

COSTEP MA VIRTUAL TABLETOP EXERCISE

SEPTEMBER 22, 2020



Scenario 3: Tornado

It is a Wednesday morning in early June. On Tuesday evening after hours, your building was in the path of an F2 tornado. There is damage throughout your area. Roads are blocked by tree branches and power lines. All staff are safe, but some staff homes and other businesses are damaged. Your building has multiple broken windows and significant roof damage, with additional damage to one side of your building. Power is interrupted and water has penetrated multiple collections spaces. Additional rain and wind are forecast for the next 24 hours. Staff cannot make the collections a priority until they have seen to personal and family property damage. Construction, plumbing, electrical, and other services will be under severe pressure for weeks or more. You do not know when power will be restored. Your building needs inspection before staff can safely enter.

Discussion Questions

1. What will you need to do first? Second? Third?
2. What supplies or equipment will response require? Where will they come from?
3. What special circumstances might impact your response (e.g., what high-risk items are affected?)
4. If you have a continuity of operations (COOP) plan, how will you implement it?

Scenarios adapted from Library of Congress, Level of Collections Emergency Scenarios, <https://www.loc.gov/preservation/emergprep/plan/scenarios.html>.