

Expanding our support after Michigan tornadoes

This spring, powerful tornadoes tore through southwest Michigan, devastating multiple communities. Essential services were disrupted, and residents were forced to seek shelter and support as they began the long and difficult path to recovery.

At Meijer, we believe helping each other is the foundation of strong, vibrant communities. That's why we joined local organizations, first responders, and community partners in the immediate aftermath to deliver essential supplies and support to our neighboring communities.

Immediate relief efforts

In Three Rivers, we provided two semi-trucks loaded with water, food, and cleaning supplies to the St. Joseph County United Way, which coordinates emergency management with county, state, and local officials. Volunteers continue to distribute supplies from a newly established command center at 143 Main Street, ensuring residents have access to the resources they need.

Additionally, we donated water to the Southwest Food Bank, supporting community distribution events in both Three Rivers and Union City. Our Three Rivers store supplied pet essentials to the American Red Cross shelter, responding to the needs of families arriving with pets. Our store in Battle Creek contributed over \$2,000 in food items to Union City High School, which is operating a shelter for affected residents. We continue to collaborate with the American Red Cross and Branch County United Way to assess and address ongoing needs.

Expanded support for the community

Our commitment extends beyond the initial response. Through the St. Joseph County United Way, we provided a second round of shelf stable food, reaching over 200 households. Our Three Rivers store also made a significant donation of hygiene supplies to the United Way, addressing ongoing health and sanitation needs. Recognizing the unique challenges faced by some residents, the store also supplied a small donation of camping supplies to the American Red Cross shelter in Three Rivers, offering extra support for homeless individuals.

In partnership with Branch County United Way, our Cold Water store donated rakes, hammers, and peanut butter and jelly, helping families with clean-up efforts and providing essential food items.

First responder support

When the Michigan State Police requested assistance, our Grand Ledge store responded by donating hand and toe warmers along with snacks to support first responders working on recovery operations in the affected areas.

Strengthening community partnerships

We remain committed to building strong partnerships with other organizations. We recently helped connect Chobani with South Michigan Food Bank to facilitate a truckload donation of shelf stable milk and ready-to-drink coffee. We are also working with Aunt Millie's to support a similar request. South Michigan Food Bank continues to host multiple community distribution events and is equipped to handle large-scale donations, ensuring resources reach those who need them most.

Ongoing commitment

Our team members are proud to step up in times of need, offering compassion, hope, and practical support to our neighbors. Every donation, every truckload, and every volunteer effort is a testament to our shared commitment: when disaster strikes, we stand together, ready to lend a hand and make a difference where it matters most. We will continue to assess needs and provide support as communities rebuild and recover.

<https://meijercommunity.com/2026-03-12-Expanding-our-support-after-Michigan-tornadoes>