



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR GLENN JACOBS

400 Main Street, Suite 615, Knoxville, TN 37902

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Sept. 1, 2021

Contact: Mike Donila Abbey Harris
306-1177 cell 215-4579 office
705-1681 cell

Knox County E&PW Worked Through Storms to Keep Public Safe

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.— Knox County Engineering and Public Works crews worked through the night and into the early morning Thursday to keep the public safe.

Heavy rains and flooding damaged Westland Drive, just west of Garrison Ridge Boulevard. Team members quickly blocked off the damaged area and turned the road into a one-way lane. They directed traffic until roughly 3 a.m. when water from a nearby pond began to recede and allowed the county to convert the road back to two lanes. However, due to damage, the lanes are narrower. The department will begin fixing the road today and officials said they hope to have it fully repaired by this evening.

“Knox County’s Engineering and Public Works crews are such an asset to this community, and I am grateful for the work they do in weather like this to keep the public safe,” said Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs. “Time and time again, they’ve stepped up during snowstorms and heavy rain to keep the public and roads open and last night was no exception.”

In addition, crews were up all night cutting down trees that fell, blocking county roads. They also are working to repair a sinkhole on Northshore and Redgrave Road. Please report any downed trees, roadway hazards, and sinkholes on county roads to 865-215-5800.

“Our folks were out all night, working in the rain clearing trees and providing traffic control on Westland Drive to ensure everyone got home safe,” said Jim Snowden, senior director of Knox County EPW. “They are the best at what they do and I’m grateful for their hard work and dedication to Knox County, and they will be out all day as well.”

###