

Urgent News Release #1

Richland County Emergency Management

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For immediate release: **July 14, 2015**

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM CAUSES SERIOUS DAMAGE IN RICHLAND COUNTY

Richland Center, WI: Richland County Emergency Management reports that a severe thunderstorm with high winds hit Richland County around 5:30pm Monday, July 14, 2015 causing serious damage to many residential homes and the electrical infrastructure for the area. At this time, 22 homes have reported more than \$110,000 in damage, 4 homes are still without power, and public sector damage is estimated to be more than \$35,000. No injuries have been reported. The storm seriously impacted the City of Richland Center, Village of Lone Rock, and Towns of Richland, Orion & Buena Vista.

Richland County Emergency Management will be working with the National Weather Service this week to complete a damage survey. If you have experienced damage, citizens are encouraged to contact their insurance carrier, document the damage, be careful when using power tools to clean-up debris, and contact Richland County Emergency Management at (608) 647-8187 with noteworthy property damage. Also be careful when coming across power lines that are damaged or compromised. Richland Center City Utilities, Richland Electric Cooperative, and Alliant Energy continue to repair damages to their electrical infrastructure systems.

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Responding agencies include the Richland Center Police Department, Richland County Sheriff's Department, Richland Center and Lone Rock Public Works and Utilities, Richland County Highway Department, Richland County ARES/RACES, Richland Center and Lone Rock Fire Departments, and Richland County Emergency Management. Public officials and other public safety officers continue to survey the area for damage.

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