

Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Chicago IL
200 PM CDT Wed Aug 18 2021 /300 PM EDT Wed Aug 18 2021/

...NWS Damage Survey for the August 9, 2021 Tornado Event: Update #2...

.Update #2...

A few more updates have been made to some of the tornado tracks from the August 9th tornado event based on Sentinel-2 satellite imagery that became available in recent days. These updates were minor and only affected the start/end points and path lengths of a few tornado tracks.

.Update...

This statement is to update information on the Kirkland and Sycamore Tornadoes. Based on video and drone footage, the Kirkland tornado has been assigned an EF-1 rating and the track altered slightly. Similarly, ground evidence suggests the Sycamore tornado was four separate tornadoes. This brings the total number of tornadoes to 10.

.Overview...

Several miniature supercell thunderstorms developed across northern Illinois during the afternoon of Monday, August 9, 2021. These thunderstorms went on to produce numerous funnel clouds and several tornadoes, mainly west of the Chicago Metropolitan area in DeKalb and Kane Counties. A total of 10 tornadoes have been confirmed based on NWS damage surveys and tornado reports relayed to the NWS by storm spotters, law enforcement, and emergency management agencies. Most of these tornadoes were rated EF-0 and EF-1, with the exception of a few brief tornadoes that were rated EF-U since they did not cause damage to currently valid damage indicators. The majority of damage caused by these tornadoes was done to trees, crops, and outbuildings, but some structural damage occurred to a few residences as well.

.North of Esmond Tornado...

Rating:	EF-0
Estimated Peak Wind:	60 mph
Path Length /statute/:	0.1 miles
Path Width /maximum/:	20.0 yards
Fatalities:	0
Injuries:	0

Start Date:	08/09/2021
Start Time:	04:35 PM CDT
Start Location:	5 SW Kirkland / DeKalb County / IL
Start Lat/Lon:	42.0538 / -88.9383

End Date:	08/09/2021
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End Time: 04:36 PM CDT
End Location: 5 SW Kirkland / DeKalb County / IL
End Lat/Lon: 42.0538 / -88.9359

Survey Summary:

This brief tornado touched down near Lindenwood and Esmond Roads and produced damage to a farm outbuildings roof. The tornado was likely on the ground for less than one minute.

.South Kirkland Tornado...

Rating: EF-1
Estimated Peak Wind: 90 mph
Path Length /statute/: 2.2 miles
Path Width /maximum/: 80.0 yards
Fatalities: 0
Injuries: 0

Start Date: 08/09/2021
Start Time: 04:44 PM CDT
Start Location: 2 SSW Kirkland / DeKalb County / IL
Start Lat/Lon: 42.0603 / -88.8704

End Date: 08/09/2021
End Time: 04:47 PM CDT
End Location: 2 SSE Kirkland / DeKalb County / IL
End Lat/Lon: 42.0658 / -88.8308

Survey Summary:

After the tornado that occurred north of Esmond lifted, the same storm produced another brief tornado south of Kirkland. Based on ground video, this tornado may have intermittently skipped on the ground shortly after touching down west of Malta Road. Drone footage then shows crop damage increased in a farm east of Byers Road. The tornado then heavily damaged a barn on Base Line Rd. before it dissipated in the field east of Pearl Street.

.McHenry Tornado...

Rating: EF-1
Estimated Peak Wind: 90 mph
Path Length /statute/: 0.4 miles
Path Width /maximum/: 70.0 yards
Fatalities: 0
Injuries: 0

Start Date: 08/09/2021
Start Time: 04:45 PM CDT
Start Location: 1 ESE McCullom Lake / McHenry County / IL
Start Lat/Lon: 42.3622 / -88.2786

End Date: 08/09/2021

End Time: 04:46 PM CDT
End Location: 1 ESE McCullom Lake / McHenry County / IL
End Lat/Lon: 42.3622 / -88.2716

Survey Summary:

A brief tornado touched down at Petersen Farm on the north side of McHenry. The tornado tracked eastward and impacted a couple of townhouses along Evergreen Circle before lifting just before it reached the Home Depot store on Richmond Road. The tornado was on the ground for less than a minute, damaged a barn and ground marker at Petersen Farm, and caused some damage to sidings and porches, in addition to removing a portion of a roof at the townhouse complex along Evergreen Circle.

