

Damage Assessment & Clean Up Continue in SE Neb. After Storms

Damage assessment and cleanup continues in Johnson County Nebraska today, following a stormy Saturday that saw at least two tornadoes touch down in the county.

Emergency Management Director Clint Strayhorn confirms earlier reports that a tornado struck near Cook. (play audio :22)

That tornado was on the ground for about 5.75 miles before it lifted a mile east-northeast of Cook. The twister destroyed one home and left other damage in its wake. (play audio :17)

In addition to the tornado near Cook, Strayhorn says the National Weather Service has confirmed his initial suspicion that another tornado touched down in Johnson County. (play audio :30)

Strayhorn says public safety remains a concern this morning, with several large branches hanging over a playground in Sterling and the gates to the park where the press box was destroyed locked as workers clear out the debris.

Another EF-0 tornado was confirmed about three miles southwest of Talmage in Otoe County that was on the ground for approximately 3.75 miles, with peak winds of 70-to-85 miles-per-hour. That storm overturned a few irrigation pivots and damaged a few trees and outbuildings.

An EF-1 tornado touched down northwest of Nebraska City that damaged homes and caused damage to trees and a machine shed the Kimmel Orchard and Vineyard.

Weather Service personnel were expected to continue their assessment of the storm damage today (Monday).