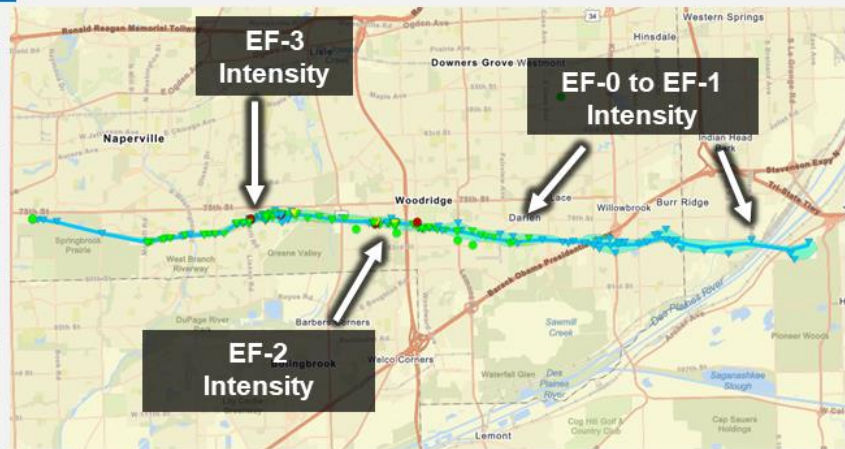


NAPERVILLE TORNADO RELIEF FUND Neighborhood Assistance Program Document



Naperville to Willow Springs	
Date	June 20, 2021
Time (Local)	11:02 – 11:25 PM
EF Rating	EF-3
Est. Peak Winds	140 MPH
Path Length	17.6 miles
Max Width	600 yards
Injuries/Deaths	11/0

Updated: 7/3/2021



According to the map from the National Weather Service, the tornado reached EF3 strength just east of Wehrli Road at 77th Street. Its maximum width was 1/3 of a mile. Debris from homes ripped apart in the neighborhoods hardest hit in our town was thrown 20,000 feet into the air. This was the strongest tornado to strike the Chicago 9-Metro counties since 2015 when an EF3 tornado hit Coal City, this close to Chicago since 1991 when an EF3 tornado hit from Romeoville to Lemont, and in DuPage County since 1976 when an EF4 hit Lemont to Burr Ridge.

The Naperville Tornado Relief Fund exists for the sole purpose of helping those homes and families in a defined geographical territory within Naperville, IL that were impacted by the EF3 tornado in the summer of 2021. This document outlines the overall approach and process by NPRF specifically for environmental yard clean up, landscape remediation, and landscape replacement for impacted homeowners.

Structure: The Naperville Tornado Relief Fund (NPRF) is working with Muthusami Paravel Foundation, a registered 501-c-3 non-profit as a partner entity. Go to www.napervilletornadorelief.com for all applications and program information.

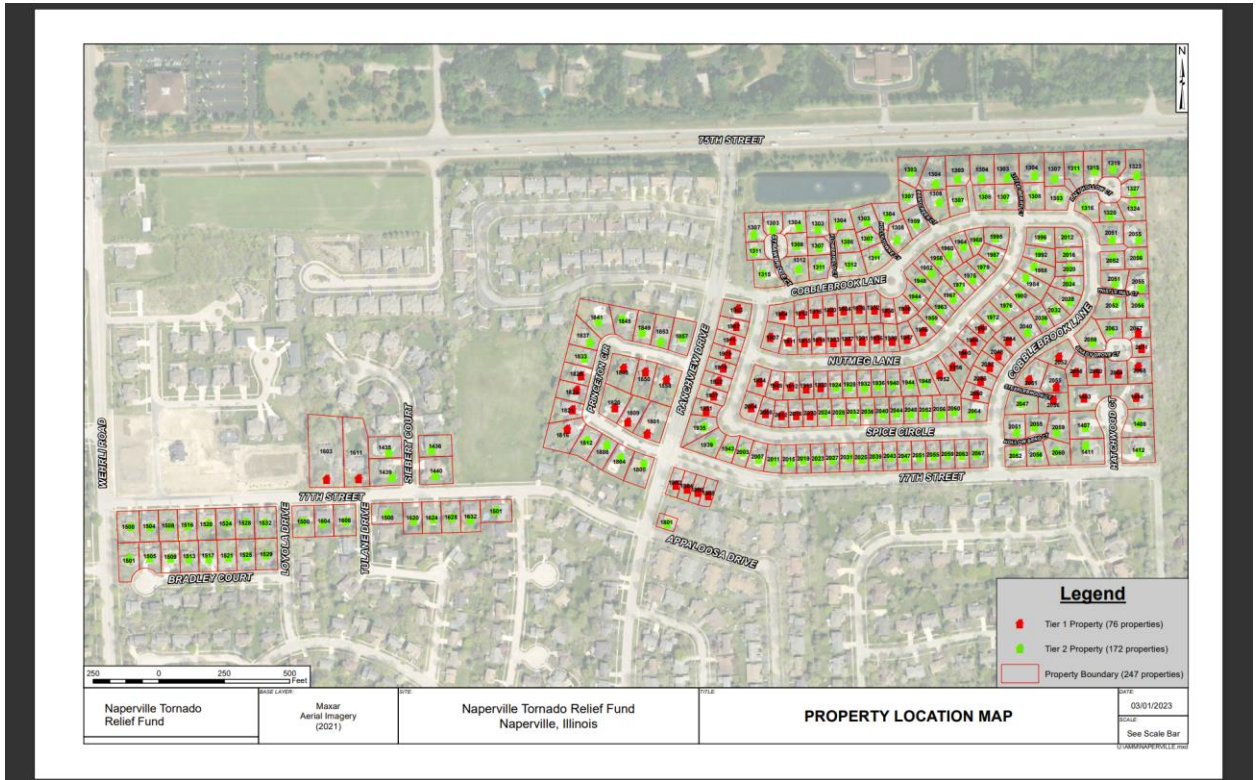
Members: The NPRF is managed by co-leaders Kristy Kennedy and Kelly Dougherty along with a working committee that includes Lisa Rue, Wesley Gosselink, and Gina

