

Tornado Recovery Information

Updated as of Feb. 9, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

A tornado hit the New Orleans East area on Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2017

Emergency crews are working around the clock to respond to resident calls. Approximately 300 properties were affected over the 2 to 2.5 mile tornado path.

Tornado classified as EF-3

- The National Weather Service has confirmed that the tornado was an EF-3. This is the first EF-3 tornado to hit New Orleans. At this level, the tornado is considered to have been severe with winds ranging from 136 to 165.

Temporary Shelter Available

- The City has opened a temporary shelter at the Joe W. Brown Recreation Center (5601 Read Blvd. in New Orleans, LA) for impacted residents. Resources for pets are also provided but they will not be guaranteed shelter within the facility. Food, water, cots and blankets are available to those who utilize the shelter overnight. The New Orleans Health Department, with support from the Red Cross, Catholic Charities and NOFD, is providing basic medical care and prescription assistance. Starting Feb. 8, 2017, food, water and cleaning supplies were available for pick up.
- RTA is providing shuttle service to the shelter for residents without transportation. Pick up points for Shelter Shuttle Service are as follows:
 - Dwyer Road and Wilson Avenue
 - Dwyer Road and Crowder Boulevard
 - Dwyer Road and Wright Road
- This shelter is NOT able to accept food, clothing, other donations or volunteers at this time.

Tarps Information

- Tarps will be distributed by NOFD and other agencies going door to door of residents with major roof damage. Tarps WILL NOT be available for pickup.

Public Safety Updates

- There are no reported fatalities. Thirty-three injuries have been reported, 31 of which have been treated and discharged. Two patients remain in the hospital.
- New Orleans 7th District Police Department has resumed normal operation.

Entergy Updates

- Entergy has restored power to approximately 7,200 of the 10,400 impacted structures. Crews are working around the clock and expect to have all power restored by Saturday, Feb. 11.
- Customers are encouraged to go to www.entergy.com to sign up for text messages. Residents may call 1-800-9OUTAGE to report outages or downed power lines.

School Updates

- Expected school closures for **Friday, Feb. 10** include:
 - ReNew Schaumberg Elementary
 - Einstein Sherwood Forest Elementary: **ONLY** grades PK-2
 - Grades 3-5 should report to school at Einstein Reed High (5316 Michoud Blvd, New Orleans, LA 70129)

Road Closures

- **The Following Roads Remain Closed:**
 - Vehicular traffic restricted: Chef Menteur to Dwyer and Wilson to Bullard
 - Only pedestrians with ID are allowed in impacted zones
 - Police closure points:
 - Chef Menteur & Read
 - Chef Menteur & Bullard
 - Chef Menteur & Downman
 - Chef Menteur & Bullard
 - Chef Menteur & Papania
 - Chef Menteur & Wright
 - Chef Menteur & Bundy
 - Dwyer & Wright
 - Dwyer & Read
 - Dwyer & Bundy
 - Dwyer & Bundy

- Dwyer & Crowder
- Dwyer & Wilson
- Pressburg & Bullard
- **Entergy, Parks and Parkways, and the Sanitation Department have focused efforts on reopening Chef Menteur Highway so residents can regain access to the main thoroughfare. See below for currently cleared roads:**
 - Cleared: Crowder between Dwyer and Chef
 - Cleared: Dwyer between Read and Chantilly
 - Cleared: Grant between Wilson and Flake
 - Cleared: Chef between Crowder and Read
 - Cleared: Wilson between Chef and Dwyer
 - Cleared: Bullard between Chef and Dwyer
 - Cleared: Lake Forest between Chef and Read
 - Cleared: Hammond Hwy. between Read and Bundy
 - Cleared: Wright between Chef and Lake Forest
 - Cleared: Bullard between Chef and Lake Forest

Transportation Updates and Route Detours

The Regional Transit Authority (RTA) in New Orleans East has been greatly impacted by the tornado and a number of detours are in place. The detours are as follows:

- **Bus Route 64-LakeForest Boulevard**
 - Service restored to regular route
- **Bus Route 65-Crowder/Read Boulevards**
 - Service restored to regular route
- **Bus Route 94-Broad Street**
 - Service outbound to New Orleans East will terminate at Wilson. Buses will travel on I-10 to Crowder to Lake Forest to Bullard and return to regular route and continue to Michoud.
 - From Michoud buses will travel to Bullard on regular route to Lake Forest to Crowder then board I-10 to Ray St. exit and return to regular route.
- **No service will be provided between intersection of Chef Menteur/Ray to intersection of Chef Menteur/Bullard.**
- RTA does have a Paratransit vehicle available if needed for residents requiring special transit services. For more information visit them online at www.norta.com or call our customer care Rideline at [\(504\) 248-3900](tel:5042483900).


Clean Up

- The Department of Sanitation activated the emergency debris removal process in the area bounded by Almonaster to the I-10 in New Orleans East. Eligible debris should be moved to the curb as soon as possible. Only debris resulting from the recent tornado is eligible for collection by the City or its contractors in addition to normal garbage and recycling.
- Sanitation will systematically remove debris from each street. There is no need to call 311 to report debris piles in the designated area. Sanitation will make three passes for debris removal.
- **Collection timelines will take place on the following dates:**
 - First Pass: Friday, Feb. 10, 2017 through Monday, Feb. 13, 2017
 - Second Pass: Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2017 through Friday, Feb. 17, 2017
 - Third Pass: Saturday, Feb. 18, 2017 through Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2017
- Parks and Parkways has forestry crews cutting and stacking downed trees in the impacted area. Calls for downed trees, street lights, street signs and other matters should be directed to 311.

