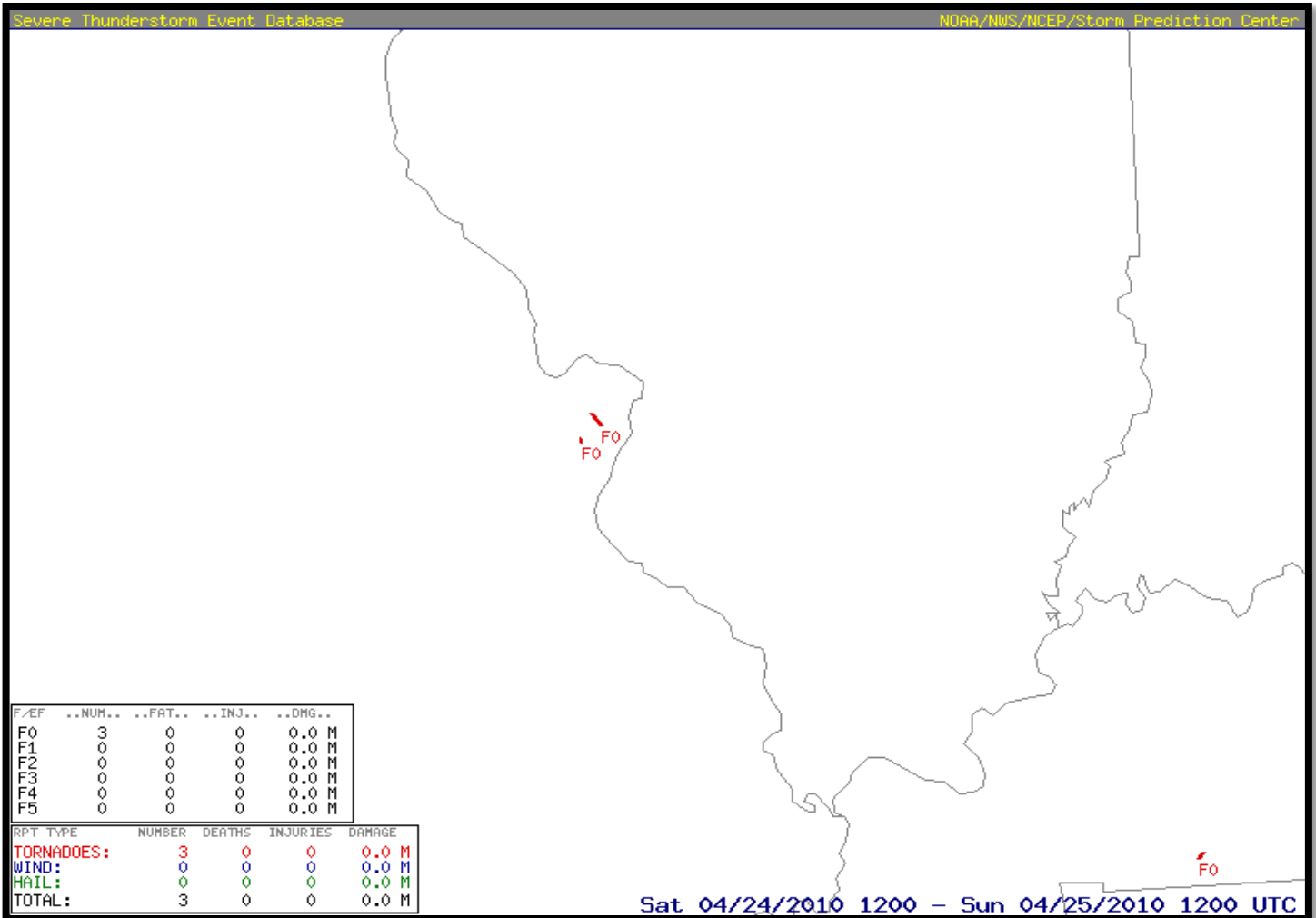


# Squall Line Produces Two Tornadoes

April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010

## Overview

A line of severe thunderstorms moved northeast across the St. Louis area during the early evening hours of April 24<sup>th</sup>. Two small circulations developed within a distinct notch that was visible on the radar reflectivity. Interestingly, the circulations moved southeast to northwest, producing two weak tornadoes across St. Louis County. The first tornado occurred in Des Peres and the second was centered in Overland.



