

KILLER TORNADO GUIDE (1950-2020)

FOR NORTH CENTRAL AND NORTHEAST WISCONSIN

BROWN

MENOMINEE

CALUMET

OCONTO

DOOR

ONEIDA

FOREST

OUTAGAMIE

FLORENCE

PORTAGE

KEWAUNEE

SHAWANO

LANGLADE

VILAS

LINCOLN

WAUPACA

MANITOWOC

WAUSHARA

MARATHON

WINNEBAGO

MARINETTE

WOOD

TORNADO REFERENCE GUIDE – KILLER TORNADOES

Deaths	DATE			Time	Start / End Location	Deadly Tornadoes in GRB Service Area
	Month	Day	Year	(CST)		County or Counties
2	6	25	1950	21:00	1 W Woodboro - 5 NE Rhinelander	Oneida
6	9	26	1951	15:45-1608	9 SSW Amherst - 2 SW Bear Creek	Portage, Waupaca
2	4	3	1956	12:50	3 S Bancroft - 2 NW Amherst	Portage
2	8	19	1968	16:10	3 SW Pound - Marinette	Marinette
1	8	9	1979	18:20	Rockland Beach	Calumet
1	4	27	1984	14:37-15:07	Fawn Lake - Star Lake	Oneida, Vilas
1	4	27	1984	15:20-15:40	1 NE Winneconne - Freedom	Winnebago, Outagamie
2	6	8	1985	18:15-18:32	Park Falls - 3 SE Monico	Oneida
1	8	29	1992	19:10-19:55	1 N Wautoma - 3 SE Poy Sippi	Waushara
1	8	19	2011	15:45-15:56	2.9 NW - 5.2 ESE Wausaukee	Marinette

2 DEATHS: June 25, 1950

The EF4 tornado touched down one mile west of Woodboro in Oneida County around 9 PM CST and traveled 13.1 miles to five miles northeast of Rhinelander. The tornado reached a maximum width of 880 yards. Two deaths were reported in Oneida County.

6 DEATHS: September 26, 1951

The EF4 tornado developed 9 miles south southwest of Amherst in Portage County around 3:45 PM CST. The tornado cut through the towns of Waupaca and Lebanon in Waupaca County. The tornado traveled 22.3 miles and dissipated two miles southwest of Bear Creek in Waupaca County around 4:08 PM CST. The tornado reached a maximum width of 400 yards. A family of five was killed near Waupaca; while a 40 year old woman was killed near New London when a farm home was flattened.

2 DEATHS: April 3, 1956

A strong spring storm killed 43 people nationwide, including eight in Wisconsin on this date. The EF2 tornado developed 3 miles south of Bancroft in Portage County around 12:50 PM CST. The tornado travelled 18.2 miles to two miles northwest of Amherst before dissipating. The tornado reached a maximum width of 100 yards. Two fatalities were reported in Portage County.

2 DEATHS: August 19, 1968

The funnel was first observed at about 4 PM CST near Breed but remained aloft until three miles southwest of Pound. The EF4 tornado developed 3 miles southwest of Pound around 4:15 PM CST and traveled 21 miles before dissipating in Marinette. The tornado moved east about 3 miles south of Highway 53, destroying farms near Pound and again just south of Marinette. Large hail three inches in diameter fell north of the tornado track. Two elderly brothers, John and Cecil Maloney were fatally injured as their farmhouse near Pound blew apart. A third brother James, who was in bed when the winds struck was found on some bed springs in a nearby cornfield. He was hospitalized in satisfactory condition. Two more people were injured at Marinette when the tornado struck near the airport. Nearly twenty counties were included in a series of thunderstorm warnings issued by the Weather Bureau.

1 DEATH: August 9, 1979

The EF2 tornado touched down near Rockland Beach in Calumet County around 6:20 PM CST. The strong tornado only travelled about a mile and was fifty yards wide. One death was attributed to the tornado. A Rockland Beach woman died after the winds demolished the family home. She was crushed as the family's first floor fireplace fell through to the basement. The husband and three children were not hurt.

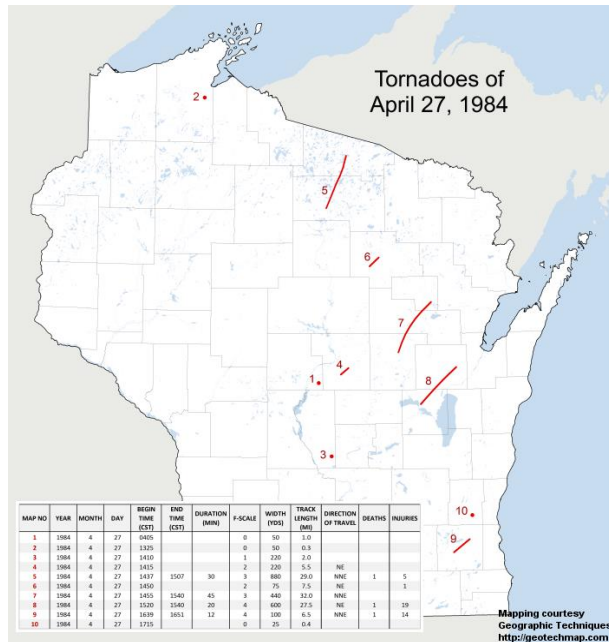
TORNADO REFERENCE GUIDE – KILLER TORNADOES

1 DEATH: April 27, 1984

The EF3 tornado developed near Fawn Lake in Oneida County around 2:37 PM CST. The tornado travelled to near Star Lake in Vilas County before dissipating around 3:07 PM CST. The tornado leveled several thousand acres of forest, destroyed or damaged 80 homes and cabins, ripped up docks and tossed boats in the air or wrapped them around trees. A Fawn Lake man was killed after getting his family to safety. The hardest hit areas were Fawn Lake, Two Lakes, Hasbrook and Gilmore Lakes in Oneida County. In Vilas County, the hardest hit areas were St. Germain Lake, Lost Lake and Star Lake. The tornado traveled 29 miles and reached a maximum width of 880 yards.

