

MOBILE/MANUFACTURED HOME DAMAGE ASSESSMENTS FROM

TORNADO THAT HIT IN DUNDEE



Bureau of Mobile Home and RV Construction

Division of Motor Vehicles

Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

April 17, 2007



State of Florida
DEPARTMENT OF
HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0500

ELECTRA THEODORIDES-BUSTLE
Executive Director

DATE: April 17, 2007

TO: Phil Bergelt, Program Manager
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FROM: Wayne Jordan, Community Assistance Consultant
Bureau of Mobile Home and RV Construction

SUBJECT: Assessment of tornado damage to manufactured/mobile homes in the Dundee area.

A cold front moved through the State on Sunday, April 15, 2007 causing some minor wind damage throughout the State. However, a tornado touched down in the Dundee area of Polk County. Ernie Jillson, a meteorologist for the National Weather Service, said the tornado was classified as an EF0. This is the lowest number assigned to tornadoes on the recently adopted Enhanced Fujita scale. Wind speeds from an EF0 tornado range from 65 to 85 mph.

Two manufactured/mobile home parks were hit by the tornado. The first was Cypress Creek with only carports and screened rooms being damaged. This is a brand new Manufactured home community and the carports and screen rooms were built to the newly implemented Florida Building Code. Ten homes had damage to these additions. The other park was the Dell Lake Village on Frederick Street in Dundee. Fourteen homes were damaged in this park with two having their roofs blown off. The newspapers reported that as many as 6 homes were uninhabitable, but the city of Dundee only declared two homes as unsafe.

Once again, manufactured home installation was not a factor in this storm since none of the destroyed or damaged homes (or any other mobile homes) shifted on their foundations. No studies of any tie down components could be performed since the two homes declared uninhabitable did not move on the foundation.

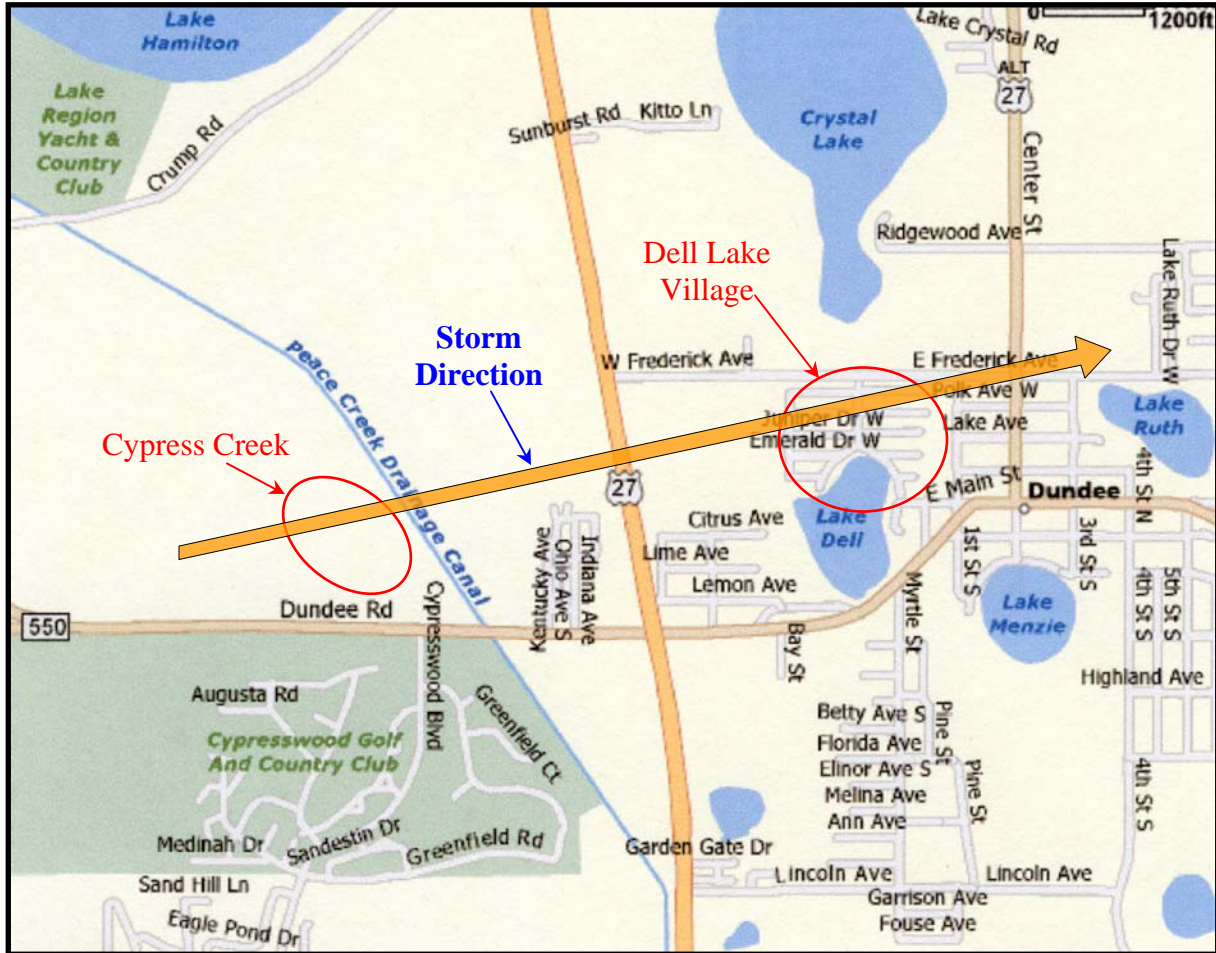
NOTE:

