
**Confirmed Tornado
Arthur to Orillia, Ontario
April 20th, 1996**

Date- Local: Saturday, April 20th, 1996

UTC: Saturday, April 20th, 1996

Time- Local: 1950

UTC: 2350

Location: Orillia (spotted between Hawkestone and Orillia and dissipated E of Orillia)

Region: Barrie-Orillia-Midland

Classification: Probable Tornado

Category: H

Casualties:

Track Length:

Width:

Motion:

Damage Estimate:

F-Scale Rating: F0

Code: NI

Damage Survey: None

Spotter Reports: Witnesses saw tornado over land and over Lake Simcoe

Other Documents: May be photo of funnel cloud

CHRONOLOGY OF SEVERE WEATHER EVENT - SAT APRIL 20, 1996

- 5 AM FPCN13 indicates development of afternoon thunderstorms "heavy at times" over much of southcentral Ontario
- 11 AM FP13 update indicates thunderstorms developing by late afternoon with the statement "some storms may contain strong winds and hail"
- 11 am FX indicates "mdt risk of svr tstms" ovr srn and cntrl ontario by 00z with the potential of tornadoes mainly around Georgian Bay regions. main threat with aftn and eve tstms to be damaging winds and hail across Southcentral Ontario
- 2.30 pm : Severe Thunderstorm Watch issued for areas southwest of a line from Wiarton to Simcoe indicating that conditions are favourable for the development of severe weather through the afternoon into the evening mainly in the form of damaging winds and hail.
- 3.30 pm : Severe Thunderstorm Warning issued for Northern Huron, Southern Bruce, and Grey county for severe cells moving inland from Lake Huron. Main threat: damaging winds in excess of 100 km/h and 2-4cm hail. In effect until 6 pm.
- 4.20 pm : Severe Thunderstorm Warning extended to northern Bruce for severe cells moving inland from Lake Huron. Main threat: damaging winds in excess of 100 km/h and 2-4cm hail. In effect until 6:30 pm.
- 6:00 pm : Tornado touches down near Williamsford in Grey County and tracks northeast through Walters Falls before lifting south of Meaford. By the time we got first reports of this storm..it was in lifting stage. Officially this storm was a miss.
- 6:05 pm : Severe Thunderstorm Warning issued for Northern Wellington and Dufferin counties. Severe Thunderstorm near Listowel moving northeast at 80 km/h to affect areas between Mount Forest and Fergus by 6.15 pm and Orangeville by 7 pm. Damaging winds in excess of 100 km/h and hail 2-4 cm possible.
- 6:31 pm : Severe Thunderstorm Watch extended to Parry Sound-Muskoka.
- 6:42 pm : Tornado Warning issued for Northern Wellington and Dufferin counties. Tornado reported at Arthur with damage (report received around 6.35-6:40 pm) Tornado moving northeast at 80 km/h to affect Grand Valley and Shelburne by 7 pm.
- 6.45 pm : Tornado moves north of Grand Valley causing damage.
- 6.56 pm : Tornado warning issued for Simcoe county. Tornado near Shelburne moving northeast at 80 km/h to affect Angus by 7.10 pm and Barrie by 7.15 pm.
- 7-7:05 pm : Tornado moves through vicinity of Shelburne causing extensive damage.
- 7:08 pm : Tornado lifts between CFB Borden and Alliston.
- 7:12 pm : Debris in air at Angus.
- 7:30-7:40 pm : Numerous reports of hail in Barrie.
- 7:50 pm : Tornado briefly touches down again between Hawkestone and Orillia.
- 8 pm : Tornado dissipates E of Orillia
- 8:15 pm: Secondary band produces funnel clouds at Orillia.
- 8:15 pm : Severe Thunderstorm Watch ended for all regions except Barrie-Huron and Parry Sound-Muskoka.
- 9.25 pm : Severe Thunderstorm Watch ended for YQA/WCU.

- news clipping also has witnesses seeing tornado over L. Simcoe from
Orillia
Apr 20 76. TVR
(check other Apr 20 files)