

Oak Hill news

MAY 2010

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NEWS FLASH

Danger remains after water recedes

- Respect the barricades indicating streets are not safe, and don't drive through water. You can find updates on closures at www.nashville.gov.
- Contact Metro Water Services at 862-4600 for water problems.
- If you smell an odor like rotten eggs, it could indicate a gas leak. Contact Piedmont Gas at 800-752-7504.
- United Way can point people in need to 7,000 programs that offer assistance with food, clothing, and shelter. Call 211. 🌿



Several homes in Oak Hill experienced severe damage after torrential rains compromised structural integrity.

Oak Hill evaluates flood damage

As residents, churches, and schools in Oak Hill begin recovering from the floods, your City officials have been working long hours to assess and assist the ravaged neighborhoods.

“On Saturday and Sunday we were in emergency mode,” City Manager Kevin Helms said. During that time the City was receiving urgent calls that needed immediate attention.

Over those two days, Oak Hill and much of the surrounding area was experiencing the most rainfall ever recorded in that period of time. By Monday when the rain had stopped, officials undertook the huge task of evaluating the situation

within the City.

City officials spent Monday and Tuesday riding every stretch of every road in Oak Hill to assess damage to public infrastructure such as bridges, culverts, and roads. What they found was neighborhood after neighborhood with fallen limbs, strewn debris, and uprooted asphalt.

Travelers are urged to use caution when driving on City streets. All the roads are open, but in many cases brush and debris is stacked on narrow shoulders. As a result, a pathway may be open but hazardous.

Continued on page 2

City provides extra pick-up, dumpsters

In an effort to help Oak Hill neighborhoods clean up the damage from flooding, the City is providing curbside trash and debris pick up on Wednesday, May 12, at no charge to residents.

“We hope Oak Hill’s plans to remove storm debris will be of help as you clean up after Mother Nature’s rampage on our homes, lawns and streets,” Oak Hill Mayor Tommy Alsup said.

Bagged trash, flood debris, tiles, carpeting, and flood-damaged furniture can be left by the street for pick up by Clean Earth Sanitation. Hazardous materials such as paint, tires, or batteries cannot be collected.

Yard materials such as limbs and brush should be placed in a separate pile by the road for collection by Jackaroo. As always, this is for the yard waste homeowners gather themselves — professional landscape companies must haul off anything they cut.

When piling debris along the roadside, be sure not put anything in ditches or drainage areas. As the recent flooding exemplified, materials will wash downstream and clog culverts.

In addition, two dumpsters will be set up at John Overton High School to collect flood-damaged articles in the lot below the football field closest to I-65. They will remain at least a week. 🌿

City of Oak Hill

Mayor

Tommy Alsup
Oak Hill Office: 371-8291

Vice Mayor

Austin McMullen 298-1492

Commissioner

Ray Throckmorton 255-3559

Planning Commission

Art McWilliams, Chair

Mike Allison

Patricia Carlson

Joe Hodgson

Judy Hoover

Annelle Rucker

Julia Wesley

The mayor, vice mayor, and commissioner also sit on this commission.

Board of Zoning Appeals

Tom Lawless, Chair

Craig Buffkin

Tonya P. Matthews

City Attorney

Robert J. Notestine 297-1568

City Engineer

Kimley-Horn & Assoc. 564-2701

City Manager

Kevin Helms 557-7672

Assistant City Manager

M.C. Sparks 509-4812

Safety Coordinator

Tommy Jacobs 557-7329

Administrative Assistant

Patrick Steiner 371-8291

Building Official

Bill Burdette 371-8291

City Hall

5548 Franklin Pike Suite 102

Hours

Monday through Friday
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

www.oakhilltn.us

Meeting Dates

Third Thursday

Board of Commissioners Meeting

Oak Hill City Hall, 5548 Franklin Pike, 5 p.m.

Fourth Tuesday

Planning Commission Meeting

Oak Hill City Hall, 5548 Franklin Pike, 6 p.m.

Tuesday before Commissioners' Meeting

Board of Zoning Appeals

Oak Hill City Hall, 5548 Franklin Pike, 5 p.m.



