



Funnel clouds formed Monday afternoon nine miles west of Norton. The storm system produced several tornadoes with the first spotted

by law enforcement crossing U.S. 283 north of Hill City at 12:57 p.m. (Mountain Time) on Monday. Goodland escaped the storms but did

get at least an inch of rain.

Photo by Dana Paxton  
Norton Telegram

# Large storm system hung over area Monday

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A large storm system hung over northwest Kansas on Monday, bringing high winds, flooding, hail and damaging tornadoes.

Several smaller storms moved through in the morning before the larger system settled over the area in the afternoon. The earliest hit southern Thomas County with wind, rain

and hail at 7 a.m. Another passed north of Colby at 10 a.m.

The largest storm of the day moved in from Colorado in the morning, passing over Garden City before moving north. Radar images showed the storm centering on Thomas County and rotating around northwest Kansas, southwest Nebraska and eastern Colorado in the afternoon.

A piece of the storm broke off and

moved northeast over Gove, Graham, Sheridan and Norton Counties before heading into Nebraska. That storm produced several tornadoes. The first was reported three miles west of Quinter at 12:55 p.m. Spotters reported hail up to baseball size as the storm moved north.

Two tornadoes were spotted by law enforcement crossing U.S. 283 north of Hill City at 1:57 p.m. A spotter reported another pair of

tornadoes near Alma at 2:39 p.m. These tornadoes destroyed or damaged several homes and farm equipment from Alma to Long Island in northern Norton County.

The main storm dropped heavy rain over much of northwest Kansas. The Kansas State University Research and Extension Center recorded 1.41 inches of rain Monday.

Numerous flash floods were

reported. In Sharon Springs and Wallace County, law enforcement reported numerous roads washed out. Water was over U.S. 27 in three places. Spotters reported flooded streets in Hoxie.

The main storm also spawned several more tornadoes. One was reported five miles south of Selden in Sheridan County. Norton County Sheriff Deputies reported two tornadoes near Norcatur.

Heavy rains and flash floods were also reported in southern Nebraska.

Scattered crop damage has been reported in southern Thomas County, but no widespread damage areas like the hail storms of the past two years.

## Special speed enforcement planned

Law enforcement officers in Kansas and Missouri are joining forces later this month for a special, one-day enhanced enforcement period to make Interstate 70 safer for all, Kansas Department of Transportation officials said.

"Interstate 70 is one of the busiest interstates in the nation, especially when families take to the road on vacation," said Deb Miller, Kansas Secretary of Transportation. "The Kansas Highway Patrol and county and local law enforcement agencies all along I-70 are taking part in this special effort."

"Kansas troopers, other officers

across the state, and the Kansas Department of Transportation all work every day in an effort to secure safety for all of Kansas' travelers," said Colonel Ernest E. Garcia, Superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol. "This special enforcement enhances our traffic safety mission, and our goal is to reduce deaths and injuries. With I-70 serving as a thoroughfare across the U.S., it's important we work diligently to keep the highway both safe and crime-free."

Kansas troopers, county sheriffs' deputies and local police officers will be on the lookout for drivers

and passengers not wearing seat belts, impaired driving, distracted driving, excessive speed, and aggressive driving during a one-day, 24-hour enforcement period near the end of the month in advance of the busy Independence Day travel weekend, Miller said. Additional details will be released by KDOT's Traffic Safety Section via its Twitter feed, @DriveSafeKansas.

Interstate 70, sometimes called the Main Street of America, carries anywhere from 7,600 vehicles a day near the western border to more than 72,000 in the Kansas City area, according to state travel statistics.

In 2009, the latest year for which figures are available, nearly 2,000 crashes occurred on Interstate 70 in Kansas, resulting in 20 fatalities and 579 injuries.

Pete Bodyk, KDOT's Traffic Safety manager, said the initiative is part of the department's Vision Zero goal to eliminate traffic fatalities.

"Kansas invests millions annually in roadway safety infrastructure and improvements," Bodyk said. "Special enforcement helps ensure motorists do their part to make roads in the Sunflower State safer for everyone."

## corrections

The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

## Hay Harvesting bids

Sherman County is currently accepting bids for Hay Harvesting on Highway Right of Way, on Highway 24. Anyone interested may contact Sherman County Road and Bridge Department at 785-890-4865. The application permits and guidelines may be picked up at the Road and Bridge office at 1004 W 8th. There is no minimum bid.

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**Saturday, July 2, 2011**

**The Sherman County Historical Society would like you to come help us celebrate and remember historical events!**

**AT 1 p.m.:** Sherman Theatre will be showing a video of the floods of 1935 in NW Kansas and SW Nebraska.

**AT 2 p.m.:** Ice Cream/Cake Social at the Ennis-Handy House. It's the 10th anniversary of the Sherman County Historical Society owning the house!

**AT 3 p.m.:** Visit the High Plains Museum and the District 51 Union School House

**Come out for a great day of fun!**

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**SHOP:** Mac tool box; Craftsman 14.4 drill; Floor jacks; Socket sets; Air ratchet; Craftsman chain saw  
Air bubble; Bench grinder; 20' Extension ladder; Small Stanley tool box; Hand tools; Craftsman lawn edger; Rockwell table saw

For more information contact Terry Richardson, Homestead Realty & Auction, 1023 Main, Goodland, KS. 785-899-2328 or 899-8094. Pictures on www.goodlandhomestead.com.

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