

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TALLAHASSEE FL
250 PM EDT JUL 3 2009

...STRAIGHT LINE WIND DAMAGE CONFIRMED IN TALLAHASSEE FROM
THURSDAY'S STORM...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN TALLAHASSEE SURVEYED THE DAMAGE TODAY ALONG APALACHEE PARKWAY AND THE INDIAN HEAD SUBDIVISION AND CONFIRMED THE DAMAGE WAS CONSISTENT WITH STRAIGHT LINE WINDS. THE FIRST INCIDENT OF SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE WAS OBSERVED ON SOUTH MONROE STREET ABOUT 2 MILES SOUTH OF APALACHEE PARKWAY. IN THIS AREA... AROUND 90 FEET OF THE ROOF OF THE ALLTEL BUILDING WAS PEELED BACK. NO OTHER STRUCTURAL DAMAGE WAS OBSERVED IN THIS AREA. THE INTENSITY OF THE WIND IN THIS LOCATION IS RATED AT 70 TO 75 MPH. THE NEXT AREA OF DAMAGE SURVEYED WAS THE TOYS R US SHOPPING CENTER BETWEEN OLD SAINT AUGUSTINE ROAD AND APALACHEE PARKWAY. AT THE TOYS R US...AN 80 FOOT BY 10 FOOT WIDE SECTION OF ROOFING MATERIAL WAS REMOVED. TWO AIR CONDITIONING UNITS WERE ALSO MOVED FROM THEIR LOCATION ON THE ROOF. ONE OF THESE UNITS ROLLED ACROSS THE TOP OF THE ROOF AND FELL ONTO AN ADJACENT STRUCTURE. A PORTION OF THE ROOF DID COLLAPSE INTO THE STORE CAUSING WATER DAMAGE INSIDE. ABOUT 500 YARDS TO THE NORTH-NORTHEAST A FEW PINE TREES WERE SNAPPED ALONG THE PARKWAY. THESE PINES WERE AROUND 9 TO 12 INCHES IN DIAMETER. A FEW SMALLER TREES WERE SNAPPED ACROSS THE PARKING LOT CAUSING DAMAGE TO PARKED CARS. THE MAXIMUM INTENSITY OF THE WIND AT THE TOYS R US SHOPPING CENTER WAS ESTIMATED TO BE AROUND 85 MPH. TO THE SOUTH OF THE TOYS R US...NUMEROUS TREES WERE SNAPPED OR DOWNED THROUGHOUT THE INDIAN HEAD SUBDIVISION. THIS DAMAGE EXTENDED AROUND ONE HALF A MILE DIRECTLY SOUTH OF THE TOYS R US AND EASTWARD TO HALF A MILE WEST OF BLAIRSTONE ROAD. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT TREE DAMAGE OCCURRED ALONG OLD SAINT AUGUSTINE ROAD ABOUT 1 BLOCK EAST OF LAFAYETTE STREET AND ON APAKIN NENE ROAD. DAMAGE IN THIS LOCATION WAS CONSISTENT WITH WINDS UP TO 75 MPH. IN SUMMARY...DAMAGE OBSERVED APPEARED CONSISTENT WITH A STRAIGHT LINE WIND EVENT AS NO CIRCULATION PATTERN WAS EVIDENT IN THE DAMAGE FIELD. STORMS OF THIS INTENSITY CAN INDEED CAUSE DAMAGE THAT IS SIMILAR TO THAT OF A TORNADO. IN FACT...THE WIND SPEEDS PRODUCED BY THIS STORM WOULD COMPARE TO THAT OF A STRONG EF-0 TORNADO ON THE ENHANCED FUJITA SCALE.

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