



Deer Park Community Advisory Council

Monday, February 27, 2023

Severe Weather and Tornadoes on January 24, 2023

Deer Park experienced severe weather and at least one tornado on January 24th. Deer Park Office of Emergency Management Director Jamie Galloway discussed the city's response to the severe weather. Deer Park proactively used sirens originally intended for a shelter-in-place during a possible chemical emergency to alert citizens to go inside due to the weather emergency. A tornado was reported at the library at 2:31 p.m. At 2:33 p.m., the police department launched a citywide Code Red call alerting citizens to the tornado danger. At 2:49 p.m., a tornado struck Deer Park. The NWS classified this tornado as an EF-3 with a trail of damage 18 miles long and up to 1,000 yards wide in some places. Deer Park had no reports of major physical injuries or deaths due to the tornado, partly due to the excellent job of communication to the community, partly due to people heeding the warnings, and partly due to the grace of God.

Rick Deel, Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management Operations Section Chief, shared information about the emergency response from Harris County. The county activated the EOC at Houston TranStar. Various police departments reported information through TranStar and SETRAC ran the critical medical operations center.

DPCAC's March 27 meeting will feature Carbon Capture: 101. Visitors are welcome! For an invitation, contact info@deerparkcac.org.

Read about DPCAC meetings and see summaries of our most recent presentations at www.deerparkcac.org.