Reeder. Selvei Rajkumar with the M.P. Foundation is actively managing the program in tandem with Kristy and Kelly.

Eligible Homeowners: There are two classes of homes eligible for relief grants with priority given to Class A homes and then to Class B homes. See the map titled “Naperville Tornado Relief Fund” and dated “2/15/2023” which identifies the eligible homes. They are defined as follows:

Tier 1 (red): The homes identified as being the hardest hit and declared uninhabitable by the tax assessor’s office, and the homes immediately adjacent to them.

Tier 2 (green): Homes identified as being in the path of the tornado at that EF3 status, and within close proximity to the hardest hit area. Note that Tier 2 applicants require an inspection by Naperville Tornado Relief and possibly backup materials to show need to qualify for funding for Level 1 yard replacement and Level 2 landscape remediation.



(A full size copy of map has been sent as a separate pdf)

Funding Levels: In order to distribute the funds on a priority basis to those most impacted by the tornado, the following funding approach will be implemented. (Please see further into the document for scope.)

Level 1 Funding. The top priority of our initiative is yard replacement. Some yards have embedded glass and debris, making them unsafe. The replacement includes removing the turf and soil, disposing of it in accordance with local and state regulations, putting down clean soil, grading it so that the yard is put back as it was, and then putting down grass

seed and blanket. Parkway out to the street curb is eligible as well. Detailed scope is provided in the “NPRF Application Form” document. Funds will be prioritized to Tier 1 and then Tier 2 at this level.

Level 2 Funding. Should we have enough funding, the second priority is other landscape remediation such as clearing grass and debris from planting beds around homes (be aware that this work requires all plants to be removed), tree removal, stump grinding, and other remediation work. Funds will be prioritized to Tier 1 and then Tier 2 at this level.

Level 3 Funding. Should we have enough funding, the third priority is grants for replacement of trees, bushes, and perennial plants. Remaining funds will be prorated equally to Tier 1 and Tier 2 homes at this level.

All grants may be prorated depending on funds available and the number of applications received.

Scope of Work:

Level 1 Full or Partial Yard Replacement

Scope and Clarifications

1. Contractor shall provide an “existing condition” topographic survey of the yard area prior to work commencing and a “post project” topographic survey of the yard area. This is to ensure that yards are replaced to current elevations and do not change drainage conditions on or adjacent to the property. If applicant wishes to modify grades, then they will be responsible for design and permitting of grading plans through the City of Naperville as well the cost associated with the modified grading.
2. Removal of 4 inches of soil to be tested and disposed of in accordance with all government requirements and regulations.
3. Placement of 4 inches of clean, pulverized topsoil.
4. Placement of turf seed, erosion control, fertilizer, and blanket. New Seeding Rate: 3 to 5 pounds per 1,000 square feet with this or a comparable seed mix: 25 percent each of two of the following: Diva Kentucky Bluegrass, Rockstar Kentucky Bluegrass, Blue Chip Kentucky Bluegrass, Appalachian Kentucky Bluegrass, Gateway Kentucky Bluegrass, AND 25 percent each of two of the following: Accent II Kentucky Bluegrass, Top Gun II Kentucky Bluegrass, Panther H20 Kentucky Bluegrass, Pennant H20 Kentucky Bluegrass, Palmer III Kentucky Bluegrass.
5. Contractor shall J.U.L.I.E. for utility identification and conflict avoidance.
6. If partial yard is done, estimate should include restoration of other parts of yard damaged due to equipment.
7. Total area of yard replacement to be provided by homeowner.
8. NTRF has vetted two contractors qualified to do this work and who understand the requirements of the program, see “Naperville Tornado Relief Fund Program” document for contractor information. Should a homeowner choose a different contractor evidence of experience on similar projects is required.
9. All contracts must include a “no kickback guarantee,” proof of insurance, photos before/during/and after work is complete.

