

COSTEP MA Resilience Symposium for Cultural Institutions

Presentation slide decks

Session 2: What to Expect in Community-Wide/Large Disasters

12:45pm - 2:00pm

Presentations in order of appearance:

1. Presentation given by Ben Hiltunen, All Hazards Planner, MEMA
2. Presentation given by Lori Foley, Administrator, HENTF
3. Presentation given by Angela Campbell, Paper Conservator, HACE, National Parks Service
4. **Presentation given by Virginia Hewitt, Director, Brooks Free Library**

Cape Cod Tornados

July 23, 2019



Virginia Hewitt, Library Director
Brooks Free Library, Harwich MA

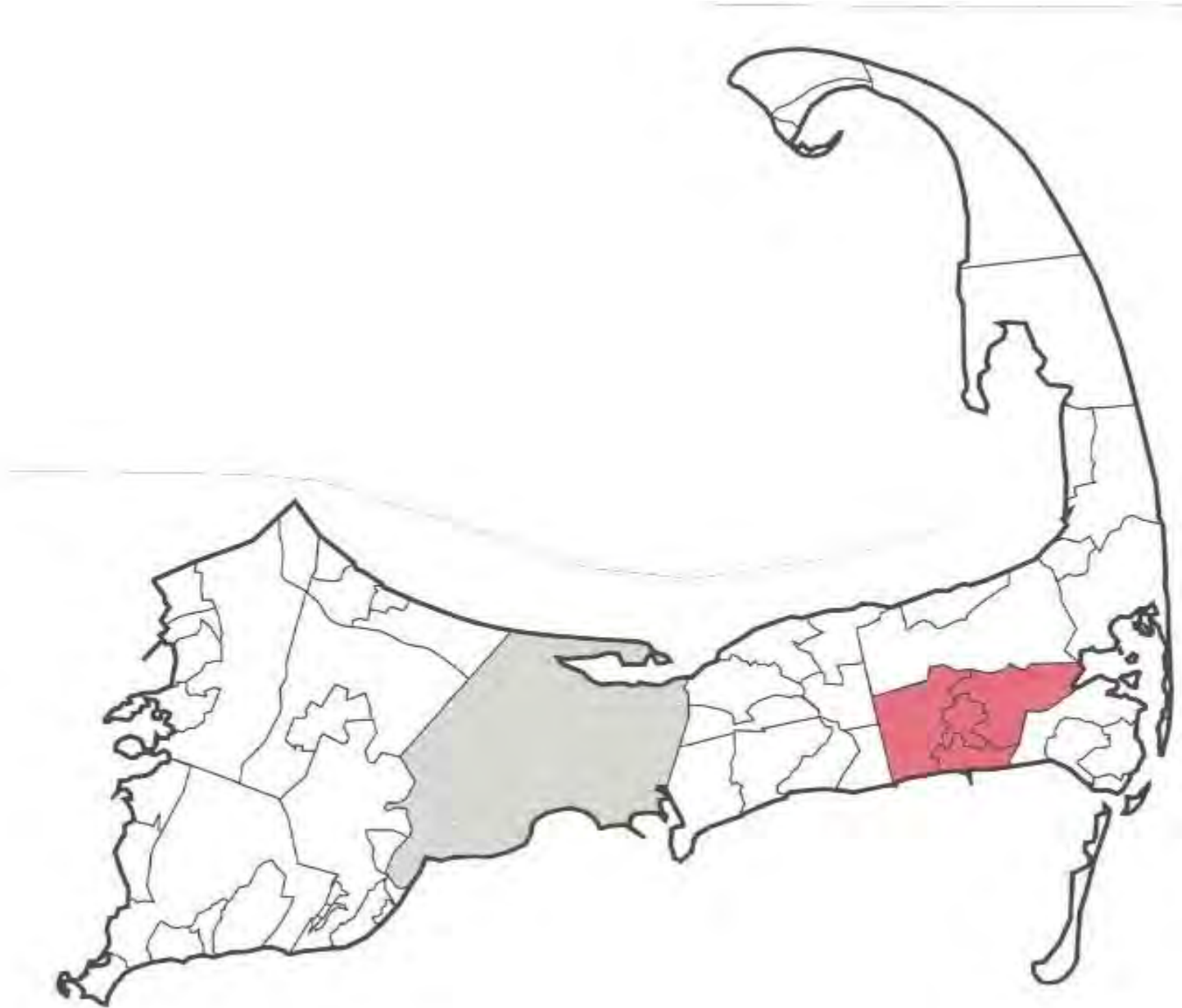


CAPE COD TORNADOES

JULY 23, 2019

1. South Yarmouth
EF1 - 110 MPH
2. Harwich
EF1 - 110 MPH
3. West Yarmouth
EF1 - 90 MPH

























Tornado damage

- Thousands of trees down
- Roads in Harwich Center shut down
- Power out for entire town
- 1 home uninhabitable but most damage more limited
- No serious injuries or deaths

Library Response

Opened early

Internet Access

- Charging location
- Free public wi-fi



Normal Operations

- Open institutions -sense of normalcy
- Share experiences with others
- Psychologically important
- Visitors inconvenienced but vacations not interrupted

Library as “Information First Responders”

- Started Recovery Resources Page
 - Consolidated site
 - Curated
- Social media posts

The screenshot shows a website page with a red header titled "Disaster Recovery Resources". The page contains several sections of text and links. The first section is a general notice about the page's purpose and contact information. The second section is titled "Cape Cod Tornado" and provides details about the event on July 23, 2019. The third section is titled "Initiatives – Organized Earliest to Latest Deadlines" and lists two initiatives: "Cape Cod & Islands Association of REALTORS®" and "Government/Town – Organized Earliest to Latest Deadlines". Each initiative includes a description, relevant through date, deadline, website, and apply online information.

