

3 Seasonal Prep Tips to Help Homeowners Weather Summer Storms



StatePoint Photo

(StatePoint) From unexpected downpours to damaging winds, homeowners should be prepared for emergency repairs when storms appear this summer.

A recent nationwide survey of 1,000 homeowners by T-Rex Tape, a leading maker of premium repair tapes, revealed that 100% of respondents have experienced damage requiring immediate attention following extreme weather events, with summer leading as the season with the most extreme weather events (37%).

Although nearly two-thirds of them (64%) report they're not fully prepared to make emergency fixes, all still attempted a DIY repair when it was needed. With the right tools and knowledge, quick action can help minimize damage and buy valuable time before professional repairs are possible.

To help homeowners manage emergency storm cleanup and repairs, Kerry Haugh, director of product marketing for T-Rex Brand, shares some proactive strategies:

Take Preventative Precautions

According to the survey, high winds (49%) topped the list of weather-related culprits, followed by falling limbs and roof damage (42%), clogged gutters (32%),

and structural issues from debris (28%). Water leaks also frequently occur inside the home and affect a sizable number of homeowners (30%).

Haugh suggests that preventative maintenance is one of the most effective ways to reduce emergency damage. "Homeowners should regularly check roofs and siding for any signs of wear and ensure sump pumps and other plumbing fixtures are working and free of clogs," she explains. "It's also important to clean out gutters to ensure water flow and prevent backup that can cause problems."

Fill Your Toolbox

In urgent situations, some homeowners reported resorting to improvised, unreliable solutions like towels (39%), clothing (18%) or even newspapers (15%) to plug leaks. It's crucial to keep essential emergency repair supplies on hand in one easily accessible location. A standard toolkit should include useful items, such as hammers, nails, tarps, sealant and strong waterproof repair tape specifically designed to hold up under tough conditions.

"Extreme weather is inevitable, and having the right tools on hand can help safeguard the home," Haugh says. "While many households have traditional duct tape, waterproof and re-

pair tape, such as T-Rex Waterproof and Repair Tape, is ideal for durable, post-storm repairs since it's specifically designed to adhere to wet or uneven surfaces until permanent repairs can be made."

Formulated with Flex-to-Fit Technology, which uses a highly conformable UV acrylic adhesive that is repositionable, T-Rex Waterproof and Repair Tape instantly seals out water, air and moisture -- even under water. Plus, it stands up in temperatures ranging from -40 degrees F to 240 degrees F, providing all weather durability.

Make Quick, Post-Storm Repairs

Once it's safe to go outside, homeowners should assess any risks and utilize items in their toolkit to help prevent damage in and outside the home, looking for any interior or exterior issues or leaks that could cause damage if not addressed. Haugh suggests using those key toolbox items as an effective temporary solution.

"Most individuals expect a temporary repair to last a few hours to a few days, but more than 65% of homeowners were surprised by the strength and durability of products like waterproof tape when addressing storm-related leaks," she states. "We've learned waterproof and repair tape should be included among other DIY repair staples, like a hammer and nails."

For more information about T-Rex Tape, visit <https://www.trextape.com/why-t-rex>.

With the right tools in your toolbox, homeowners can stay prepared to weather winds, rain and other extreme conditions this summer.

There haven't been any specific reports of users' personal content being accessed by hackers, however, security experts insist that similar vulnerabilities are targeted and misused quickly once they become more well-known.

"Many people assume iPhones are immune to serious threats, but no device is immune to a vulnerability like this," Safe Data Storage said via the Mirror. "If someone sends you a seemingly innocent image and your phone hasn't been updated, it could silently wreak havoc or grant intruders access to your private files."

Monona County Board Of Supervisors Meeting May 20, 2025

The Monona County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, in the boardroom of the courthouse in Onawa, with Chairman Fox presiding. Other Supervisors present were Tom Brouillette and Vince Phillips. Also present was Deputy Auditor Sheri Streeter.

The Supervisors voted to approve the agenda.

Wray Wright and Sheriff Kevin Ewing were present for public comments. Wray brought up the signing of House File 639 regarding hazardous liquid pipelines and E911 Funding and possible costs to the county. Discussion followed; no action taken. Sheriff Ewing was present for a follow up on the IT position, no action taken.

