



# INCIDENT REPORT

## Wisconsin Emergency Operations Center

Department of Military Affairs | 2400 Wright Street | Madison, WI 53707

### **Incident Report #11 – July 2019 Statewide severe weather incident**

July 31, 2019

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### **SUMMARY**

Wisconsin Emergency Management continues to monitor and support debris removal operations still underway in the state, following powerful storms July 18-20 and on July 28. These storms produced at least 19 tornadoes and straight-line winds in multiple counties, downing trees and knocking out power to hundreds of thousands of people.

Multiple state agencies have staff and other resources out in the field assisting with local recovery efforts, including the Wisconsin National Guard, Wisconsin Emergency Management, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Department of Corrections. Significant cleanup efforts continue in Langlade, Polk, and Barron counties.

The state continues to work with county and tribal partners to collect damage estimates. Residents are encouraged to call 2-1-1 or 877-947-2211 to report damage done to private property. Property owners can also contact 2-1-1 for information on volunteer assistance that may be available in their area.

### **LOCAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTERS OPEN**

The Langlade, and Polk County Emergency Operations Centers have transitioned to virtual operations.

### **LOCAL EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS**

Several counties declared a State of Emergency in response to the storm damage, including Clark, Langlade, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Polk, Portage, Sawyer, and Vernon counties. In addition to counties, two Wisconsin tribes and several communities in the affected areas have issued local disaster declarations.

### **ESTIMATED PUBLIC DAMAGES**

The estimate for public sector cost associated with the storm is approximately \$11.2 million. This number is preliminary and has not been validated. These numbers are expected to fluctuate as cleanup and assessment efforts continue.

## **ESTIMATED PRIVATE DAMAGES**

Damage assessments continue. Residents in affected counties are encouraged to document their damage and report the information to the state's 2-1-1 service by calling 2-1-1 or 877-947-2211.

## **STATE AGENCY RESPONSE**

### **Wisconsin National Guard**

The Wisconsin National Guard has debris clearance teams supporting efforts in Polk, Barron, and Langlade counties.

### **WI Department of Administration**

DOA has disaster recovery assistance available to local units of government for housing rehabilitation, public facility/infrastructure repair, and business assistance utilizing Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. Application information for the Emergency Assistance Program (EAP) can be found at the following link - <https://doa.wi.gov/Pages/LocalGovtsGrants/Community-Development-Block-Grant-Emergency-Assistance-Program-.aspx>

### **WI Department of Corrections**

The DOC had strike teams made up of DOC staff and inmates assisting with debris removal operations Wednesday in Barron and Langlade counties.

### **WI Department of Natural Resources**

The DNR continued to assist Wednesday with clean-up efforts in Langlade County.

### **WI Department of Health Services**

The Department of Health Services (DHS) has announced replacement FoodShare benefits are available for an extended period of time for most of western, northern, and central Wisconsin. Members in qualifying counties have until August 19, 2019 to request replacement benefits. <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/news/releases/0731019.htm>

## **UTILITIES**

Power has been restored throughout the affected areas.

### **Alliant Energy**

While Alliant Energy customers were restored to electric service several days ago, equipment retrieval continues for the company in central Wisconsin in the aftermath of the July 19 and 20 storms. Alliant Energy expects to gather remaining equipment like transformers, poles, wires or other company items from affected areas by the end of the day on Friday, August 2. If Alliant Energy customers notice any equipment from the company on or near their property after August 2, they should call the company at 1-800-255-4268.

## **WEATHER CONDITIONS**

The National Weather Service does not predict any severe weather in Wisconsin during the next 24 hours. There is a small chance for thunderstorms over northern Wisconsin on Friday and Sunday. There is a small chance for thunderstorms across the entire state on Saturday. No severe weather is expected.