
To: Local News Services
From: Chippewa County Sheriff's Office
Subject: Storm Update
Date: September 25, 2019

A tornado which occurred Tuesday evening caused extensive damage to structures in the west portion of the Town of Wheaton in the vicinity of State Hwy 29 in Chippewa County. Preliminary reports indicate that a semi driver was injured following a crash on Hwy 29 which resulted from the tornado. A mobile home in the area was overturned and an occupant was reportedly transported to a local hospital with unknown injuries. Several residents who rely on electronic medical devices needed assistance due to power outages. Responders from Chippewa Fire District and mutual-aid departments worked into the night checking on the welfare of residents and clearing roads. American Red Cross provided canteen services to responders. Chippewa County Highway Department assisted first responders with road clearing.

Numerous trees blocked roads in area and power is out in some neighborhoods this morning. Local roads may still present hazards today. Homes along 26th Street south of Hwy 29 were significantly damaged. Storage buildings, barns and outbuildings were also damaged or destroyed. Damage assessment will continue this morning.

Residents are encouraged to use care when operating chainsaws and other equipment during the cleanup. Please use caution around any downed power lines or damaged trees. People are often injured during cleanup efforts following storms.