



South Carolina Emergency Preparedness Division
1429 Senate Street Columbia SC 29201
803-734-8020 Fax: 803-734-8062

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact: Joe Farmer, Public Information Director
Christie Hamilton, Public Information Coordinator
803-734-8020

Tropical Storm Earl Causes Damage In South Carolina

COLUMBIA, S.C. (Thursday, Sept. 3, 1998, 5:30 p.m.) -- The following is an update and summation of the effects of Tropical Storm Earl on South Carolina.

- The Beaufort County coroner has confirmed that one person died in a storm-spawned tornado in the St. Helena area. The tornado injured four other people, one seriously. 13 dwellings were destroyed and 13 damaged in the St. Helena area. The City of Beaufort has 1-2 houses heavily damaged.
- The storm system resulted in numerous tornado reports. They will not be confirmed by the National Weather Service until later.
- A tornado touchdown near Moncks Corner in Berkeley County was reported, but not confirmed, at 1:50 p.m. There are 2 separate areas of damage with approximately 6-8 people injured. There have been approximately 85 homes damaged and 20-25 manufactured homes damaged.
- In Colleton County scattered damage to buildings including a roof blown off of a barn and trees downed. No tornados have been reported in Colleton County.
- Shelters opened in Beaufort County in St. Helena and in Moncks Corner in Berkeley County, though no one has been sheltered in either of these locations.
- South Carolina Emergency Preparedness will send assessment teams to the affected areas tomorrow morning.
- The South Carolina Emergency Preparedness Division urges residents statewide to stay tuned throughout the day and this evening to National Weather Service reports on tone alert weather radios, the Emergency Alert System broadcast stations, and the broadcast news media at-large.

South Carolina Emergency Preparedness is the state division responsible for the statewide emergency management program. It supports the counties through training and planning assistance and coordinates the delivery of state resources during emergencies.

- END-