.Burlington Tornado...

Rating: EF-1
Estimated Peak Wind: 95 mph
Path Length /statute/: 3.8 miles
Path Width /maximum/: 100.0 yards
Fatalities: 0
Injuries: 0

Start Date: 08/09/2021
Start Time: 05:24 PM CDT
Start Location: 2 W Burlington / Kane County / IL
Start Lat/Lon: 42.0472 / -88.5905

End Date: 08/10/2021
End Time: 05:39 PM CDT
End Location: 2 ESE Burlington / Kane County / IL
End Lat/Lon: 42.0382 / -88.5185

Survey Summary:

A tornado touched down just east of the DeKalb-Kane county line just west of Plank Road. A garage door was blown in and several trees were uprooted at a residence just west of Engel road consistent with an EF-1 rating. The tornado then tracked east along the south side of Plank Road, damaging a large farm outbuilding west of Lawrence Road. The tornado then curled southeast where it produced sporadic tree and crop damage along Waughon and Peplow Roads before lifting near the intersection of Burlington and Romke Roads.

.North of Creston Tornado...

Rating: EF-0
Estimated Peak Wind: 85 mph
Path Length /statute/: 8.1 miles
Path Width /maximum/: 50.0 yards
Fatalities: 0
Injuries: 0

Start Date: 08/09/2021
Start Time: 05:28 PM CDT
Start Location: 5 NE Hillcrest / Ogle County / IL
Start Lat/Lon: 42.0005 / -89.0159

End Date: 08/09/2021
End Time: 05:47 PM CDT
End Location: 5 N Malta / DeKalb County / IL
End Lat/Lon: 41.9968 / -88.8606

Survey Summary:

This tornado developed immediately east of Interstate 39 near South Mulford Road and subsequently tracked eastward, paralleling Illinois Route 64. Damage to two farm outbuildings was noted, one on South Chamberlain Road and another on Edmond Road just east of the DeKalb County line. A video of the tornado shows that winds entered the building on the southwest facade which caused uplift of the roof and subsequent collapse of the walls. This damage, and damage to vegetation in the area was consistent with a high-end EF-0 tornado with winds of around 85 mph. The tornado continued to track east, immediately to the north of Route 64. Storm chaser video shows that the tornado crossed Route 64 immediately east of McQueen Road and continued east of Malta Road, where it produced some minor tree damage and dissipated soon afterwards.

.Paw Paw Tornado...

Rating: EF-U
Estimated Peak Wind: N/A
Path Length /statute/: 2.6 miles
Path Width /maximum/: 75.0 yards
Fatalities: 0
Injuries: 0

Start Date: 08/09/2021
Start Time: 06:03 PM CDT
Start Location: 2 NW Paw Paw / Lee County / IL
Start Lat/Lon: 41.6976 / -89.0169

End Date: 08/09/2021
End Time: 06:08 PM CDT
End Location: 2 N Paw Paw / Lee County / IL
End Lat/Lon: 41.7188 / -88.9771

Survey Summary:

Crop damage seen on satellite imagery indicates that this tornado touched down west-northwest of Paw Paw near German Rd. just north of Chicago Rd. The tornado tracked to the northeast and produced a swath of damage in the corn fields that it crossed, with the most pronounced crop damage occurring between Moffet Rd. and Paw Paw Rd., based on drone footage and satellite imagery. The tornado then lifted just as it crossed Paw Paw Rd. and reached Howlett Rd. Since the tornado did

not produce damage to any qualified damage indicators, a peak wind speed could not be estimated, and thus this tornado has been rated as an EF-U.

.Sycamore Tornado #1...

