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Clifton Boulevard was littered with tree branches knocked down by the high winds Friday.

Storms, high winds blast area, but major damage is avoided

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Friday night's storm wreaked havoc on sewers, trees and electrical lines in Cleveland's western suburbs, leaving many without power. Some cities, such as North Ridgeville and Westlake, reported little damage, while others were hit harder.

Winds uprooted three large trees in northeast Rocky River, knocking out power

lines that were not restored until Saturday afternoon.

"We had police down there immediately; and service department employees," said Mayor Pam Bobst. "The important part to us was opening the roadway so that safety services could get there."

The entire city lost power again Sunday night, due to problems with a transformer at the Dawson substation.

The city called in extra service crews to deal with downed branches. Additional police officers went to work clearing the streets. Roads became partially flooded due to sewer drains being clogged with leaves and branches. According to Bobst, they were clear by Saturday morning.

"The sewer restrictors did clog, but thankfully, that water is not in people's basements," she said.

Residents did not report any severe structural damage, but Bobst said the storm brought up concerns about the City Hall generator.

"This was another reminder that we need to address the generator," she said. "It has some age and it's not powerful enough to power what we need. Our safety needs are met, but beyond that, we don't have the power we would need for an extended power outage."

The generator in use now can power the police station and several functions in the fire department, but cannot power other functions.

Cities farther south were lucky enough to avoid damage from high winds, hail and rain.

"We didn't get hit hard," reported North Ridgeville Mayor Dave Gillock.

Westlake Service Department spokesman Chris Stuhm said there were no power outages reported in the city.

Avon Lake Service Director Tom Lescher reported that the damage "wasn't too bad."

Reporters Alison Meaney and Joe Noga contributed to this story.