

Public Information Statement  
National Weather Service Chicago IL  
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...PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT...

...UPDATED SUMMARY OF TORNADO DAMAGE IN NWS CHICAGO FORECAST AREA  
FROM THE 02/28/2017 TORNADO EVENT...

This updated information describes seven tornadoes that occurred in the forecast area of NWS Chicago on 2/28/2017. Five tornadoes were previously documented after the outbreak last week. Two additional EF-0 tornadoes have now been identified, one near Cedar Point in La Salle County and one in Grundy County north of Seneca. The path of the Marseilles tornado also has been adjusted to start farther south and west of its original location.

NWS Chicago thanks the NWS Lincoln office for surveying the LaSalle-Livingston tornado as well as the Washburn-Rutland tornado. The information for the Washburn-Rutland tornado provided below was copied directly from the public information statement issued by NWS Lincoln on March 1st.

We also thank NWS Quad Cities for assisting with the damage survey in western La Salle County.

.Cedar Point Area Tornado...

Rating: EF-0  
Estimated peak wind: 80 mph  
Path length /Statute/: 1.75 miles  
Path width /Maximum/: 50 yards  
Fatalities: 0  
Injuries: 0

Start date: Feb 28 2017  
Start time: 4:27 PM CST  
Start location: 2.2 miles northwest of Cedar Point  
Start Lat/Lon: 41.2785 / -89.1627

End date: Feb 28 2017  
End time: 4:30 PM CST  
End location: 1.2 miles north-northwest of Cedar Point  
End\_lat/lon: 41.2795 / -89.1294

SURVEY\_SUMMARY: The location and time of this tornado were estimated from spotter photos and videos from the area. No damage was identified, so the intensity also is estimated.

.Naplate-Ottawa Tornado...

Rating: EF-3  
Estimated peak wind: 155 mph  
Path length /Statute/: 11.5 miles  
Path width /Maximum/: 800 yards  
Fatalities: 2  
Injuries: 14

Start date: Feb 28 2017  
Start time: 4:41 PM CST  
Start location: 3.5 miles south-southwest of Naplate

Start Lat/Lon: 41.3239 / -88.9504  
End date: Feb 28 2017  
End time: 4:56 PM CST  
End location: 2.5 miles northwest of Marseilles  
End\_lat/lon: 41.3597 / -88.7352

SURVEY\_SUMMARY: The first area of significant damage in the EF2 range was in the area around the La Salle County Nursing Home and La Salle County Highway Department, with lighter damage upstream from this location. The tornado continued into Naplate and produced widespread EF2 damage to numerous homes. EF3 damage also was identified in two locations. The first was where a minivan was thrown about 30 yards and a home was lifted off its foundation and left with only its interior walls intact. The second was at the Pilkington Glass plant where one section of the factory was completely destroyed. The tornado then crossed the Illinois River and moved through the south side of Ottawa, producing an 800 yard wide path of EF1 damage to trees and homes. The fatalities in Ottawa occurred from a tree falling onto two men who were working outside. The tornado then crossed the Illinois River again and continued to produce EF1 and EF0 damage as it exited Ottawa, finally dissipating in the area northwest of Marseilles.

.Marseilles Area Tornado...

Rating: EF-1  
Estimated peak wind: 110 mph  
Path length /Statute/: 2.8 miles  
Path width /Maximum/: 200 yards  
Fatalities: 0  
Injuries: 0  
  
Start date: Feb 28 2017  
Start time: 4:58 PM CST  
Start location: 2.4 miles north of Marseilles  
Start Lat/Lon: 41.3648 / -88.7066  
  
End date: Feb 28 2017  
End time: 5:02 PM CST  
End location: 4 miles northeast of Marseilles  
End\_lat/lon: 41.3701 / -88.6531

SURVEY\_SUMMARY: The tornado moved along N 30th Road south of Interstate 80 and produced damage at two farmsteads, both on the north side of the road, and to a tower on the south side of the road. The original track was adjusted to start farther west and south based on video of power flashes early in its path and eyewitness accounts. The path width also was updated to account for this revised track.

