



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 6, 12 p.m.

Contacts:

Stephanie Lopez, Communications Analyst
240-825-5018 or slopez@cityofbowie.org

Una Cooper, Communications Director
240-216-2071 or ucooper@cityofbowie.org

City of Bowie Crews Proceed with Clean-up Following EF1 Tornado

According to official reports from the National Weather Service, on Tuesday evening between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m., an EF1 tornado touched down and moved through parts of the Somerset and Buckingham sections. Reports indicate that the path of the tornado localized damage to the following streets:

- Barrister Lane
- Bradford Lane
- Brunswick Lane
- Buckingham Lane
- Saber Lane
- Sarah Lane
- Savoy Lane
- Shadow Lane
- Shield Lane
- Stoneybrook Drive
- Shetland Lane
- Stafford Lane
- Stonehaven Lane

Thankfully, despite the damage done to almost 20 large trees, several powerlines, and a few homes, there were no reported injuries. Immediately after the storm, over 300 power outages were reported in Bowie. As of 12 p.m., that number has gone down to just 113 outages. BGE crews continue to work to restore power to residents.

The city water plant on Bradford Lane also sustained minor damage in the storm, although there was no interruption to water service. Building repairs will be taking place today.

Clean up for the Somerset and Buckingham sections has been divided up between our Public Works and Parks and Grounds crews respectively. Together, they have worked tirelessly since yesterday to take stock of the damage, cut fallen trees, and clear debris blocking city roads. All roads are now clear and open. Work has now shifted over to clearing city rights-of-way and continuing to clean up debris.

The City of Bowie would like to thank the hard-working crews in our Public Works Department and Parks and Ground divisions for their quick response and sincere dedication to our residents. Crews were called in after-hours and spent countless hours on Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning ensuring residents are able to safely traverse their neighborhood streets.

We would also like to extend our appreciation to Prince George's County and Howard County, who have graciously provided tree cutting crews and staff to assist with cleanup. Thank you as well to the numerous residents of Somerset and Buckingham who offered their assistance to clear trees.

"I am impressed by quick and thorough response from our Public Works and Parks and Ground crews. Thank you very much to each and every one of them for working above and beyond for our residents," added Mayor Adams. "And of course, thank you to our residents for never hesitating to provide help to friends and neighbors in need. Your resilience is inspiring to us all."

YARDWASTE RULES RELAXED FOR JULY 13 AND 20

Due to significant tree damage in certain areas of Bowie, the City will relax yard waste set out rules for Wednesday, July 13 and 20 only for the following neighborhoods affected by Tuesday's tornado:

- Buckingham
- Somerset

On Wednesday, July 13 and July 20, yard waste collection crews in these neighborhoods will collect whatever tree debris can be put into a trash truck. In order for tree debris to be picked up, please help our crews by doing the following:

- Place plants, tree limbs and logs at the curb in a manner that will allow collectors to easily grab and load it into a truck.
- Stack branches in piles with butt or large end of limbs facing the curb. (Bundling of branches is not necessary.)
- Place larger tree limbs, trunks, and logs at the curb.
- If the limbs, etc. are too large for the yard waste crews to pick up, the debris will be loaded using heavy equipment and dump trucks, but only if the debris is at the curb within reach of a backhoe operating in the street.
- Make certain that there is no trash, siding, or other building debris mixed in with the yard waste.

BUILDING DEBRIS

- Residents must take large building debris to the County Waste Disposal Site at Brown Station Landfill in Upper Marlboro or to another disposal site or hire a contractor to haul away the debris.

Please direct questions about yard waste collection or about damaged recycling bins to the Public Works Department at 301-809-2344.

Please remain mindful, as the National Weather Service has issued a Flash Flood Watch in effect starting from 3 p.m. this afternoon through late tonight, with multiple rounds of scattered showers and thunderstorms are likely this afternoon and tonight. Expect several inches of rain in a short time period. Please monitor weather forecasts and be prepared to take action should a Flash Flood Warning be issued via our [Alert Bowie messaging system](#). Sign up for Alert Bowie at www.cityofbowie.org/AlertBowie. Visit www.cityofbowie.org/floodtips for flood safety and preparedness information.

###