

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE RALEIGH NC
304 PM EDT MON APR 18 2011

...TORNADO CONFIRMED NEAR ROANOKE RAPIDS IN HALIFAX COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA...

LOCATION...ROANOKE RAPIDS IN HALIFAX COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA
DATE...APRIL 16, 2011
ESTIMATED TIME...520 PM EDT
MAXIMUM EF-SCALE RATING...EF2
ESTIMATED MAXIMUM WIND SPEED...120 MPH
MAXIMUM PATH WIDTH...250 YARDS
PATH LENGTH...5 MILES
BEGINNING LAT/LON...36.41N / 77.70W
ENDING LAT/LON...36.46N / 77.63W
* FATALITIES...0
* INJURIES...0

* THE INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE PENDING FINAL REVIEW OF THE EVENT(S) AND PUBLICATION IN NWS STORM DATA.

...SUMMARY...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN RALEIGH NC HAS CONFIRMED A TORNADO NEAR ROANOKE RAPIDS IN HALIFAX COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA ON APRIL 16, 2011.

AT 520 PM ON SATURDAY APRIL 16, 2011 A SUPERCELL THUNDERSTORM PRODUCED A TORNADO THAT TOUCHED DOWN SOUTHWEST OF ROANOKE RAPIDS NEAR RHEA SMITH ROAD. AT SAM POWELL DAM ROAD A HOUSE WAS SHIFTED OFF OF ITS FOUNDATION. THE TORNADO THEN ENTERED ROANOKE RAPIDS AS AN EF1. NUMEROUS HARDWOOD TREES WERE DOWNED. NUMEROUS CARS AND HOMES WERE DAMAGED AT ROSEMARY STREET.

AS THE TORNADO CONTINUED INTO DOWNTOWN... AN INDUSTRIAL BUILDING AND SONIC RESTAURANT WERE DAMAGED. THE TORNADO REACHED EF2 STRENGTH AT THIS POINT. THE WORST DAMAGE WAS AT 10TH STREET.

THE END POINT REPRESENTS THE POINT AT WHICH THE TORNADO CROSSES INTO NORTHAMPTON COUNTY AND ENTERS THE WAKEFIELD WFO WARNING AREA.

THIS INFORMATION CAN ALSO BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE AT WEATHER.GOV/RAH.

FOR REFERENCE...THE ENHANCED FUJITA SCALE CLASSIFIES TORNADOES INTO THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

EF0...WIND SPEEDS 65 TO 85 MPH.
EF1...WIND SPEEDS 86 TO 110 MPH.
EF2...WIND SPEEDS 111 TO 135 MPH.
EF3...WIND SPEEDS 136 TO 165 MPH.
EF4...WIND SPEEDS 166 TO 200 MPH.
EF5...WIND SPEEDS GREATER THAN 200 MPH.

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JO/SEC/WSS



Near the intersection of Tenth Street and Park Street in Roanoke Rapids.



Near the intersection of Tenth Street and Park Street in Roanoke Rapids.



Rebecca Street in Roanoke Rapids.



Near the intersection of Tenth Street and Park Street in Roanoke Rapids.