Disaster Recovery Resources

The information presented on this page is curated by Library staff. It was created in an effort to centralize current and relevant resources for easy access.

Links update frequently. Check back often for the most up-to-date information.

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this page, please contact the Reference desk at 508.438.7500 ext. 3.

Last updated 9:51 AM on 11/23/2019

Cape Cod Tornado

Date of Event: July 23, 2019

The National Weather Service has confirmed that two high-end EF-4 tornadoes occurred on Cape Cod Tuesday, July 23rd with maximum wind speeds of 131 mph. The damage was a combination of two tornado touchdowns: one in Southeast Barnstable (Norman) (5.5 mile path, 250 yards wide, on the ground for 10 miles and one in Haverhill (2.8 mile path, 250 yards wide, on the ground for five minutes, along with extensive straight line wind damage which affected Dennis and West Haverhill, as well as Chatham). See WFAA alert: [Cape Cod Tornado](#)

Initiatives – Organized Earliest to Latest Deadlines

Cape Cod & Islands Association of REALTORS®

Relevant through: September 30, 2019

Deadline(s): September 30, 2019

Website: <https://cciaor.com/news/haverhillgrants>

Apply Online: At bottom of page <https://cciaor.com/news/haverhillgrants>

Description: The Cape Cod & Islands Association of REALTORS® (CCIAOR) has launched a grant program to assist Haverhill homeowners that sustained damage to their homes from the July 23rd tornadoes that swept through the area. CCIAOR has \$20,000 in grant funds available to Haverhill homeowners from the REALTOR® Relief Foundation. The goal of these grants is to provide assistance towards housing costs for homeowners completing home repairs or who were displaced due to the tornado.

The grants are for a maximum of \$2,000 per applicant per household. **To qualify for a grant, the primary residence must be in the town of Haverhill and must have been damaged during the storm.** Grant applications must be received by **September 30, 2019**.

Assistance is only available to Haverhill residents due to the REALTOR® Relief Foundation's requirement that jurisdictions eligible for funding must have had a declared disaster, and Haverhill was the only community on the Cape that had that designation from the July 23rd tornado.

Assistance is available to qualified applicants towards one of the following options:

- 1) Monthly mortgage expense for the primary residence that was damaged by the tornado disaster or;
- 2) Rental cost due to displacement from the primary residence resulting from the tornado disaster.

Assistance is for housing relief only. Other expenses including debris clean up, second mortgages, vehicle purchase, rental, repair and/or mileage are ineligible for reimbursement under this program. The program is meant to help homeowners offset the cost of repairs by providing relief towards monthly housing expenses.

To apply, please complete and submit the application on the website. If you have any questions about the grant or application process, please contact [Marissa Cyr, mcyr@cciaor.com](mailto:Marissa.Cyr@cciaor.com) at 508-997-4344.

Government/Town – Organized Earliest to Latest Deadlines

Department of Revenue

Filing & payment information for taxpayers affected by the recent Cape Cod severe weather event from Mass. Dept. of Revenue

Relevant through: November 30, 2019

Website: <https://www.mass.gov/news/filing-payment-information-for-taxpayers-affected-by-the-recent-cape-cod-severe-weather-event>

Description: For taxpayers affected by the recent severe weather event on Cape Cod, the Department recognizes that taxpayers in

Economic damage

- Height of Tourist Season
- Eversource & partners
- Governor's visit – Wed. 7.24
- Massive influx state resources
 - National Guard
 - Dept of Corrections
 - Dept of Conservation & Recreation

Power restored

- Thurs. afternoon – 52 hours
- Major cleanup effort continued with outside resources for next week

On-going effects

- Much still be to done
 - clean-up, power outages
- Cost to local government
- Economic impact to businesses
- Uninsured costs to homeowners

Huge positive reaction to Library
for extended hours & information,
but our response not extraordinary

Work was in preceding years

Generator request – 7-year Capital Plan

\$110,000



- Following Blizzard Feb. 2013
- Before Blizzard Jan. 2015



Brooks Free Library will have a special Monday opening tomorrow, 10 am to 2 pm, so community members can stock up on books, movies, board games & puzzles in advance of Winter Storm Juno. Please share and spread the word!

Emergency Light failure

“Library in the Lobby”

Oct. 2015

July 2016

Sept 2016







Preparing to be Ready – to get the resources needed

- Think strategically
- Take advantage of challenges
- Don't wait for an invite
- Don't wait for resources
- Start doing what you can do
- Frame your actions