



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tornado Causes Damage in Somerset and Buckingham Sections of Bowie

This evening, portions of the Buckingham and Somerset sections of Bowie were hit by what the National Weather Service is calling a tornado. The City has received many reports of uprooted trees, downed powerlines, power outages, and some damage to homes as a result of this severe weather that passed through Bowie between 5 and 6 p.m. tonight. Despite the swath of damage, there have been no reports of injuries.

Over the past few hours, crews from the Parks & Grounds Division and the Public Works Department have been out working to clear blocked roads. They will begin work on removal starting tomorrow.

Here are a few safety reminders for those affected by the storm:

- **Report power outages** to BGE at 1-800-685-0123 or text OUT to 69243.
- **Practice generator safety** - If your power is out, keep your generator dry and never operate a generator indoors. Place your generators at least 20 ft away from your home.
- **Stay away from downed power lines** - a downed wire could be a very dangerous live wire. Report downed powerlines to 877-778-2222.
- **Report damage to your home or downed trees** to the Bowie Emergency Call Center at 1-240-544-5700.

A decision about yard waste pickup rules will be made early Wednesday and shared on the City website, social media, and via Alert Bowie.

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