

Sumter Regional Hospital Americus, Georgia

March 1, 2007
Tornado

March 1, 2007– @9:25 p.m.

- Same storm system that struck Enterprise, Alabama earlier in the day.
- Sumter Regional Hospital, a 143 bed acute care facility serving a 10 county region in Georgia, was struck by an EF-3 tornado.

March 1, 2007– @9:25 p.m.

- Only the hospital chapel escaped damage.
 - “Finding the Silver Lining Under a Cloud of Destruction”, Fauve Holihan, [Cherokee Ledger-News](#)

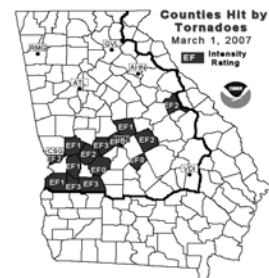
March 1, 2007

- Downtown Americus destroyed
- 2 fatalities in the city
- 210 homes destroyed
- 400 businesses affected
- Over \$210 million in damage

Power Outages

- Power out for majority of city ranging from hours to days.
- Safety concerns prompted turning off power in many locations.
- Very dark in the hospital; evacuation difficult.

Track of Storm System Through Georgia



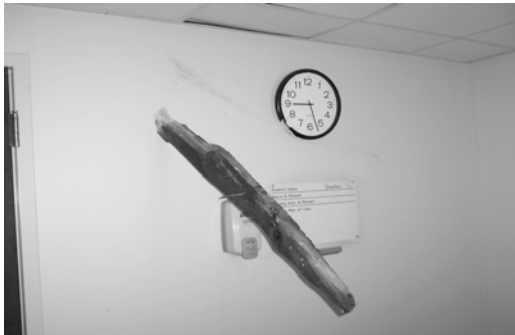
CNN Reports: Hospital is Gone, Just Gone



Sumter Regional Hospital



Photo Courtesy of Georgia Emergency Management Agency



Responding Agencies

Photo Courtesy Georgia Emergency Management Agency



Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA)

- GEMA provided a liaison to the hospital:
 - GEMA Field Coordinator on scene within one hour.
 - Sumter County EMA and GEMA provided resources to first responders.

Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA)

- GEMA provided a liaison to the hospital:
 - Updates from State and Federal agencies
 - Updates to agencies on hospital recovery efforts
 - GEMA on scene with full staffing for over 7 weeks after initial response

Sumter Regional Response

- All patients safely evacuated after tornado struck.
- Temporary urgent care facility constructed nearby within days.
- Triage and basic medical care set up in make-shift tents in parking lot of outpatient diagnostic center.
 - Stabilize and transport
 - No overnight stays; no surgery

Sumter Regional Response

- Triage and basic medical care set up in make-shift tents in parking lot of outpatient diagnostic center.
 - “When and How? Sumter Regional Hospital’s Recovery Process Unclear”, Beth Alston, [Americus Times-Recorder](#); and, Georgia Emergency Management Agency

Continuing to Serve

- Though completely destroyed, Sumter boarded up windows and cleaned debris.
- Urgent care set up across street from hospital location in a series of tents.
- Seeing 100 patients per day.
 - “One Month Anniversary of Americus Tornadoes, Alicia Eakin, WALB News

Temporary Medical Facilities



Off Site Hospital Business

- Education Department working out of Habitat for Humanity International.
- Materials Management, Medical Staff Services and Medical Records in warehouse space with offices up front.
- IT Services at South Georgia Technical College.

• "When and How? Sumter Regional Hospital's Recovery Process Unclear", Beth Alston, [Americus Times-Recorder](#)

Off Site Hospital Business

- 22 different locations where people are working.
- Marketing and PR in two locations.
- A second warehouse for storage, physicians services, business office.
- Human Resources in a trailer facility next to hospital campus.

• "When and How? Sumter Regional Hospital's Recovery Process Unclear", Beth Alston, [Americus Times-Recorder](#)

One Year Plus

- April 2008 – Sumter Regional “East” an interim modular facility opens to serve patients.
 - “Sumter Regional Hospital Takes Big Step in Recovery”, Jennifer, Emert, WALB News
- “East” has 76 beds (demolished former facility of 143 beds)

One Year Plus

- Commemorative bricks from demolished hospital sold to raise funds for the permanent facility scheduled to open 2010.
- Permanent facility anticipated to be ready for occupancy 2010.

Ribbon Cutting at “Sumter Regional East”



Photos Courtesy of Georgia Emergency Management Agency



Sumter East Services

Courtesy Georgia Emergency Management Agency

- Pediatrics
- OB/Labor Delivery
- Outpatient Surgery
- Cardiopulmonary
- Chaplain
- Pharmacy
- 76 inpatient beds (formerly 143 beds)
- Rehab
- Coronary Care
- ER
- Radiology
- Physical Therapy
- Gift Shop

Contacts

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