

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
**Friday, Feb. 20, 2026**

**For additional information please contact:**  
Justin Baker, Deputy Director, Monroe County EMA  
Email: [justinbaker@co.monroe.in.us](mailto:justinbaker@co.monroe.in.us)  
Office Phone: (812) 349-2533

## **Monroe County Emergency Management Agency assesses damage from Feb. 19 storm and announces initial dumpster site for debris disposal**

**MONROE COUNTY, IN** – The Monroe County Emergency Management Agency is currently assessing damages following severe thunderstorms and a likely tornado in the evening hours of Feb. 19. [A survey team from the Indianapolis Office](#) of the National Weather Service met with county staff on Friday, Feb. 20 to assess storm characteristics and damage.

### **County staff observed the following initial damage in western Monroe County:**

- Several commercial buildings in western Bloomington and Monroe County near the 3<sup>rd</sup> St corridor were damaged, including a bank.
- A number of residential homes sustained damage to siding, shingles, and roofs.
- Hardest hit areas include Kirby Rd near the Monroe County Airport, the Fieldstone subdivision area, and Highland Village.

### **Indiana 211 accepting structural damage reports**

Monroe County and the Indiana Department of Homeland Security have activated Indiana 211 and residents are encouraged to submit reports documenting structural damage to their residences or businesses.

To submit a report, individuals can visit [in211.org](http://in211.org) and click “**DAMAGE REPORTING**” or visit [this link directly](#). Those without access to the internet can dial 2-1-1 or 866-211-9966.

### **Dumpsters available for debris disposal with more coming soon**

A set of dumpsters for debris disposal is now located at 5332 W Stonewood Dr. One dumpster will be for wood and vegetation, and the other will be for household debris. Residents are urged to adhere to signage indicating what materials are accepted in each dumpster.

These dumpsters are available now will accept debris for disposal for two weeks. They will be removed on Friday, March 6. Other dumpster locations are being finalized, and additional details will be announced soon via press release and on the county’s website.

### **General disaster recovery reminders**

1. Document damage with photos before moving or removing debris to help insurance processing and contact your insurance provider as soon as possible.
2. Stay at least 30 feet, or about the length of two-cars, from downed electric lines and always assume the line is live and a safety hazard. Report downed power lines to your local utility and call 911 in the event of an emergency.
3. Unless it's an emergency, avoid driving through or visiting impacted areas to allow emergency and recovery crews proper space to help residents.

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