Don't throw away this newsletter; recycle it!



Avoid the Glendale/Glen Leven intersection, above, which has significant damage. The City will deal with extensive infrastructure repair, like this culvert damage.

Oak Hill (continued from page 1)

“One particular intersection we’re asking people to avoid is Glendale at Glen Leven,” Helms said. “It’s in bad condition, and one lane there is closed. We’re asking people to take an alternate route.”

The City has received no reports of injuries related to the flood. Property damage is enormous, including at least one condemned residence.

“From driving through the streets of Oak Hill and talking with many residents, I can see that the damage to our city is severe and widespread,” Oak Hill Mayor Tommy Alsup said. “We appreciate your cooperation as we work through the challenges.” 🌿



Do your part to cut water use

Oak Hill residents are asked to join other Nashvillians in conserving water as Metro struggles to meet demand with one water processing plant nonfunctional.

Nashville Mayor Karl Dean called on Davidson County residents to cut their regular water usage by half until the processing plant comes back into service. Here are some tips to reduce water consumption during the shortage.

- Turn off automatic sprinklers.
- Don't water the lawn or wash the car.
- Turn off water while brushing your teeth.
- Use hand sanitizer instead of washing with soap and water.
- Turn the shower off while soaping, then turn it back on to rinse.
- Run only full loads in the dishwasher and clothes washer.
- Wash fruits and vegetables in a stoppered sink or a pan of clean water, instead of under running water.
- Use a broom or blower, not the hose, to clean sidewalks and driveway. 🌿

Use care in clean-up

Cleaning up flood damage can be an extensive process.

As a first step, contact your insurance company immediately. Do not wait for the claims adjuster to come to the home before removing wet and moldy materials. Take photographs to document conditions for insurance purposes.

Look around for signs of mold. As a rule of thumb, count on hiring a professional mold remediation service if mold growth covers more than 100 square feet.

Take necessary precautions and use extreme caution in flood damaged buildings, being especially aware of the following health and safety dangers.

- **Structural problems.** If the building has been pushed off its foundation, **do not** enter it. Only trained construction professionals should work in these dangerous conditions.

- **Appliances.** Flood-damaged appliances increase the risk of fire, explosion, or electrical shock. They are unsafe and **must not** be used until they have been disassembled and inspected by a competent repair person. Electrical and gas appliances can be severely damaged by flood water and silt. Damage might not be immediately obvious.

- **Floor rot.** Test for rotten areas by hitting the floorboards with the end of a 2" x 4" piece of lumber.

- **Mold, viruses, bacteria.** Standing water and wet materials are a breeding ground for microorganisms such as viruses, bacteria, and mold. They can cause disease, trigger allergic reactions, and continue to damage materials long after the flood. Mold spores are too small to be seen with the naked eye.

- **Lead dust.** Many homes built before 1978 have paint that contains lead. As the walls dry and paint flakes and peels from the walls, lead dust can be dangerous.

- **Carbon monoxide.** Never use any type of fuel-burning equipment, including portable generators, inside flood damaged homes.

- **Cuts and punctures from broken glass, boards, or exposed nails.** Floodwaters may contain germs or viruses that can enter the skin through cuts and scrapes.

- **Electric shocks.** There is a danger of electrical shock from any electrical device that has been flooded. *Rubber boots and gloves do not always protect from electric shock.* Turn off the electricity at the breaker before starting work. 🌿



NES offers guidelines for electrical damage

While electric power service was interrupted in many neighborhoods, the majority of outages that remain are isolated, many of them customers who had serious flooding at their residences. Nashville Electric Service provides the following information relating to its ability to restore power to homes that have been flooded.

- If water has risen above the meter base, Codes will require an inspection and release before NES is authorized to re-energize. This is a safety issue; failure to comply with this Codes requirement could result in serious risk of physical harm and property damage.

- It may be necessary for customers in this situation to engage an electrician.

- NES has assessment teams in the field, and they are focusing on the areas that experienced the most serious flooding. If they find houses for which Codes will require a release, they are leaving a yellow "tag" on the front of the house letting the homeowners know.