Rating: EF-1
Estimated Peak Wind: 105 mph
Path Length /statute/: 1.5 miles
Path Width /maximum/: 150.0 yards
Fatalities: 0
Injuries: 0

Start Date: 08/09/2021
Start Time: 06:13 PM CDT
Start Location: 2 SE Sycamore / DeKalb County / IL
Start Lat/Lon: 41.9623 / -88.6706

End Date: 08/09/2021
End Time: 06:18 PM CDT
End Location: 3 ESE Sycamore / DeKalb County / IL
End Lat/Lon: 41.9574 / -88.6423

Survey Summary:

This tornado was associated with the same storm that spawned the tornado north of Creston and touched down west of Fenstermaker Road south of Bethany Road. There, it produced a concentrated corridor of damage where two farm outbuildings were nearly completely destroyed. Several trees in the area had trunks snapped near their bases, and a single family residence exhibited some shingle loss along with two broken windows. This damage is consistent with a high-end EF-1 tornado. Drone footage indicates that the tornado quickly widened to 150 yards as it snaked east towards Airport Road where it produced additional EF-1 damage to trees and farm outbuildings. Drone footage and ground video suggest the tornado lifted near the South Branch of the Kishwaukee River to the north of Barber Greene Road.

.Sycamore Tornado #2...

Rating: EF-0
Estimated Peak Wind: 60 mph
Path Length /statute/: 0.2 miles
Path Width /maximum/: 20.0 yards
Fatalities: 0
Injuries: 0

Start Date: 08/09/2021
Start Time: 06:26 PM CDT
Start Location: 3 NNW Maple Park / DeKalb County / IL
Start Lat/Lon: 41.9526 / -88.6043

End Date: 08/09/2021
End Time: 06:27 PM CDT
End Location: 3 NNW Maple Park / Kane County / IL
End Lat/Lon: 41.9519 / -88.6014

Survey Summary:

Based on an NWS ground survey and spotter video, a second brief touchdown occurred on Barber Greene Road near the DeKalb and Kane County lines where some tree damage was noted.

.Sycamore Tornado #3...

Rating: EF-0
Estimated Peak Wind: 85 mph
Path Length /statute/: 4.0 miles
Path Width /maximum/: 400.0 yards
Fatalities: 0
Injuries: 0

Start Date: 08/09/2021
Start Time: 06:28 PM CDT
Start Location: 3 N Maple Park / Kane County / IL
Start Lat/Lon: 41.9502 / -88.5964

End Date: 08/09/2021
End Time: 06:37 PM CDT
End Location: 4 NE Maple Park / Kane County / IL
End Lat/Lon: 41.9414 / -88.5226

Survey Summary:

Based on spotter video, a third tornado associated with a new mesocyclone touched down south of Peterson Road and tracked east where it caused damage to several properties between Fabris and Meredith Roads. Drone footage then suggests the tornado widened considerably, to nearly 400 yards, as it tracked southeast across a field north of Welter Road and west of Meredith Road. The tornado then contracted, crossed Welter Road, and dissipated.

..Sycamore (Virgil) Tornado #4...

Rating: EF-U
Estimated Peak Wind: N/A mph
Path Length /statute/: 0.1 miles
Path Width /maximum/: 10.0 yards
Fatalities: 0
Injuries: 0

Start Date: 08/09/2021
Start Time: 06:38 PM CDT
Start Location: 4 NNW Elburn / Kane County / IL
Start Lat/Lon: 41.9444 / -88.5059

End Date: 08/09/2021
End Time: 06:39 PM CDT
End Location: 4 NNW Elburn / Kane County / IL
End Lat/Lon: 41.9446 / -88.5049

Survey Summary:

Spotter video shows a brief touchdown in a field to the south of Route 64 and north of Welter Road. Location was estimated by time matching spotter video, landmarks, and radar data. Since the tornado did not produce damage to any qualified damage indicators, a peak wind speed could not be estimated, and thus this tornado has been rated as an EF-U.

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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