Abby Riesberg, Treasurer, was present to discuss adding a camera in the Motor Vehicle window for security, fraudulent behavior, and to monitor the customers waiting in the hallway. Supervisor Fox stated that there are already cameras in the Courthouse for security. Discussion followed. The Supervisors voted to table adding an additional camera in the Motor Vehicle window.

Closing of the Driver's License from noon to 1 p.m. over the lunch hour was also discussed, no action taken. Wray Wright was also present.

Secondary Roads Engineer Charles Bechtold was present for Secondary Roads business.

Discussion items were Grant Levy for Level B Road on 265th St. Bridge damage from vehicle hitting it, Missouri River Floodplain's Levee System Grant. DOT meeting is coming up on Thursday, sign schooling, and Diamond Vogel will be coming on May 28th. No action taken

Amy Borchardt-Sick,

drainage clerk, was present for drainage business along with Caleb Rasmussen, Engineer with ISG, and Tim Hodgson, Little Sioux Drainage District Chairman. Landowners Rob Sweedler and David Krogh joined by a conference call.

Oliver Lake Lateral 1 was discussed to address the petition filed on March 3, 2020, by the City of Onawa for a clean-out from the outlet of the Onawa DD to the Monona Harrison.

Another petition was filed on May 11, 2023, by David Krogh for a reclassification of the Oliver Lake Lateral 1 DD. Engineer Rasmussen answered several questions about a spot cleanout versus a complete cleanout of Oliver Lake Lateral 1. He went over current plans, construction costs and reclassification. He will update plans and associated costs for a bottom dip of the whole ditch. He will also check with FEMA to see if the damaged culvert and flap gate could be added to the June 2024 FEMA Event #4796 at this time.

Oliver Lake Main Ditch was discussed to address the petition filed on May 13, 2024, by Hugo Mahloch for a spot cleanout to rid the ditch of slough offs and silt deposits. Plans, construction costs and reclassification were all discussed. Rasmussen was given directions to update plans by lowering wetland mitigation costs, take out the costs associated for replacing the 16 irrigation culverts, which are the expense of the private landowner. The landowner would like to replace these at no cost to the district and under Rasmussen's supervision. Rasmussen didn't feel annexation or reclassification would be beneficial at this time for Oliver Lake Main DD. He

is going to spot check the current classification of the Main and Lat 1.

Oliver Lake Lateral 2 and 3 were also discussed to address the petitions filed on March 17, 2025, by Brent Miller for a clean-out in Franklin Township between section 11 and 14 of Lateral 2 and section between 13 and 24 on Oliver Lake Lateral 3. It was discussed to keep these projects all separate, but to combine the construction into one project to save the district money if possible. No action taken.

Peggy Rolph, Auditor, was not present to open quotes for a new election trailer. The old election trailer was totaled by the hailstorm in June. The Supervisors voted to table opening trailer bids.

The Supervisors voted to approve the minutes of May 13, 2025, as read and claims submitted.

Supervisor Fox attended the Monona County Conservation Board Meeting and shared the information presented. Supervisor Fox also attended the Monona County Board of Health meeting and shared the information presented.

The Supervisors voted to approve General Ledger Journal Entry Approval for Secondary Roads to correct accounts.

The Supervisors to acknowledged the receipt of the Monona County Clerk of Court report of fees collected for April 2025 and the receipt of the Monona County Sheriff's report of (jail) fees collected for April 2025.

The Supervisors voted to table acknowledging receipt of resignation letter from Jim Wigton, IT Director and to table authorization to advertise for an IT Director.

The meeting adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

Data Experts Issue Warning For iPhone Users

The Mirror is reporting that data experts have issued a warning that iPhone "users need to act" and install the new iOS 18.5 update in order to prevent hackers from accessing their personal content.

Apple has acknowledged that its most recent software update corrects a crucial security gap allowing hackers to gain access to a user's photos, messages and app information. The company reportedly acted fast, but users must also take action, according to a representative from Safe Data Storage.

"Apple acted fast, but users need to act, too. Updating your device is

one of the most important things you can do to protect your private information," the representative said.

The iOS 18.5 update, which is compatible with iPhone XS models and later, addresses issues of vulnerability involving "processing a maliciously crafted image [that] may lead to unexpected app termination or corrupt process memory," Apple stated via the Mirror. The company said it resolved the issue by implementing "improved input sanitization" and urged users to install iOS 18.5 as it "includes important security fixes and is recommended for all users."

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