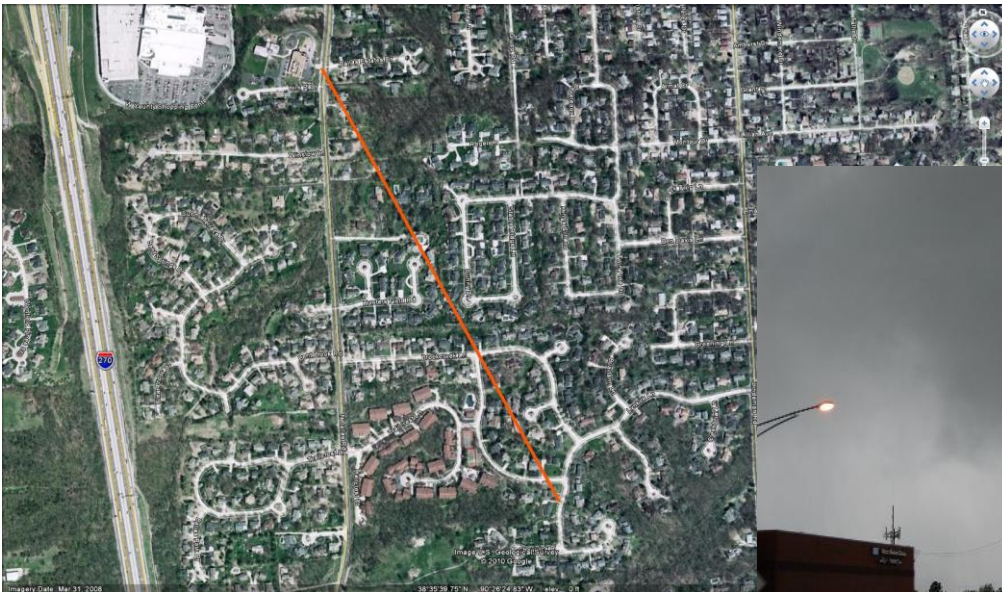
## Des Peres, MO EF0 Tornado

The Des Peres tornado was rated EF0 on the Enhanced Fujita Scale with maximum wind speeds of 70-80 mph. The tornado touched down approximately 0.3 miles north of Dougherty Ferry Road near Lynkirk Road and moved northwest through part of a subdivision. The tornado lifted briefly, then touched down again near the intersection of Ballas Road and Kirk Place Drive before lifting and dissipating east of a shopping mall.

Several members of the public captured images and video of the tornado from a parking garage at the West County Shopping Mall. The parking garage was approximately 0.25 miles from the tornado at its closest approach. Firefighters at the Des Peres Firehouse also witnessed the second touchdown.

The path was approximately 0.6 miles long with a maximum width around 300 yards across part of the subdivision and an average width of less than 200 yards elsewhere. Widespread tree damage and minor roof damage was observed across the subdivision but the overall lack of structural damage suggests winds did not exceed 70-80 mph. In the subdivision, several large healthy trees were uprooted and some roofs had missing or damaged shingles. At least one healthy tree was snapped several feet above its base. More extensive tree damage was observed with the second touchdown near Ballas Road and Kirk Place Drive where several healthy pine trees were snapped at the midpoint and the debris pattern indicated a convergent circulation. Tree damage in this area also downed several power lines along Ballas Road.

Below are a few photos of the tornado and damage that occurred, along with a preliminary damage survey map.





## Overland, MO EF0 Tornado

A tornado produced EF0 damage with winds ranging from 65 to 85 mph. The tornado initially touched down near the intersection of Duke Drive and Blackberry Avenue in University City. The tornado traveled northwest producing intermittent damage for approximately 0.6 miles. The damage became more continuous for the next 2.4 miles from just southeast of Olive Boulevard to near Dawes Place just southeast of Lackland Road. Intermittent damage continued beyond Lackland Road to the northwest for an additional 1.4 miles. The last discernible damage was located near St. Ann Lane. The total path length of the tornado was 4.4 miles.

The vast majority of the damage along the path consisted of varying degrees of tree damage which included numerous tree branches broken, trees uprooted, and tree trunks snapped well above their base. The most significant structural damage occurred on Wallis Avenue just north of Trescott Avenue where a three foot diameter tree caved in the corner of a home. The tornado reached a maximum width of 325 yards as it crossed Trescott Avenue. This is also where the damage was most intense with wind speeds estimated at 85 mph. Other notable damage was located near the intersection of Woodson Road and Harney Road where there was roof damage to a storage facility. Minor structural damage was noted at other locations along the path caused by tree limbs or trees falling on homes. Any direct tornadic damage to homes and businesses was minor superficial damage which consisted of siding, soffit and shingles.

Below are a few photos of the tornado damage that occurred.



Please note that while the severe weather data presented in this event synopsis has been quality controlled, it is still considered unofficial. Official reports & statistics for severe weather events can be found in the **Storm Data** publication (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/IPS/sd/sd.html>) or **Storm Events Database** (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>), available from the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) web page [formerly the National Climate Data Center (NCDC)].

More detailed tornado track information can be accessed using the National Weather Service Damage Assessment Toolkit for all tornadoes beginning in 2012. <https://apps.dat.noaa.gov/StormDamage/DamageViewer/>

***Any questions regarding this event review should be address to [w-lsx.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:w-lsx.webmaster@noaa.gov)***