



# News Release

## WISCONSIN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Joint Force Headquarters ▪ 2400 Wright Street ▪ Madison WI ▪ 53704

**DATE:** October 27, 2010  
3:00 p.m.

**TO:** Governor Jim Doyle

**FROM:** Mike Hinman  
WEM Administrator

**SUBJECT: Situation Report #5 on Severe Weather**

Strong winds continue to cause downed power lines and trees across Wisconsin. The National Weather Service reports that many locations are experiencing gusts in the 50-60 mph range. The wind warnings and advisories will continue through the rest of the day and until late this evening when the winds should begin to decrease. There is also a chance for scattered showers but they are not expected to be severe. In addition, some part of northwestern Wisconsin saw some minor snow accumulations this afternoon.

Some of this afternoon's wind gusts include:

- Union (Grant County) - 63 mph
- Necedah (Juneau County) - 62 mph
- Milwaukee (Gen. Mitchell Airport) - 61 mph
- Monroe - 61 mph
- Sheboygan - 60 mph
- Oshkosh - 58 mph
- Platteville - 58 mph

The Public Service Commission reports as of 2 p.m., the five major electrical utilities in the state (WPL, WPSC, WEPCO, NSPW and MGE) collectively report about 82,000 customers out of service, with most occurring in northeastern Wisconsin. Wisconsin Public Service is advising customers in northeast Wisconsin to be prepared for outages until the weekend.

Below is an afternoon update from the Wisconsin Emergency Management regions:

**West Central:** St. Croix County reports a tree on a home and a few sheds and outbuildings damaged from the strong winds.

**Northeast Region:** Widespread outages are reported in the region. There are no shelters open but county emergency management offices have contacted the Red Cross and other volunteer groups in case shelters are needed over the next 24-48 hours. Public health and human service

agencies have also been in contact with special needs clients that may be in the areas where there are outages. Decisions on any school delays or closures for tomorrow will be made early on Thursday. Most structural damage is trees on buildings or cabins.

**Northwest Region:** Nothing new to report.

**East Central Region:** Brown County Emergency Operations Center is partially activated today to continue monitoring the wind. Officials are concerned about the Leo Frigo Memorial Bridge in Green Bay and are advising motorists to avoid the bridge if possible. Wind gusts of over 40 mph have made travel on the bridge difficult. Officials are prepared to shut down the bridge if the situation continues to worsen.

**Southeast Region:** Wind gusts destroyed part of a roof of a hangar and damaged another hangar door at the Waukesha County Airport/Crites Field. No injuries reported.

**Southwest Region:** Part of a roof on an apartment complex was blown off in Muscoda in Grant County. No reports of injuries.

Wisconsin Emergency Management will continue to monitor the weather and will provide updates as the situation changes. There has been no request for state assistance.

For further information, contact Wisconsin Emergency Management at 608-242-3239.