, WHERE DAMAGE WAS DETERMINED TO HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY STRAIGHT-LINE WINDS OF UP TO 70 MPH.

WE THANK OUR LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCIES, BROADCAST PARTNERS, AND TRAINED STORM SPOTTERS FOR THEIR REPORTS THAT WERE USED TO HELP IN DETERMINING THESE TORNADOES.

.CLARENCE EF-U TORNADO...

|                        |                                    |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| RATING:                | EF-U                               |
| ESTIMATED PEAK WIND:   | UNKNOWN                            |
| PATH LENGTH /STATUTE/: | APPROXIMATELY 1.5 MILES            |
| PATH WIDTH /MAXIMUM/:  | UNKNOWN                            |
| FATALITIES:            | 0                                  |
| INJURIES:              | 0                                  |
| START DATE:            | 2/27/2023                          |
| START TIME:            | 09:15 AM CST                       |
| START LOCATION:        | 2 SW CLARENCE / FORD COUNTY / IL   |
| START LAT/LON:         | 40.4400, -88.0000                  |
| END DATE:              | 2/27/2023                          |
| END TIME:              | 09:17 AM CST                       |
| END LOCATION:          | 0.5 SW CLARENCE / FORD COUNTY / IL |
| END LAT/LON:           | 40.4576, -87.9793                  |

EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS AND PHOTOS AND VIDEOS RELAYED TO THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE INDICATE THAT A TORNADO TOUCHED DOWN ROUGHLY TWO MILES SOUTHWEST OF CLARENCE IN FORD COUNTY, IL AND TRACKED NORTHEAST FOR ABOUT 1-2 MILES BEFORE LIFTING. THE TORNADO DID NOT CAUSE ANY KNOWN DAMAGE, AND THUS, HAS BEEN ASSIGNED THE EF-UNKNOWN (EF-U) RATING.

.JOLIET EF-0 TORNADO...

RATING: EF-0  
ESTIMATED PEAK WIND: 85 MPH  
PATH LENGTH /STATUTE/: 2.2 MILES  
PATH WIDTH /MAXIMUM/: 100 YARDS  
FATALITIES: 0  
INJURIES: 0

START DATE: 2/27/2023  
START TIME: 09:41 AM CST  
START LOCATION: 9 WNW JOLIET / KENDALL COUNTY / IL  
START LAT/LON: 41.5501, -88.2636

END DATE: 2/27/2023  
END TIME: 09:44 AM CST  
END LOCATION: 9 NW JOLIET / WILL COUNTY / IL  
END LAT/LON: 41.5767, -88.2402

AN EF-0 TORNADO WITH ESTIMATED PEAK WINDS OF 85 MPH MOVED THROUGH PORTIONS OF FAR WESTERN JOLIET, STARTING IN KENDALL COUNTY AND ENDING IN WILL COUNTY. THE TORNADO DOWNED SEVERAL TREES AND FENCES AND CAUSED GENERALLY LIGHT ROOF DAMAGE TO MULTIPLE HOUSES. A HOUSE ALSO SUSTAINED DAMAGE AFTER A TRAMPOLINE WAS BLOWN INTO IT AND SEVERAL PIECES OF THE TRAMPOLINE IMPALED ITS SIDING.

.NAPERVILLE EF-0 TORNADO...

RATING: EF-0  
ESTIMATED PEAK WIND: 80 MPH  
PATH LENGTH /STATUTE/: 1.4 MILES  
PATH WIDTH /MAXIMUM/: 30 YARDS  
FATALITIES: 0  
INJURIES: 0

START DATE: 2/27/2023  
START TIME: 09:52 AM CST  
START LOCATION: 1 N NAPERVILLE / DUPAGE COUNTY / IL  
START LAT/LON: 41.7839, -88.1619

END DATE: 2/27/2023  
END TIME: 09:54 AM CST  
END LOCATION: 2 N NAPERVILLE / DUPAGE COUNTY / IL

END LAT/LON: 41.8038, -88.1539

AN EF-0 TORNADO WITH ESTIMATED PEAK WINDS OF 80 MPH TOUCHED DOWN NEAR NAPERVILLE NORTH HIGH SCHOOL IN NAPERVILLE AND TRACKED NORTH FOR APPROXIMATELY 1.4 MILES. A PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT INDICATES THAT THIS TORNADO ENDED NEAR INTERSTATE-88 BETWEEN MILL ST AND WASHINGTON ST, WITH VIDEO EVIDENCE SHOWING A FUNNEL CLOUD CONTINUING FOR AT LEAST 1 MILE FARTHER NORTH OVER HERRICK LAKE FOREST PRESERVE.

.BENTON COUNTY STRAIGHT-LINE WINDS...

ESTIMATED PEAK WIND: 70 MPH  
FATALITIES: 0  
INJURIES: 0

PHOTOS FROM SOUTH OF FOWLER, IN SHARED BY THE BENTON COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY SHOW DEBRIS FROM A SMALL OUTBUILDING AND A CHICKEN COOP BLOWN OUT INTO NEARBY FIELDS, AS WELL AS DAMAGE TO THE ROOF OF A BARN AND A DOWNED SOFTWOOD TREE. DRONE FOOTAGE LATER SHARED BY THE BENTON COUNTY EMA CONFIRMS THAT THIS DAMAGE EXHIBITED A DIFFLUENT PATTERN. SPOTTER ACCOUNTS INDICATE THAT NO CONDENSATION FUNNELS WERE EVIDENT IN THIS AREA, WHICH SUPPORTS THE CONCLUSION THAT THIS DAMAGE WAS CAUSED BY STRAIGHT-LINE WINDS OF UP TO 70 MPH.

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EF SCALE: THE ENHANCED FUJITA SCALE CLASSIFIES TORNADOES INTO THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

EF0...WEAK.....65 TO 85 MPH  
EF1...WEAK.....86 TO 110 MPH  
EF2...STRONG....111 TO 135 MPH  
EF3...STRONG....136 TO 165 MPH  
EF4...VIOLENT...166 TO 200 MPH  
EF5...VIOLENT...>200 MPH

WHEN A TORNADO IS KNOWN TO HAVE OCCURRED BUT DOES NOT CAUSE DAMAGE TO ANY QUALIFIED DAMAGE INDICATORS, OR IF THE ONLY DAMAGE IS LOCATED IN AN AREA THAT IS INACCESSIBLE TO NWS STORM SURVEY PERSONNEL, THEN A TORNADO MAY BE ASSIGNED THE EF-UNKNOWN (EF-U) RATING.

NOTE:

THE INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE PENDING FINAL REVIEW OF THE EVENTS AND PUBLICATION IN NWS STORM DATA.

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NWS CHICAGO