



# MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 23, 2023

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## **Compliance Checks at Convenience Centers Prove Successful**

*KNOXVILLE, Tenn.*—Knox County Convenience Centers recently conducted system-wide compliance checks at all seven convenience centers to prevent abuse of the free waste disposal service offered to Knox County residents. The checks were performed randomly to screen for out-of-county residents and illegal business waste, as well as to inform users about the importance of properly securing their loads. Out-of-county residents, commercial waste generators, and contractors are not allowed to use centers for waste disposal.

During the checks, we were able to distribute 560 pairs of tarps and bungee cords to users with trucks and trailers in need, thanks to an Enforcement Grant of \$5,000 from Keep Tennessee Beautiful. This grant enabled the county to provide equipment for securing waste loads which has the potential to make a positive impact on promoting safer, litter-free roads in the community.

In addition to distributing tarps, Knox County Convenience Centers engaged with a total of 3,100 people and issued 51 warnings for commercial offenders, and 132 warnings for out-of-county individuals. "We are thrilled with the results of the compliance checks," said Tom Walker, the Environmental Crimes Investigator. "The goal of the checks is to prevent abuse of the free waste disposal service and educate people about the importance of properly securing their loads."

Knox County Convenience Centers plan to continue performing compliance checks at random dates and times in the future. Please note that no more tarps and bungee cords will be distributed at the centers. For more information, please contact the Solid Waste Office at 865-215-5865.

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