

## **Bad Weather Will Continue**

Greene County Daily World

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Using the storminess model, I made the following forecast in the 19 April 2010 issue of the Greene County Daily World: "It is very likely (82 percent probability) that next year, the year 2011, will be another extreme weather year. If the multi-decadal cycle remains in the strong hurricane phase, the year will likely produce a minimum of five major Atlantic hurricanes. But this strong hurricane phase began in 1995 and this cycle will be coming to an end soon. If this occurs in 2011, storminess rather than producing an extreme hurricane season; might materialize as a strong tornado season likely producing a minimum of 23 major U.S. tornados (Enhanced Fujita scale EF4-EF5)."

This year already produced 17 major U.S. tornados. I believe these extreme tornados will continue. It might be beneficial as a community for those who experienced tornados to forward their stories and lessons learned to the Greene County Daily World [Linton, Indiana], in preparation for this possible threat. I will lead.

On 3 June 2008, I returned from a short trip to Odon to discover that we were hit by a tornado. Our yard looked like a warzone. Approximately 50 large trees were either uprooted or twisted and broken in two like twigs. I walked up to where the house was and it was still there and undamaged. But around the house in every direction there were downed trees. The driveway was blocked by almost half a dozen. I felt that if I could clear my driveway, I could bring some semblance of order back into my life. I took my chainsaw and began clearing a path through the driveway.

We had no electricity. It might take two weeks before power was restored. The power lines were on the ground twisted in the debris. The power company would be spread thin during the next few days. If we could clear the downed trees from beneath where the power lines use to be, we could make this process happen sooner. That is what we did and the utility crews restrung the lines within two days.

When electricity was restored to the house, it was very intermittent, perhaps two hours per day. We planned for this. When the power came on at 2 o'clock in the morning, we jumped out of bed, washed mounds of clothes, cooked a hot meal, took hot baths and anything else we could pack into that short time window.



Photograph of my driveway after the tornado struck.