

Polk County

Board of Supervisors Office News



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Tornado Recovery Efforts Continue In Polk County

DES MOINES, Iowa – Recovery efforts continue in the wake of Saturday’s tornado that affected much of the Southeast side of Polk County. Today, additional measures have been implemented to help those affected by the storm recover.

Debris removal

Polk County Public Works Department will pick up tree limbs, branches and shrubs downed by the March 5 severe weather for residents in the unincorporated areas of Fourmile, Beaver, and Camp Townships in Polk County. Residents should place vegetative debris along the curb or in the ditch/edge of shoulder of the roadway as soon as possible. Debris must be no longer than 10 feet in length. Polk County will not go onto private property to collect storm vegetative debris. Crews will begin removing debris from the curbside on Tuesday, March 8th. It is estimated that all debris will be removed by March 31st. Any questions regarding debris cleanup should be directed to the Polk County Public Works Department at 286-3705.

Assistance Hotline

Polk County has activated a hotline for those who have been affected to help answer specific questions and provide direction or assistance to resources that are available. **ONLY** those who have been directly affected by the March 5th storm should call: 515-323-5221. It is staffed 8:00-5:00 Monday through Friday.

Volunteer Assistance

As with any natural disaster, Iowan’s are eager to lend a helping hand. That is again true in this situation. However, those wishing to help are not encouraged to self-deploy to the areas heavily affected. If you are interested in volunteering for clean-up please call 515-323-5221. It is staffed 8:00-5:00 Monday through Friday. **Affected properties who would like to request volunteer assistance should also call this number.**

Road Closures

- SE 6th Ave - Closed between SE 80th ST. and SE 92nd St. (large power poles on road)
- SE Garrett Dr/Baseline Ave/SE 91st St. between Hwy 163 and SE 6th Ave. (large power poles on road)
- NE 100th St south of Hwy 163 to NE 3rd Ave to NE 96th St to SE 6th Ave closed (low hanging power lines)

A press conference will be held at 11:00 on Wednesday, March 9 at the Polk County Administration building (111 Court Avenue, Heritage Room) with local elected officials and responders to discuss ongoing efforts.

Additional Information

<https://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/emergency-management/recent-disaster-information>