Written by

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WAUSAUKEE — The tornado that killed a man Friday ripped through the area so quickly that officials did not have time to activate a warning siren in the village, Marinette County's emergency management director said.

Even then, Douglas E. Brem was inside a mobile home far enough from the siren's location that he might not have been able to hear it had it sounded, Eric Burmeister said.

"It's highly doubtful he would have even heard the siren activated, since he was probably one and a half to two miles away," Burmeister said of Brem, who was working inside a mobile home north of the village. "And the storm just came up out of nowhere."

The community continued Monday on its path to recovery from the EF1 tornado, which tore a swath 150 to 175 yards wide and 7 to 8 miles long in the Wausaukee-Long Lake area, knocking out electricity to roughly 2,000 customers and causing an estimated \$120,000 to \$150,000 damage to homes and businesses. Brem died when the trailer was lifted off its foundation, flipped and crushed; nobody was hurt when a second trailer was destroyed.

"There was a lot of lesser damage to other homes," Burmeister said. "Shingles, TV antennas, holes in roofs — you name it."

He said a siren sounded in Crivitz after the tornado was spotted, but the storm had already struck the Wausaukee area.

Wisconsin Public Service Corp. said Monday its crews had restored power by mid-day to the remaining handful of customers who did not have power throughout the weekend.

Emergency officials now are surveying rural areas to gauge damage to area timber stocks and to determine where areas need to be cleared to reduce the risk of problems ranging from forest fires to insect infestations. Burmeister said that county-owned forest land seems to have escaped serious damage, but some privately owned lands were not so fortunate.

The storm's path took it near the county fairgrounds, but caused no injuries to people in the vicinity. The site is scheduled to host the county fair Thursday through Sunday.