



## Missouri Tornadoes March 17, 2025

### Office of the Governor

Governor Mike Kehoe  
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Press release on Governor's website posted on March 16.

*“**Jefferson City** — Today, Governor Mike Kehoe provided an update on Missouri's recovery efforts following the devastating tornadoes that struck on March 14, leaving widespread destruction across 27 counties. The storm has resulted in 12 confirmed fatalities, with one person still missing. Hundreds of homes, schools, and businesses have been either destroyed or severely damaged. At the height of the storm, more than 140,000 homes and businesses were without power, and 101 roads were closed due to debris, flooding, and structural damage. While significant progress has been made, approximately 47,000 customers remain without power as crews continue restoration efforts. The **State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA)** also had reports of over 130 wildland fires on Friday, some of which damaged homes and structures.*

*"The scale of devastation across our state is staggering," said **Governor Kehoe**. "While we grieve the lives of those lost, we are also focused on action—getting power restored, clearing debris, and ensuring our communities have the resources they need to recover. The strength and resilience of Missourians are already on display, and we will be with them every step of the way." Ahead of the storm on Friday, Governor Kehoe issued a State of Emergency declaration, which allowed first responders, road crews, and emergency management officials to move quickly. The Missouri's State Emergency Operations Plan remains in effect.*

- **Damage Assessments and Federal Support:** SEMA regional coordinators continue working swiftly with local emergency managers to make initial damage assessments in preparation for a federal major disaster declaration request. To expedite the process, SEMA has shifted additional regional coordinators into the most heavily impacted areas of the state. SEMA staff are coordinating resource requests from local emergency managers for needed supplies, materials, and support

services with sheltering, debris clearance, damage assessments, and other needs.

- **White House Coordination:** Governor Kehoe has been in direct contact with the **White House** and **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** officials, who have assured him they are closely monitoring the situation and are ready to assist as soon as Missouri request is submitted.

Governor Kehoe and state officials spent yesterday surveying some of the hardest-hit areas, including Wayne, Butler, and Jefferson counties. Wayne County alone saw six of the 12 reported fatalities, underscoring the storm's devastating impact.

All levels of government are fully engaged, and recovery efforts continue across the state.

- The **Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP)** and **Missouri Department of Transportation (MODOT)** crews have all been deployed to clear debris, reopen roadways, and ensure the safety of Missourians across all affected counties.
- Utility companies, including investor-owned, municipal, and cooperative providers, are working around the clock to restore power.
- Emergency shelters remain open in impacted areas, offering food, medical support, and temporary housing for displaced residents.

SEMA also continues to coordinate with volunteer and faith-based partners to identify needs and assist residents over the coming days and weeks. The American Red Cross of Missouri has opened shelters at the following locations for individuals and families that have been displaced or otherwise impacted:

- Franklin County: Moose Lodge | 905 Highway 50, Union, MO 63084
- Howell County: First United Methodist Church | 503 W Main St., West Plains, MO 65775
- Jefferson County: St. David's Catholic Church | 2334 Tenbrook Rd., Arnold, MO 63010
- Phelps County: First Baptist Church | 801 N Cedar St., Rolla, MO 65401
- Louis County: North County Rec Plex | 2577 Redman Avenue, St Louis MO 63136

Residents who have experienced damage to their homes, cars and property should contact their insurance company and document damage with photographs. Missourians with unmet needs are encouraged to contact **United Way** by dialing 2-1-1 or the **American Red Cross** at 1-800-733-2767.”

## **Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency**

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Missouri State Emergency Management Agency  
2302 Militia Drive  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
(573) 526-9100

[Missouri State Emergency Management Agency](#)

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## **American Red Cross**

Southern Missouri Chapter  
1545 N West Bypass  
Springfield, MO 65803  
(417) 832-9500

[Southern Missouri | Missouri | American Red Cross](#)

Serves Butler county.

