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Public Information Statement

National Weather Service Mount Holly NJ

526 PM EDT Mon Jul 10 2023

...NWS Damage Survey for the July 9th, 2023 Tornado Event...

.Middletown DE...

Rating: EF-1

Estimated Peak Wind: 100 mph

Path Length /statute/: 1.19 miles

Path Width /maximum/: 200 yards

Fatalities: 0

Injuries: 0

Start Date: 07/09/2023

Start Time: 04:49 PM EDT

Start Location: 4 NE Middletown / New Castle County / DE

Start Lat/Lon: 39.5035/ -75.6689

End Date: 07/09/2023

End Time: 04:51 PM EDT

End Location: 5 NE Middletown / New Castle County / DE

End Lat/Lon: 39.5132 / -75.6513

Survey Summary:

An EF-1 tornado began about 4 miles northeast of Middletown, DE just north of DE Route 896 (Boyd's Corner Road) in a field just west of North Bayberry Parkway. Prior to the tornado development, some notable rear flank downdraft straight line wind damage occurred in the Bayberry South neighborhood. Several homes along South Bayberry Parkway, Puccini Lane, Chopin Drive, and Ravel Lane sustained primarily minor cosmetic damage to soffit and gutters. Some singles and siding were blown off as well. One home on Chopin Drive had a very small section of roof blown off. The rear flank downdraft winds continued northeast crossing DE Route 896 where a few small signs were blown over, including damage to the Bayberry North neighborhood sign. A single family house and detached garage near the

intersection of North Bayberry Parkway and DE Route 896 sustained some cosmetic damage. Additionally, several trees sustained varying degrees of damage on and immediately surrounding this property. No additional straight line winds were found beyond this property.

The tornadic circulation began about 200 yards northwest of the aforementioned property where several small to medium sized softwood trees were damaged or uprooted, falling in a convergent pattern, along North Bayberry Parkway. The tornado continued northeast where it caused some minor damage to a small park playground and pavilion. The tornado moved northeast through a field and across a pond, then impacted one home along Plato Place. This home sustained some cosmetic damage and a fence was blown down. The tornado then continued into a tree line where some trees were uprooted, then emerging into a residential area along Milford Drive. This is where the tornadic circulation reached its maximum width of about 200 yards. Additional trees were uprooted or snapped along the western loop of Milford Drive and a few homes sustained some minor cosmetic damage.

The tornado continued northeast toward the western loop of Milford Drive where it strengthened. A tree line of cedar trees had most trees uprooted. One home's detached garage had a garage door blown inward and an exterior wall pushed outward, but not completely collapsed. The home itself had several singles and shutters blown off. Another home had a back deck porch roof completely blown off and destroyed. A hot tub was blown off of its supports and flipped over and much of the patio furniture was blown dozens of yards away. Another detached garage at another residence sustained some minor cosmetic damage as well. The tornado continued along Ethel Court where primarily tree damage occurred, including another row of cedar trees that were blown down.

The tornado continued northeast along Bullen Drive, turning slightly left as the circulation began to occlude. Numerous small trees sustained varying degrees of damage just north of the Asbury Loop intersection. Several residences along Bullen Drive were impacted from near the intersections of South Red Fox Circle and North Red Fox Circle, particularly on the eastern side where the most significant damage was noted. Numerous trees were snapped or uprooted in this area. One home had a large chimney blown off, landing in the backyard. Another home had a large section of attic wall blown off along with roofing material blown off. The most significant damage from the tornado occurred to a home where the

entire attached garage roof was blown off into the front yard. This home also had an upstairs window blown out and the northeast facing upstairs exterior wall was pushed outward, but not completely collapsed. The home northeast had nearly an entire side of the house stripped of siding. A home across the street had a portion of its porch roof lifted and another had 3 windows blown out along with other cosmetic damage.

The tornado then moved north-northeast crossing Angelo Court where two homes sustained minor cosmetic damage and had a few small trees uprooted. The tornado then dissipated as it reached Hyatts Corner Road. No known injuries or fatalities occurred from this tornado.

The survey team found additional wind damage farther northeast of where the tornadic circulation dissipated. A semi-truck was blown over on DE Route 1 southbound just downstream. Some corn was blown down in a field east of US Route 13, but there was no supporting evidence of a tornadic circulation in this area. Additional sporadic tree damage and some minor cosmetic damage to homes was found in residential areas along and off of Port Penn Road, including along Sugar Pine Drive and Dutch Neck Road. Some additional blown down corn was found in some fields farther along Dutch Neck Road. This damage was determined to be the result of straight line winds.

The National Weather Service would like to thank New Castle County Emergency Management and Mr. Lou Ruh for providing assistance with this survey.

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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

NOTE:

The information in this statement is preliminary and subject to change pending final review of the event and publication in NWS Storm Data.