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NEWS | LOCAL

# Taopi families lose homes in Tuesday night storm

Residents try to recover items from the wreckage caused by winds of more than 110 mph that blasted the region.



Sean Humphrey, 17, works on cleaning up the home he shares with his family in Taopi, Minnesota, on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, after it was destroyed during severe weather the night before. Joe Ahlquist / Post Bulletin

By Abby Sharpe  
April 13, 2022 09:16 AM

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TAOPI, Minn. — A group of about eight people remove clothes, furniture and serving bowls from a house along U.S. Highway 56 in Taopi following a tornado that hit on Tuesday night, April 12, 2022.

The house belongs to Lisa Boe. She isn't here, but her father, Bill, family and neighbors are all removing the items left unharmed.

Bill Boe lives outside of town but heard what he described as a locomotive late Tuesday night. Everyone inside Lisa's house is safe.



### LOCAL Southeast Minnesota communities hit hard by Tuesday night storm

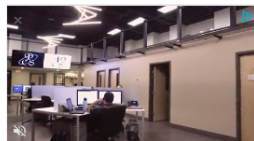
The National Weather Service in La Crosse confirmed an EF2 tornado hit Taopi, Minn.

April 15, 2022 02:57 PM • By Emily Cutts

"It's one of those miracles," Bill Boe said.

The roof and garage are gone. The walls on the left side of Lisa's house are, too. Though there is plenty of damage to be repaired, Boe isn't worried about that right now. It's happened to others before, he said.

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"We aren't the first ones, and we won't be the last," he said.

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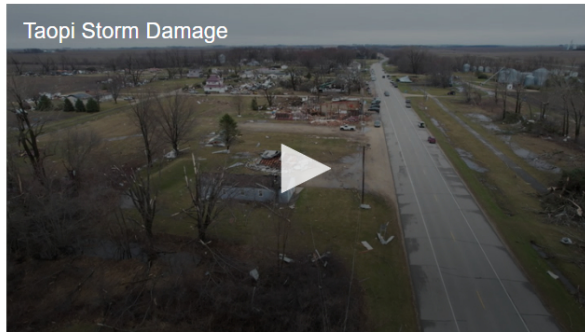
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Scott Hatle, who lives with Lisa Boe, said he was out in the garage late Tuesday night. The strength of the storm caused him to leave the garage and run into the basement. The garage blew over about a minute later.

The high winds damaged multiple houses in Taopi, as well as tore down trees and power lines. The same power lines that Bill Boe said were just redone a few weeks ago.

Preliminary storm damage results of the area from the National Weather Service in La Crosse indicate EF2 wind gusts in the area, meaning wind speeds of 111 to 135 mph.



Terry Voigt and his dog, Rip, felt the floor begin to shake and feared the windows of his home might blow in. Instead, he's facing a bigger problem after the roof came down during the storm. Voigt hit the floor because he doesn't have a basement. Voigt described the experience as "scary."

Meanwhile, the house at 101 Walnut Street has shattered windows and debris covering the yard. A skid steer has been moving tree limbs for over an hour, and two cars in the driveway have blown-out windows.

Down the street, the walls and siding on the east side of a two-story house are gone, exposing the rooms to the elements. The homeowner, who declined to give her name while she worked, said she and her boyfriend were in bed in the second floor bedroom. They had minutes to get up and hide in the stairwell before the storm damaged the home.

The Adams United Farmers State Bank has set up a fund to provide relief to Taopi residents. The bank is accepting mailed donations to this address:



Adams UFSB  
Taopi Relief Fund  
PO Box 354  
Adams, MN 55909



1/8: Sean Humphrey, 17, works on cleaning up the home he shares with his family Wednesday morning, April 13, 2022, after it was destroyed by a tornado the night before in Taopi, Minnesota. The National Weather Service confirmed an EF2 tornado touched down in Taopi.



LOCAL



### Photos: Tornado aftermath in Taopi, Minnesota

The National Weather Service confirmed an EF2 tornado touched down in Taopi.

April 13, 2022 12:45 PM · By Joe Ahlquist

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#### By Abby Sharpe

Abby Sharpe joined the Post Bulletin in February 2022 after graduating from Arizona State University with a sports journalism degree. While at ASU, she created short- and long-form stories for audio and digital. Readers can reach Abby at 507-285-7723 or [asharpe@postbulletin.com](mailto:asharpe@postbulletin.com).

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