

F2 TORNADO SWEEPS PATH THRU NORTH EASTERN WARREN COUNTY.

Wednesday, 30 January 2013 16:38

Warren County Emergency Management and National Weather service out of Louisville, determined this afternoon, that the damage caused by the severe storms that swept thru Warren County early today was an F2 Tornado. The city of Smiths Grove, just north of Bowling Green, was the hardest hit area of the county. The wind event caused a Tractor Trailer to overturn on I-65, and another to jack knife his unit as it was hit by debris flying across the interstate. The Smiths Grove Fire Department, The Warren County Sheriff's office and the Kentucky State Police worked the I-65 incident, along with over 30 calls for accidents, power lines down, trees and debris in the roadways. There were no reported injuries.

The wind event also caused numerous power outages, with at the onset of over 5000 WRECC members, but by 2pm today, there were only about 50 remaining without service.

The F2 tornado damaged The IGA grocery store, the "Pelly's greenhouse" operation and a few other businesses located in Smiths Grove.

Warren County Emergency Management was in Smiths Grove early in the event to begin surveying damages, and as daybreak came, the damage became more evident that at least 25 Homes and business were affected, The estimated total of damage that includes insured, under insured and non insured, could easily be over \$500,000.00. It is very difficult to estimate damages this early in the event, as replacement and repair cost may exceed the estimated damages.

As of 3:00 pm, the state, county and local roadways were back open to traffic, and residents began to survey themselves for damages to their properties.

These unique winter severe storms, reemphasizes the need for all communities and citizens to be prepared and have a plan for emergencies and disasters such as this.

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