



# INCIDENT REPORT

## Wisconsin Emergency Operations Center

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

Incident Report #8 – July 2019 Statewide severe weather incident

July 28, 2019 – 5 p.m.

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### **SUMMARY**

Wisconsin Emergency Management continues to monitor and support power restoration and debris removal operations underway in the state, following powerful storms that produced at least 16 tornadoes and straight-line winds in multiple counties. Significant cleanup efforts are taking place in Langlade, Polk, and Barron Counties.

Approximately 300 Wisconsin Public Service (WPS) utility customers remain without power following last week's storms. Work continues around the clock to restore power as quickly as possible.

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.

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**

Barron County

Langlade County

Polk County

The Town of Mountain will establish a Multi-agency Resource Center (MARC) July 30-31 from noon until 6 p.m. at the Mountain Community Center.

### **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, several communities in the affected areas have issued local disaster declarations.

## **ESTIMATED PUBLIC DAMAGES**

The preliminary estimate for public sector costs associated with the storm is about \$5.3 million. Many counties have not yet reported any of their costs to the state, and these numbers are expected to fluctuate as cleanup and assessment efforts continue. Most of the costs incurred so far are for emergency protective measures and debris removal.

## **ESTIMATED PRIVATE DAMAGES**

Damage assessments to private property are ongoing. 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/CommunityDevelopment-Block-Grant-Emergency-Assistance-Program-.aspx>

### **WI Department of Corrections**

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

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

The DNR completed operations in Barron County the evening of July 27, and anticipates completing DNR operations in Polk County today (July 28).

### **WI Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection**

DATCP is warning property owners to be on the lookout for traveling contractors, who may try to take advantage of the situation. Affected property owners are being urged to seek trusted contractors for repairs and to be leery of "storm chasers" that come knocking at your door with aggressive sales tactics.

[https://readywisconsin.wi.gov/wp-content/uploads/Incidents/2019/DATCP\\_20190724StormChasers.pdf](https://readywisconsin.wi.gov/wp-content/uploads/Incidents/2019/DATCP_20190724StormChasers.pdf)

### **Office of the Commissioner of Insurance**

OCI continues to urge affected property owners to document damage to their property and to not make any repairs until they have talked to their insurance agent. Keep any receipts for repairs that are done. [https://readywisconsin.wi.gov/wp-content/uploads/Incidents/2019/OCI\\_NewsReleaseStorms20190724.pdf](https://readywisconsin.wi.gov/wp-content/uploads/Incidents/2019/OCI_NewsReleaseStorms20190724.pdf)

## **VOLUNTEER AGENCY (VOAD) RESPONSE**

**Resident Reception Centers**

A reception center to assist residents affected by the storms will remain open in Oconto County at the Doty Town Hall through Monday.

**Team Rubicon**

Team Rubicon has multiple teams mobilized to Langlade County conducting damage assessments and debris clearance. Team Rubicon is working off the list of damages reported to 2-1-1.

**2-1-1 Wisconsin**

2-1-1 Wisconsin is collecting damage reports and referring callers to available disaster resources. Residents can also report damage online at: <https://211wisconsin.communityos.org/damagereport>

**WEATHER CONDITIONS**

Thunderstorms are expected across much of the state July 28. The National Weather Service issued a severe weather advisory for north-central and northeast Wisconsin. Those areas may experience damaging winds, tornados, heavy rainfall, and hail. The storms will most likely occur between 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.