10. Additional documentation may be required subject to the requirements of the State of Illinois or other major funders of the program.

Grant funding limitations

This work is to remove existing turf and replace it with new soil and grass seed at existing grades. Any additional work, including but not limited to, upgrading to sod, 12 month guarantee for seed, addressing drainage issues, working under decks or other structures unless a person can walk under the deck/structure where the area is turf grass and usually mowed, planting beds, stump grinding, tree removal, sprinkler systems, fencing, cost of watering and maintenance, and any hardscape work is not addressed at this level of funding and is at the homeowners' cost.

Level 2 Landscape Remediation

Scope and Clarifications

1. Scope includes tree removal, stump grinding, fresh topsoil and grass seed for damaged areas, cleanout of planting beds with glass and/or other debris, removal of tornado debris.
2. Applicant to include contractor bids with clear scope description in accordance with this section.
3. All contracts must include a "no kickback guarantee", proof of insurance, photos before/during/and after work is complete.
4. Additional documentation may be required subject to the requirements of the State of Illinois or other major funders of the program.

Grant funding limitations

Grant funding will not cover any hardscape items like decks, patios, fences, pergolas, pools, ponds, sculptures, sprinkler systems, container gardens, creation of new gardens, or work done under decks unless the area is walkable, usable space. The cost of watering and maintenance is not included. Work of this nature can be done at the homeowner's cost and should be excluded from the amounts requested.

Level 3 Landscape Replacement

Scope and Clarifications

1. Scope includes tree replacement, shrub replacement, and perennial plants.
2. If landscape materials are purchased and installed by applicant, or someone other than a licensed contractor, receipts for all materials is required.
3. If applicant uses a contractor for this work, include contractor bids with clear scope description in accordance with this section.
4. All contracts must include a "no kickback guarantee," proof of insurance.
5. All work requires photos before/during/and after work is complete.
6. Additional documentation may be required subject to the requirements of the State of Illinois or other major funders of the program.

Grant funding limitations

Grant funding will not cover any hardscape items like decks, patios, fences, pergolas, pools, ponds, sculptures, sprinkler systems, container gardens, creation of new gardens, or work done under decks unless the area is walkable. Watering and maintenance costs are not included. If applicant chooses to self-perform work for this level, grant funding will not cover tools, clothing, insurance, or any other aspects of completing the work beyond organic landscaping materials. Work of this nature can be done at the homeowner's cost and excluded from the request.

Schedule & Process: Due to the seasonal nature of the work, the program is planned to be completed by the end of November 2023. The key dates and activities are:

- Homeowner information meeting – **March 21, 2023 7pm** at Ranchview School
 - Following meeting homeowners define their scope and obtains bids from contractors.
- Grant Application w/contractor bid documentation due **May 26, 2023**
 - Upon receipt the NTRF will review applications, allocate available funds based on the priorities outlined herein.
- Notification of grant breakdown and award amounts to homeowners – **June 16, 2023**
- Homeowners/Contractors complete the work – **June 16, 2023 through November 3, 2023.**
- Homeowners submit “NTRF Project Completion Form” to committee to request fund distribution. Completed forms that meet all requirements and are received by the last day of each month from July through October will be processed by the 15th of the following month.
- Final Project Completion Forms to be reviewed and processed by **November 24, 2023**. No late requests will be accepted due to the proration of all funding.

All Dates are subject to change based on the timing of receipt of the \$1 million grant from the State of Illinois. (Thanks to our State Representative Anne Stava-Murray for her support and hard work!) If we have not received funds by the June 16th date of notification to homeowners, all dates will change.

Funds will be issued in the form of a check written to both the homeowner and contractor for priority levels 1-2, once all required documentation including proof of completion is filed and reviewed. Funds for priority level 3 may be checks written directly to the homeowner based on receipts provided. Funding may be prorated, based on the number of applications received and funding available.

Pre-Qualified Contractors:

Naperville Tornado Relief has vetted two contractors and determined them to be qualified to do this work. For transparency, it is noted that these contractors assisted the committee in understanding overall scope and budgets for the planned work with no commitment of work for any homeowners. It is the responsibility of the homeowner to solicit bids from qualified contractors and ultimately to enter a contract for the scope of work to be performed. The homeowners have the final choice in what contractor they use and will oversee all work.

