

Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Mount Holly NJ
314 PM EDT Tue Aug 11 2020

.Philadelphia and Bucks County Pennsylvania Tornado...

Start Location...Northeast Philadelphia in Philadelphia County,
Pennsylvania

End Location...Doylestown in Bucks County, Pennsylvania

Date...August 4, 2020

Estimated Time...10:50 AM EDT to 11:10 AM EDT

Maximum EF-Scale Rating...EF2

Estimated Maximum Wind Speed...115 mph

Maximum Path Width...500 yards

Path Length...20 miles

Beginning Lat/Lon...40.34N/75.16W

Ending Lat/Lon...40.08N/74.96W

* Fatalities...0

* Injuries...6 all which were minor

...Summary...

A tornado touched down just east of the Philadelphia Mills Mall as it moved in a northwesterly direction along or near Knights Road and Medford Road toward Dunks Ferry Road. Three exhaust systems and 6 RTU systems were blown off the roof in less than 15 seconds at the former Walmart Store currently undergoing reconstruction, and numerous trees, some close to 100 years old, were snapped or blown over along Knights Road, Medford Road, and Dunks Ferry Road. Roofs, siding, and awnings were blown off many homes in the area. A few cars were also tossed or turned over as the storm moved through. The estimated wind speed in this area was 100 mph, equivalent to EF1 on the Enhanced Fujita scale. Current evidence suggests the tornado then lifted off the ground as it proceeded in a northwesterly direction, briefly touching down in the Southampton area of Bucks County. Numerous trees were snapped in this area as well, with many homes and cars damaged due to falling trees and tree limbs. The Sycamore Drive and Harding Roads areas were hardest hit. The estimated wind speed in this area was 90 mph, equivalent to an EF1 on the Enhanced Fujita scale.

Current evidence again suggests the tornado lifted one more time as the parent circulation traveled to the Doylestown area, where it touched down one final time near the Central Bucks West High School. Here bleachers on the visitors side of the athletic field were picked up and tossed before the vortex moved on to the Doylestown Hospital complex where at least six automobiles were tossed some distance, and where substantial damage occurred to the Childrens Village Day Care center with no serious injuries reported. Numerous trees were felled in and around the hospital center, and several metal lamp posts were bent from the wind. The estimated wind speed in this area was 115 mph, equivalent to a low-end EF2 on the Enhanced Fujita scale. The tornado then continued moving in a northwesterly direction, snapping and falling trees, as well as causing damage to homes and other properties, especially along and near Sandy Ridge Road, Jefferson

Avenue, and Lower State Road, before lifting along Ferry Road near the Peace Valley Reservoir. The estimated wind speed in this area was 100 mph, equivalent to an EF1 on the Enhanced Fujita scale.

Special thanks is extended to the Bucks County Office of Emergency Management, and to the Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management, for field reconnaissance associated with this survey.

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Davis/Gorse/Miketta/Staarmann