

Wind Event with Significant Potential to Effect Rowan County

posted by Frank Thomason on Wednesday, April 27, 2011 12:00 AM

A potential high wind event is now probable for Rowan County and the region later this evening and into tomorrow morning.

The storm front, which is currently moving out of the southwest will move into the NC mountains by midnight and quickly move eastward into the I-77 corridor in the early morning hours of Thursday.

Ahead of this front, isolated "super cell" thunderstorms may occur sporadically, with possible high wind gusts and hail. These will continue off and on throughout the evening as the front moves closer

The primary focus is a squall line, much similar to the wind event of two weeks ago, that has the potential to cause widespread damage from both straight line winds and the possible generation of tornados with short lived winds in the EF0 to EF1 tornado classification. History of this storm thus far has caused major damage in other states along with injuries and fatalities.

For Rowan County, an uptick in storm development should occur in the mid to late evening hours tonight and continue through the nighttime hours and into tomorrow morning. The storm system is expected to be east of the area by mid to late morning Thursday. National Weather Service officials are extremely concerned with the strength possibility of this storm and it's related thunderstorm cells, with potential for damage and injury.

Significant rainfall to cause potential flash flooding is NOT expected with total rainfall amounts from this event forecast around one-half inch.

Citizens & businesses are encouraged to monitor updated weather conditions throughout the evening via local media or a weather alert radio, and review emergency action plans.

Public safety agencies should review and be prepared to initiate your storm response procedures in preparation for this event. The Rowan County Emergency Operations Center's activation level will move to Level 3: Set Up and On Standby for Activation by 5:00 pm today.