- Due to the volume of outages, NES may not be able to tag all customers who will need a Codes release. However, if water has risen above the meter, Codes will require a release before power can be restored.

- Some homes in the NES service area that presently have power may need to be disconnected because the water line created a dangerous condition. Again, this is a safety issue. This Codes requirement is to protect the life and property of Middle Tennessee residents. 🌿

Use caution as you move through standing water. You could encounter wildlife and other unpleasant objects.

Thank you!

The City of Oak Hill extends a sincere thank you to everyone who shared information and helped us stay abreast of flooding conditions.

We send a special thanks to Mayor Karl Dean, Toby Compton from the Metro Mayor's office, Metro Councilmember Carter Todd, and Congressional Representatives Marsha Blackburn and Jim Cooper. 🌿

QUICK CALL LIST



CITY OF OAK HILL

5548 Franklin Pike #102
371-8291 FAX 373-6886
www.oakhilltn.us

SOLID WASTE SERVICES

Chipper Service

Jackaroo: 371-8291

Garbage Pickup

Clean Earth Sanitation: 371-8291

Snow and Ice

Management Service

Mid Tennessee Erosion Control:
371-8291

Public Street Repairs, Street Signage, and Drainage Maintenance

City Office: 371-8291

Dead Animal Removal

City Office: 371-8291
After Hours: 862-8971

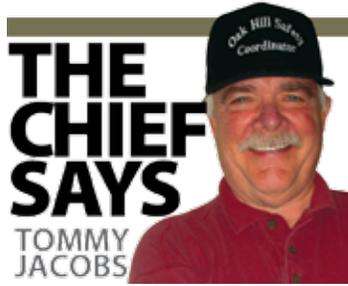
Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency Fire: 327-1300

Non-Emergency Police: 862-8600

West Sector Patrol: 862-7747

Oak Hill Safety Coordinator: 557-7329



THE CHIEF SAYS

TOMMY JACOBS

Watch for unreliable repair contractors

Please be aware that there are untrustworthy individuals ready take to advantage of the situation created by the flooding. Be careful when hiring contractors or workmen; many come from out of state, and are not licensed. If they have no state license (or license of any kind) it can compromise your insurance!

Also, there are crews going door to door, hiring out to remove trees and similar debris. Unfortunately they are generally dragging them to the drainage areas, which causes more problems.

There have also been reports of people impersonating city employees in order to inspect your home. Legitimate employees will be in vehicles marked as being from Oak Hill, Metro, or the state, or the employee will have a government issued employee ID.

Crime in progress: 911

Crime committed: 862-8600

Oak Hill Safety Coordinator: 557-7329

Help crews repair Radnor

Radnor Lake State Natural Area suffered extensive damage from storms and flooding.

While some limited areas are open, including the Visitor Center, huge areas of the park are closed and in need of repairs. Otter Creek Road through the park has significant damage.

A special Volunteer Day is scheduled for May 15 for clean-up and trail work. If you can help out, meet at the Visitor Center at 8 a.m. Contact steve.ward@tn.gov if you have a group that can help. 🌿

County residents qualify for federal disaster relief

Davidson County residents have been designated as disaster areas, qualifying for federal disaster relief.

That means federal resources will be available to help those affected by flooding. The first step is to call FEMA at 800-621-FEMA or go to

www.fema.gov, to register for assistance. Then, an inspector will contact you to arrange for a time to meet and assess the damage.

People who cannot live in their home may get immediate assistance for temporary housing. Other funds will help with repairs. 🌿

Get news online, save resources

The City offers two email updates. Visit www.oakhilltn.us and click *Get news updates by email* at the top of the page. You can receive either City News or CrimeWatch or both. You can unsubscribe at any time. Your email address will not be shared with anyone unless you approve. And you can choose to opt out of the printed newsletter to save paper and production expenses. 🌿

CrimeWatch

Email alerts on crimes in your neighborhood from Safety Coordinator Tommy Jacobs



City News



Email summary with links to complete print newsletter contents on the City's website

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