Short-Term and Long-Term Housing

- Service providers will be on site at Joe Brown Park to take initial assessments for short-term and long-term housing needs. The following partners are offering additional services:
 - **Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO)** - Assisting existing voucher holders find replacement housing.
 - **Southeast Louisiana Legal Services** - Providing assessments for any legal services needed.
 - **Desire Community Housing Corporation** - Counseling for Homeowners.
 - **Veterans Affairs** - Providing short-term and long-term assistance for Veterans.
 - **Total Community Action** - Assessments to determine eligibility for assistance.

Insurance Tips

- For insurance tips, click [here](#). 

Volunteer and Donation Information

- The City of New Orleans is working with several local, national, non-profit and faith based organizations to coordinate volunteer opportunities to assist with recovery efforts. Residents looking to donate to ongoing relief & recovery efforts are encouraged to contact one of the organizations below. Again, the shelter at Joe Brown Park is NOT able to accept food, clothing, other donations or volunteers at this time.
- **Household of Faith** - Household of Faith is serving as a drop-off location and distribution station. Accepting: Clothing, toiletries and non-perishable items. Where to donate: 9300 I-10 Service Road, New Orleans, La. 70127 ([504-347-0127](tel:504-347-0127))
- **Second Harvest** - Second Harvest Food Bank will deliver 600 emergency meals to HOPE the Food Pantry in New Orleans East, which has ceased daily meal preparation as a result of tornado-caused power outage. Accepting: Non-perishable food items such as canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned meat, soups, stews, beans, chili, peanut butter, pasta, rice, breakfast cereal and shelf-stable milk. For a full list of suggested donation items visit <http://no-hunger.org/suggested-food-donations/>. Where to donate: 700 Edwards Ave. in the Elmwood Warehouse District area. When: 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. To make a monetary donation visit <http://no-hunger.org/suggested-food-donations/>.
- **New Orleans Saints and New Orleans Pelicans** - Working with The United Way, The American Red Cross and The Second Harvest Food Bank, the Saints and Pelicans have established a collection point for the public to drop off non-perishable food items and other tornado-related items of need. Accepting: Non-perishable food items. There is also an immediate need for towels, blankets, toiletries and clothing, according to the Red Cross. Where to donate: Saints Practice Facility Lobby Museum, 5800 Airline Dr., Metairie, LA 70003 When: Thursday, Feb. 9 until 5:30 p.m.
- **City Church New Orleans** - Accepting: Donations and volunteers and will be providing commodities, emergency supplies, hot meals, clean-up help and grief counseling. Accepting: Monetary donations and physical items including bottled water, non-perishable foods, toiletries, flashlights, batteries, baby wipes, band aids, peroxide, ointment, aspirin and basic first aid items. They are not accepting clothing. Where to donate: Make a financial contribution at citychurchno.com/relief or by calling [504-246-5121](tel:504-246-5121). Volunteer or bring items by coming to the church (13123 I-10 Service Road).
- **St. Bernard Project (SBP)** - Accepting: To make a monetary donation to SBP's Louisiana Tornado Recovery Fund, visit <https://donate.sbpusa.org/campaign/Louisiana-Tornado-Recovery/c118658>. Proceeds will fund SBP's initial damage assessment and begin rebuilding work for those most in need.
- **ReNEW Schools** - ReNEW Schools saw its Schaumberg Elementary campus damaged by the tornado. Accepting: monetary donations to support its students and families are accepted at <http://www.renewschools.org/apps/pages/tornado-relief>.
- **District B Council Office, Broadmoor Improvement Association & VAYLA** - These three groups are partnering to provide needed supplies to affected individuals. They are collecting needed items in Broadmoor, and then transporting the collected supplies to VAYLA's headquarters, where they will be distributed. Accepting: Clean clothes, shoes, socks, children's clothes, baby clothes, diapers, new toiletries, linens/towels, new underwear, cleaning supplies & detergent, flashlights, durable cleanup gloves, plastic tarps, non-perishable bulk food (no-power friendly), feminine hygiene products, pet food and pet shampoo. Where to donate: Broadmoor Arts & Wellness Center (3900 General Taylor St.) ([504-249-5130](tel:504-249-5130)) When: Friday, Feb. 10 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 11 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. To make a monetary donation to VAYLA's rebuilding and construction efforts, visit <https://www.gofundme.com/VAYLATornadoAssistance>.
- **Greater New Orleans Foundation (GNOF)** - Accepting: To make a monetary donation to the GNOF's Helping Our Neighbors: Tornado Relief Fund, click here: <http://www.gnof.org/helping-our-neighbors-tornado-relief-fund/>.
- **United Way of Southeast Louisiana** - Accepting: Monetary donations & seeking volunteers. More information can be found at: <http://www.unitedwaysela.org/tornadorelief>.
- **The Food Pantry of New Orleans** - Accepting: Donations of non-perishable food items from the general public. Drop-off at 13040 I-10 Service Road, New Orleans, LA 70128.
- **American Red Cross** - Accepting: To make monetary donations to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund, visit redcross.org/donate, or call 1-800-REDCROSS. Financial gifts may also be sent to your local Red Cross chapter. For more updates, follow the Louisiana Region of the American Red Cross on Twitter at @ARCLouisiana. You can also contact the region at redcross.org/Louisiana or call [1-800-256-4733](tel:1-800-256-4733).

SBP Disaster Recovery Resources for Homeowners

- Homeowners looking for disaster recovery resources are encouraged to visit the SBP website below.
- [SBP Disaster Recovery Resources](#)