The purpose of this report is strictly for the use of the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to determine the effectiveness of current department administrative rules governing the installation of mobile/manufactured homes.

Phil Bergelt
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All statistics reported here are from the Dundee and Winter Haven area. In addition, entry into the mobile homes and/or private property was not always possible to make more specific determinations. Consequently, the statistics reported here are estimates. There may be differences between what is reported here and determinations by local building departments, insurance companies or other government agencies.

MAP OF AFFECTED AREA



Dundee Area Tornado									
A study of storm damaged manufactured homes in Polk County									
					Estimations				
Date	Mobile Home Park	Address	City	County	Age of park by decade	Homes in park	destroyed or non repairable	post 94 homes	post 94 homes damaged
4/15/07	Cypress Creek Village	5999 Dundee Rd.	Winter Haven	Polk	New Park	40 - 50	0	0	0
4/15/07	Dell Lake Village	213 Frederick Ave	Dundee	Polk	70s - 90s	234	2	0	0

Dell Lake Village, Dundee



Dell Lake Village

**Loss of screen rooms and damage to roof
overs and aluminum gutters was common.
Even though this was an older park ranging
from the 70's to early 90s, no homes moved
on their foundations.**

Cypress Creek – screen room damage on multiple homes.



The skirting blocks were blown over on this home, but the home did not move on its foundation.

Dell Lake Village, Dundee

Only two homes received an UNSAFE notice. Both homes lost their roofs and had rain water damage to the inside. This home's carport was blown away and took the home's roof with it.



USA TODAY

April 16, 2007

Tornado touches down near Fla. mobile home park

DUNDEE, Fla. (AP) — A tornado damaged a mobile home park, but caused no injuries as a line of powerful thunderstorms swept across the state Sunday, authorities said.

The tornado touched down near the Del Lake Village mobile home park in Dundee and damaged some of the homes, said Dundee Police Department operator Rebecca Garcia.

"It's just chaotic out there," Garcia said.

A cold front also pushed strong storms across the eastern United States. The storms were blamed for five deaths in the Plains states.

In Florida, the National Weather Service issued a tornado watch extending from Orlando to 50 miles south of Miami until 5 p.m. Sunday. A high wind advisory was in effect until 8 p.m. There were also warnings of possible flooding in low-lying coastal areas.

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Dan Gregoria, a forecaster at the National Weather Service's South Florida office, said the most severe weather would be between noon and 3 p.m. from the Naples area to Lake Okeechobee and then between 3 and 6 p.m. along the Atlantic coast.

Residents phoned in reports of a funnel cloud over central Pasco County, but there were no immediate reports of a tornado touchdown, said Russell Henes, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Ruskin. Winds were estimated up to 60 mph.

St. Petersburg Police responded to a report of an awning that tore off a building and smashed into a wall during one of the stronger squalls, dispatch supervisor Val Crews said. Damage was limited to the one building and no injuries were reported.

Damage to the north in Pasco County also appeared to be minor after initial reports.

"We've had no reports of damage other than a few tree limbs down," said Doug Tobin, a spokesman with the Pasco County Sheriff's Office.

In New York, airlines canceled 300 flights Sunday as a hard-blowing nor'easter gathered strength along the East Coast and threatened to deliver some of the worst shore flooding in 14 years. The storm also flooded homes in the middle of the night in West Virginia.

The cancellations at the New York area's three major airports affected most carriers, said Steve Coleman, a spokesman for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. More cancellations were expected throughout the day.