The contact information for the pre-qualified contractors:

Balanced Environments

www.balancedenvironmentsinc.com

Plainfield Branch
12006 Spaulding School Rd., Unit 102A.
Plainfield, IL 60585
Phone: (815) 733-5342
Contact: Judy Short, Senior Account Manager
815-733-5342 (Office), 224-430-1233 (Mobile)

Hively Landscaping
www.hivelylandscaping.com
1905 Marketview Drive
Suite 121
Yorkville IL, 60560
p: 630-423-7474
Contact: Matt Hively, owner
Cell: (630) 675-4511

Should a homeowner choose a different contractor they will be required to meet the scope requirements of the grant award. Due to the hazardous materials being removed from the landscape, we cannot accept any bid/estimates from homeowners/friends/families intending to do the work themselves. Contractors must have insurance and appropriate licensing.

Frequently Asked Questions:

What do homeowners need to do to participate?

- Educate themselves on the process. The committee is here to help!
- Obtain bids and estimates of work from qualified contractors. Choose a contractor.
- Complete the “NTRF Grant Application Form” and provide all required information.
- Hire the contractor and complete the work by the deadline.
- Submit the “NTRF completed project form” and all final documentation.

What is NOT included in the program?

- Modifications such as increased depth of soil removal, sod replacement instead of seed and blanket, etc.
- Hardscape and nonorganic items like decks, patios, fountains, pots, container gardens, decorative ponds, pools, pergolas, fences, and other structures. Any landscaping or gardening tools, sprinkler system installation or repairs, or the creation of new planting beds or gardens.
- Work done to address existing drainage issues. Any work to improve pre-existing drainage issues will require separate design and permitting not supported by this grant program and would be done at the cost of the homeowner.
- Costs associated with watering the newly planted grass or landscape.

What if I want to upgrade to sod or have other work done that isn't included in the grant program? Homeowners can have additional work done at their own expense. Only items within

the scope of the grant program will receive funding and supporting documentation will be required.

What if I want to use my own contractor? The pre-qualified contractors are just recommendations for those that do not have a landscaper and need someone who has been vetted. Homeowner has full choice over who they hire. Naperville Tornado Relief does not warranty any work completed. We require all contractors to complete the scope of work within our grant guidelines and provide us the necessary supports/paperwork with the grant request.

If neighbors use the same contractor, will that save on costs? We encourage you to talk about this with your neighbors and to use the same contractor if you can. This may provide additional savings, it may limit disruption on your street for the work that is needed and may help us stretch the grant money to the maximum number of homeowners eligible. Our mission is to help our neighborhood recover and any savings we can achieve will allow us to assist more homeowners.

Does the contractor need permits/inspection from the City of Naperville to do this work? Does the contractor need permission to do this work in the parkway? Because the yard is being replaced back to original grades, no permit is required. No permit is required to perform the outlined scope of work in the parkway. If you choose to do additional alterations outside the scope of your grant, you should check with the city to see if a permit is necessary.

Estimated funding per project/yard AND Quantity of available grants/estimated funding per project/yard:

We have vetted two contractors, who worked with us on a budgeting exercise for yard replacement per our scope. (See the scope of work section for that information.) Based on that exercise, we estimate it will cost between \$25,000 to \$29,000 to replace a full yard in this area. (One neighborhood has larger lots than the other.)

With \$1 million, we can replace between 35 and 40 full yards based on that exercise.

We anticipate that not everyone will want yard replacement and that some homeowners will want partial yard replacement. We won't have this information until homeowners join the program and submit estimates.

Level 2 of the program only will be funded should we have money left after Level 1 approved applications are funded. And Level 3 only will be funded if we have money left after approved applications from Levels 1 and 2 are funded. In both cases, homeowners must supply bids/estimates, receipts, and other supporting documents with their applications.

Status and process of securing the \$1 million in state funds:

On January 10, the General Assembly approved a \$1 million grant for the M.P. Foundation to fund our initiative. The grant will be issued by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

We do not know when the funds will be disbursed to us, but our initiative will be ready to go when we receive the funding.

Other City of Naperville Questions:

Additionally, City Council members have asked if Naperville Tornado Relief considered a resident cost share for the program?

As recipients of the grants are victims of a natural disaster, we are not requiring a “cost share.” That said, recipients will have maintenance costs, and possibly costs outside the scope of what we can offer. Grant funds may be prorated depending on the number of applicants and funding we have available.

How much funding has Naperville Tornado Relief raised?

\$1 million from the State of Illinois and about \$25,000 in private funds. We are continuing to fundraise.