1 DEATH: April 27, 1984

The article for this date was written by Scott Cultice, forecaster at the National Weather Service in Green Bay. During the late afternoon of April 27, 1984, multiple super cell thunderstorms developed ahead of a strong cold front that moved across Wisconsin. Ten tornadoes were reported across the state, including three killer tornadoes: Tornadoes were reported in northern Wisconsin near St. Germain, one west of Appleton, and the third in southeast Wisconsin in Waukesha County. This outbreak of killer tornadoes was one of the bigger outbreaks in northeast Wisconsin since accurate tornado records began in 1950.



The Fox Valley Tornado - Continued

Around 3:20 PM CST, a tornado formed near the town of Butte des Morts in northern Winnebago County and quickly intensified into a destructive tornado. The violent storm moved northeast across the town of Clayton, killing one person and destroying many houses. The tornado continued to track northeast toward the northwest side of the city of Appleton. By about 3:40 PM CST, the tornado wreaked havoc across the western edge of the Outagamie County Airport and near the town of Greenville. The tornado finally dissipated near Freedom.

An estimated two dozen homes were destroyed and many more were damaged across the Fox Valley that afternoon. The storm killed one person and injured 19 more. Total cost of the destruction over the Fox Valley was \$2.5 million (\$15 million in today's dollars). The tornado traveled on the ground at about 40 mph and, for a short time, was over one quarter mile wide. The twister was on the ground for over 27 miles. It was classified as an F4 tornado, now referred to as an EF4 on today's Enhanced Fujita Scale (wind speeds of 166-200 mph).

2 DEATHS: June 8, 1985

A severe thunderstorm spawned a killer EF3 tornado and dropped large hail as it rolled through Price and Oneida Counties, causing widespread property, crop and timber damage. The tornado skipped from Park Falls to about 15 miles southeast of Rhinelander. The tornado first touched down one mile west of Park Falls around 6:15 PM CST and moved through the southern portion of the city. In Park Falls, 125 buildings were damaged with 12 houses and businesses were heavily damaged or destroyed. 26 people received mostly minor injuries in Park Falls. The tornado continued southeast, cutting an eighteen mile and 1.5 miles wide swath through eastern Price County and into Minocqua in Oneida County where the tornado dissipated around 6:52 PM CST. Two people were killed and sixteen injured at Swamsauger Lake and Cedar Falls resort in the Willow Reservoir area in Oneida County. A man apparently drowned when the tornado lifted him and his house and deposited it into Swamsauger Lake. A woman was killed when a tree crashed through a vehicle in which she was seeking refuge. The tornado continued to the southwest portion of Rhinelander and then dissipated southeast of Monico. A total of 47 residences were heavily damaged or destroyed while another 43 more received some damage in Oneida County. 9,900 acres of timber and cranberry bogs were lost in Oneida County.

TORNADO REFERENCE GUIDE – KILLER TORNADOES

1 DEATH: August 29, 1992

The EF3 tornado touched down east of Big Flats in Adams County around 7 PM CST. The tornado skipped along a five miles path, toppling trees and downing a 24 by 30 feet building. The killer tornado traveled a 28 miles path across Waushara County. The tornado developed around 7:10 PM just CST north of Coloma and then moved to Wautoma to just north of Redgranite and then southeast of Poy Sippi before dissipating around 7:55 PM CST. The hardest hit area was just south of Wautoma where a woman was killed when her mobile home was hurled several hundred feet into a parking lot. In addition, 30 people were injured, several critically. The tornado caused over ten million dollars in damage. All-together, forty-eight homes were destroyed, and ninety-five other structures sustained major damage, 289 received minor damage. 950 acres of trees were toppled by the tornadic winds.

1 DEATH: August 19, 2011

The EF1 tornado quickly developed northwest of the city of Wausaukee during the late afternoon and moved southeast for nearly eight miles before dissipating. The twister touched down near Long Lake, snapping or uprooting hundreds of trees as it moved towards Wausaukee. A mobile home near Long Lake was heavily damaged by fallen trees, but the occupants escaped without injury. As the tornado moved into Wausaukee, it leveled another mobile home killing a 46 year old male. Two additional buildings on the property sustained damage including a house that lost part of its roof. Two semi-trailers on the property were blown over. The tornado continued southeast, damaging a baseball field and hundreds of additional trees on the east side of Wausaukee. The tornado reached the Menominee River and briefly crossed into Upper Michigan before moving back into Wisconsin and dissipating near Highway 180. One tree fell on a home near Deer Lane Road.