

Press Release

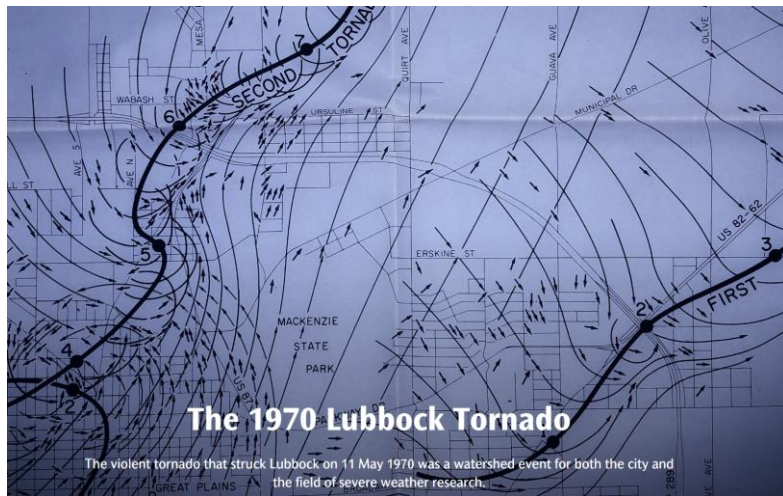


National Weather Service Lubbock, TX

May 8, 2020

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On May 11, 1970, the deadliest tornado in Lubbock's history struck our community – killing 26 people and injuring over 1,500 along its destructive path. The devastating tornado produced approximately \$250,000,000 in damage, equivalent to nearly 1.7 billion dollars in today's economy. Over a stretch of five decades, we have reached an age of mass communication and global information exchange. Technological advances in both weather forecasting and data dissemination systems have afforded the public with enhanced notice to impending hazards such as the 1970 tornado. The partnership between the National Weather Service, media and emergency management partners is critical to the process of providing life-saving information to the public.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1970 Lubbock Tornado, the National Weather Service Lubbock office has created a [dedicated web page](#) and a [Story Map](#) to capture a historical and meteorological perspective of the event, and to serve as an additional resource in promoting severe weather awareness and preparedness. We also will be providing additional information via social media channels, and are available for interviews.

If you would like to schedule an interview about the 1970 Lubbock Tornado, or to recognize and promote Severe Weather Preparedness, contact Jody James, Warning Coordination Meteorologist at NWS Lubbock: jody.james@noaa.gov, or at 806-773-2705 or 806-745-3916 ext. 223.