Central and Northern Missouri  
1511 S. Providence Road  
Columbia, MO 65203  
(573) 635-1132

[Central Northern Missouri | Missouri | American Red Cross](#)

Serves Jefferson County.

Central and Northern Missouri - Jefferson City  
3230 Emerald Lane  
Jefferson City, MO 65109  
573-635-1132

[Jefferson City Office | Red Cross of Missouri](#)

Serves Jefferson County.

St Louis Area  
10195 Corporate Square Drive  
St Louis, MO 63132  
(314) 516-2800

[St. Louis Area | Missouri | American Red Cross](#)

Serves St Louis and Franklin counties.

Southeast Missouri & Northeast Arkansas  
2416 S Madison St  
Jonesboro, AR 72401  
(870) 932-3212

[Southeast Missouri & Northeast Arkansas | Arkansas | American Red Cross](#)

Serves Perry, Scott and Stoddard counties.

### **Open Shelters:**

Moose Lodge  
905 Highway 50  
Union, MO 63084

First United Methodist Church  
503 W Main St.  
West Plains, MO 65775  
St. David's Catholic Church  
2334 Tenbrook Rd.  
Arnold, MO 63010

First Baptist Church  
801 N Cedar St.  
Rolla, MO 65401

North County Recreation Complex  
2577 Redman Avenue  
St Louis, MO 63136

To view an updated open list of shelters, visit [Disaster Shelters | Find Shelters | American Red Cross](#).

## **Department of Transportation**

Missouri Department of Transportation  
105 W. Capitol Avenue  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
(866) 275-6636

[Home Page | Missouri Department of Transportation](#)  
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## **United Way/211 Information and Referrals Lines**

These information and referral lines may know of additional resources currently providing assistance, such as food pantries, clothing closets, emergency shelters, and agencies offering financial assistance. Please dial 2-1-1 and provide your zip code and demographic information in order to receive referrals. Information can also be obtained at [Call 211 for Essential Community Services | United Way 211](#).

Please visit the website or dial 211.  
Text messages may also be sent  
[United Way 211 - Heart of Missouri United Way](#)

## **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**

(800) 621-3362  
[FEMA.gov](#)

Please visit the website and click on “*Disaster Declarations*”. If a disaster is declared, please call to apply for assistance by phone, or visit: [Individual Assistance | FEMA.gov](#) to apply online.

## **DisasterAssistance.gov**

[Home | disasterassistance.gov](#)

Offers information about local resources for disasters, including: FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs), Red Cross, food, shelter, state emergency management agencies, and hospital locators.

To determine if individual disaster assistance is available through FEMA, please visit the website and enter the address.

To locate your local state emergency management agency for disaster information and updates, please visit: [Search Your Location | FEMA.gov](#)

## **American Red Cross National**

(800) 733-2767

[American Red Cross | Help Those Affected by Disasters](#)

## **National Weather Service**

Weather alerts by state are available at: [Active Alerts \(weather.gov\)](#).

## **The Weather Channel**

Local forecasts and severe weather. Please call or visit the website to locate your local chapter and open shelters.

[National and Local Weather Radar, Daily Forecast, Hurricane and information from The Weather Channel and weather.com.](#)

## **Safe Travel USA**

[SafeTravelUSA](#)

## **National Traffic And Road Closure Information**

[National Traffic and Road Closure Information | Federal Highway Administration \(dot.gov\)](#)

## **Free Help Line**

Optum, a leading health and behavioral health services company, is offering a free emotional-support help line.

The toll-free number, 866-447-3573, will be open Monday-Friday, 8am-8pm CST. The service is free of charge and open to anyone. Specially trained Optum mental health

specialists help people manage their stress and anxiety so they can continue to address their everyday needs. Callers may also receive referrals to community resources to help them with specific concerns, including financial and legal matters.

Along with the toll-free help line, emotional-support resources and information are available online at <https://www.liveandworkwell.com>.