



PRESS RELEASE



For Immediate Release
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TORNADO RELIEF FUND NOW HELPING CITIZENS WITH ELECTRICAL NEEDS

SENECA, S.C. (Friday, April 24, 2020) – A tornado relief fund established by the City of Seneca last week is available to help those who need immediate assistance in restoring electrical service to their homes.

City and County officials feel the first step in recovery for most homeowners is the restoration of power. Even though power may have been repaired by the serving utility company, severe damage to the electrical service on the homeowner's own property may hamper the final connection of power. Work of this nature is the responsibility of the homeowner, but in times of catastrophic damage to a home, money may not be available to complete this final step.

City and County officials are currently responding quickly to calls for assistance and are scheduling on-site assessments to determine immediate needs. Local electrical firms under official contract are being used to help with the work.

If you are a citizen whose property has sustained serious damage to its electrical service and need assistance with establishing meter-box services on the outside of the house, and have not been able to connect power, or are unable to pay for those services, please call:

Seneca City offices at (864) 885-2700 or (864) 885-2721.

Monies donated to the City of Seneca Tornado Relief Fund will also be allocated to assist citizens with repair of roofs and the removal of those trees that were sheared off by the tornado but are still standing. As recovery efforts continue, other citizen needs and requests will be assessed and evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

If you would like to donate to the City of Seneca Tornado Relief Fund, you may do so by dropping off a check (NO CASH) at the drive-through windows at Seneca City Hall, by mailing a check to the City of Seneca Tornado Relief Fund at Post Office Box 4773, Seneca, SC 29677, or you may drop off a check at any drive-through window at Oconee Federal Savings & Loan. Please make all checks payable to: **City of Seneca Tornado Relief Fund**. Unfortunately, donations by credit cards or direct-fund transfer cannot be accepted.

On April 13, 2020, an EF-3 tornado touched down in Oconee County around 3:20 a.m. The tornado reached up to 160 mph and traveled approximately eight miles within Oconee County. Significant damage has been reported in the Seneca and Utica areas.

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