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Deadly Tornadoes Devastate Mississippi At least 25 deaths



In an aerial view, piles of debris remain where homes once stood before Friday's EF-4 tornado, March 26, 2023 in Rolling Fork, Miss.

By Kate Royals, Debbie Skipper AND Alex Rozier - MISSISSIPPI TODAY

Tornadoes ripping through Mississippi Friday night left at least 25 dead, dozens injured and a trail of destruction throughout the Delta and into the east central regions.

Four other residents earlier today reported missing have been accounted for, according to a news release from the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency. The fatalities are from Sharkey, Humphreys, Carroll and Monroe counties. Search and rescue teams are on the ground.

The National Weather Service reported a 70-mph tornado swept through the towns of Rolling Fork and Silver City in Sharkey County before heading on a path to Alabama, hitting the towns of Amory and Winona.

Sharkey Issaquena Community Hospital in Rolling Fork lost power and was transferring its patients, including those in its nursing home, to other hospitals, according to MEMA.

"My city - my city is gone," Rolling Fork Mayor Eldridge Walker told CNN Saturday morning. "But we are resilient and we are going to come back strong."

Sharkey Issaquena Community Hospital CEO Jerry Kever was at the nursing home when reached by Mississippi Today. He described it as like "being in the middle of a war zone."

He confirmed the hospital is closed, and there is a temporary hospital set up at the armory.

Baptist Memorial Hospital (Continued on page 2.)

Mississippi College Awards Prestigious Scholarship to Shelby Stokes



Shelby Stokes was selected to receive the Select Scholars Trustee Scholarship out of over 200 applicants all across the U.S. Shelby received a 4-year full ride scholarship. The check for \$32,522 covers expenses for the first year. Pictured (l-r): Cecilia Estep, grandmother; Alicia Stokes, mother; Shelby Stokes; Johnny Estep, grandfather; and MC Region Admissions Counselor Drew Ahlrich.

How to Apply for FEMA Assistance After Mississippi Tornadoes

ATLANTA - Mississippi homeowners and renters in Carroll, Humphreys, Monroe and Sharkey counties who were affected by the March 24-25 severe storms, straight-line winds and tornadoes may apply for FEMA disaster assistance.

Survivors can apply at DisasterAssistance.gov, by calling 800-621-3362, or by using the FEMA mobile app. The helpline is open and available from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Central Time in most languages. If you use a relay service such as video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA the number for that service.

The disaster declaration includes Individual Assistance to households in Carroll, Humphreys, Monroe and Sharkey Counties. Assistance for uninsured losses may include temporary lodging, basic home repairs and other disaster-related expenses.

If you have homeowners or renters insurance, you should file a claim as soon as possible. FEMA cannot duplicate benefits for losses covered by insurance. FEMA assistance cannot replace all losses, but if your policy does not cover all your disaster expenses, you may be eligible for federal assistance.

When you apply for assistance, please have the following information ready:

- A current phone number where you can be contacted
- Your address at the time of the disaster and the address where you are now staying
- Your Social Security Number
- A general list of damage and losses
- Banking information if you choose direct deposit
- If insured, the policy number or the agent and/or the company name

For an accessible video on how to apply for assistance go to, youtube.com/watch?v=WZGpWI2RCNw.

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Thursday Mostly Sunny 77/61 Precip. Chance 3%	Friday Scattered T-Storms 80/61 Precip. Chance 52%	Saturday Partly Cloudy 76/49 Precip. Chance 7%	Sunday Partly Cloudy 79/61 Precip. Chance 14%	Monday Scattered T-Storms 84/69 Precip. Chance 54%	Tuesday Mostly Cloudy 89/69 Precip. Chance 24%	Wednesday Scattered T-Storms 83/62 Precip. Chance 58%	

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