



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Wednesday, April 5, 2012, 11:30 a.m.

Contact: Alicia Hills-Oyedele
Assistant to the City Manager/PIO
(972) 218-2641 office
aoyedele@lancaster-tx.com

Lancaster Disaster Recovery Update

LANCASTER, TX – City officials report the following in response to Tuesday's devastating tornado that touched down in Lancaster shortly after 2:00 p.m. There are three main areas around the city which have uninhabitable homes that are too hazardous to allow access to the area at this time.

According to the National Weather Service the tornado was classified as an EF2 and considered a significant weather. The path of the tornado traveled approximately 7.1 miles from the southwest to the northeast.

As it stands, some 300 structures were damaged. Currently, the fire department and building inspectors are securing dangerous areas to ensure they are stable enough to return residents to their homes. Approximately 150 structures have been reported as suffering severe damage. The affected areas have roughly impacted an estimated 2,000 residents.

Disaster recovery, debris management companies and insurance adjusters will not be admitted into the impacted area until those areas have been determined safe to enter by city officials. There were a total of 10 reported injuries and no fatalities. Emergency workers are still in the process of restoring power and utilities.

Our local disaster shelter has processed over 482 people in the last three days at 1700 Veterans Memorial Parkway. Disaster recovery services are still available at this location.

Residents who are attempting to rescue pets can call 972-218-2639. Owners must provide an address where pets can be retrieved. Pets will be taken to a temporary shelter where owners will be able to pick them up.

Donations of money, toiletries and non-perishable goods are being accepted at 200 E. Wintergreen Road. Monetary donations can be mailed to the Lancaster Outreach Center at 1120 Randlett Street, Lancaster, Texas 75146.

For more information contact the City of Lancaster Emergency Operations Center Public Information Office at 972-218-2630.

###