

## **State of New Hampshire Department of Safety**

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# **Homeland Security and Emergency Management**

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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, August 24, 2020 Paul D. Raymond, Jr. Strategic Communications Administrator C: (603) 892-5804

### PRESS RELEASE

### STAY INFORMED, ESPECIALLY FOR NO-NOTICE SEVERE WEATHER

CONCORD, N.H. – This weekend brought significant severe weather to New Hampshire, including nine severe thunderstorm warnings and one tornado warning.

The National Weather Service assessed the severe weather from Saturday and issued two preliminary reports that confirmed a waterspout, a microburst and a tornado.

"Severe weather can happen anywhere, anytime and often without notice," said New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director Jennifer Harper. "A severe weather warning means take action. Sign up for NH Alerts and receive emergency notifications so you can take action to keep your family safe."

- NWS Public Information Statement: Microburst Confirmed Near Wolfeboro
- NWS Public Information Statement: Tornado Confirmed Near Central Ossipee

On Saturday, a supercell storm passed along the northern shore of Lake Winnipesaukee producing at least one waterspout over the lake as well as damaging wind gusts over land. Witnesses described a deluge of heavy rainfall followed by a rush of strong winds, which brought down trees in one direction, consistent with a microburst. Local emergency personnel noted a very isolated nature of damage to appropriately 14 trees, four campsites and two vehicles.

Also on Saturday, a weak EF-0 tornado briefly touched down and caused minor sporadic damage in Center Ossipee. Minor tree damage occurred on Main Street and Route 16 with several snapped and uprooted trees. A few structures had some minor roof damage due to shingles being blown off. The assessed damage supports a maximum wind speed of 70 MPH.

On Sunday, severe weather damaged several homes in Nashua, and downed trees and limbs resulting in more than 4,000 power outages statewide. Severe weather may have also contributed to a tent collapse in New Ipswich, although that incident remains under investigation.

The first step toward preparedness is staying informed. Sign up for NH Alerts to receive location-specific alerts from the National Weather Service and the State of New Hampshire. NH Alerts is also available for download on your iOS and Android devices. NH Alerts is a free service provided by the State of New Hampshire.

Being prepared also includes having a plan and an emergency kit. Learn more about staying informed, having a plan and making a kit online at <u>ReadyNH.gov</u>.

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NOTE: The National Weather Service defines a microburst as a convective downdraft with an affected outflow area of less than 2 1/2 miles wide and peak winds lasting less than 5 minutes.

NOTE: The National Weather Service defines an EF-0 tornado as wind speeds between 65 and 85 MPH.