.Seneca Area Tornado...

Rating: EF-0  
Estimated peak wind: 75 mph  
Path length /Statute/: 1.2 miles  
Path width /Maximum/: 200 yards  
Fatalities: 0  
Injuries: 0  
  
Start date: Feb 28 2017

Start time: 5:04 PM CST  
Start location: 5 miles north-northeast of Seneca  
Start Lat/Lon: 41.3753 / -88.5641  
  
End date: Feb 28 2017  
End time: 5:06 PM CST  
End location: 5.7 miles north-northeast of Seneca  
End\_lat/lon: 41.3804 / -88.5628

SURVEY\_SUMMARY: The path of this tornado was estimated based on video evidence as well as debris found along Interstate 80 near mile marker 104.

.Oregon, IL Tornado...

Rating: EF-1  
Estimated peak wind: 90-95 mph  
Path length /Statute/: 1.5 miles  
Path width /Maximum/: 50 yards  
Fatalities: 0  
Injuries: 0  
  
Start date: Feb 28 2017  
Start time: 5:07 PM CST  
Start Lat/Lon: 41.9478 / -89.3098  
  
End date: Feb 28 2017  
End time: 5:09 PM CST  
End\_lat/lon: 41.9498 / -89.2821

SURVEY\_SUMMARY: The tornado toppled farm equipment, collapsed outbuildings, damaged roofs of homes, and broke large branches out of trees. Straight line winds estimated to be up to 80 MPH produced additional damage 1 to 1.5 miles beyond the tornado path.

.Washburn and Rutland Tornado...

Rating: EF-3  
Estimated peak wind: 150-160 mph  
Path length /Statute/: 18.0 miles  
Path width /Maximum/: 600 yards  
Fatalities: 0  
Injuries: 0  
  
Start date: Feb 28 2017  
Start time: 5:26 pm CST  
Start location: 3.5 miles West of Washburn / Woodford County / IL  
Start Lat/Lon: 40.9128 / -89.3609  
  
End date: Feb 28 2017  
End time: 5:50 pm CST  
End location: 0.4 mile East of Rutland / LaSalle County / IL  
End\_lat/lon: 40.9847 / -89.0370

SURVEY SUMMARY: The tornado began in an open field about 3.5 miles west of Washburn at 5:26 pm in extreme northern Woodford County, traveling to the east-northeast at 45 mph. The tornado broke windows and did roof damage to a house and destroyed several outbuildings about a mile from its origin.

The tornado widened rapidly to more than one-quarter mile across

and increased in intensity to EF-3 as it destroyed a house about 2.5 miles west of Washburn. One mile to the east the tornado tore the roof off a house before moving into Washburn. The tornado damaged 8 houses in Washburn, doing significant damage to roofs, garages, automobiles and trees.

The tornado continued through extreme southern Marshall county destroying outbuildings, damaging house roofs and trees as it widened to about 600 yards wide southeast of La Rose. The tornado weakened in southeast Marshall County as it crossed Interstate 39 west of Rutland. As the tornado moved into Rutland it damaged trees and did minor damage to house roofs before dissipating 0.4 of a mile east of Rutland at 5:50 pm.

.LaSalle-Livingston Tornado...

Rating: EF-2  
Estimated peak wind: 120 mph  
Path length /Statute/: 4.5 miles  
Path width /Maximum/: 75 yards  
Fatalities: 0  
Injuries: 0

Start date: Feb 28 2017  
Start time: 5:53 PM CST  
Start location: 2.8 miles northwest of Dana, IL  
Start Lat/Lon: 40.9856 / -88.9865

End date: Feb 28 2017  
End time: 5:59 PM CST  
End location: 1 mile west of Long Point, IL  
End\_lat/lon: 41.0055 / -88.9105

SURVEY\_SUMMARY: The tornado began as a weak EF-0 that produced isolated tree damage north of Dana, IL. It then caused EF-2 damage when it tore the roof off of a house just east of the LaSalle-Livingston county line. The tornado then weakened and snapped a couple of trees before dissipating one mile west of Long Point, IL.

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

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