



MEDIA RELEASE

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Knox County Crews Collect 4,200 Tons of Tornado Green Waste

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—Knox County crews spent more than a month removing green waste from private property in response to an early August tornado that tore through parts of the northwest and Cedar Bluff communities.

The teams, which also included contractor Phillips and Jordan, picked up a total of 21,000 cubic yards, or about 4,200 tons of debris. Crews picked up green waste only—trees, limbs, and brush, etc.—generated from private property.

“I want to commend the folks in Engineering and Public Works for their efforts,” Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs said. “They have worked tirelessly since the tornado touched down and we, as a community, should appreciate everything they’ve done for us. They’re some of the hardest working crews around.”

The work was a one-time initiative, and EPW highway crews are double-checking to make sure everything was collected.

Federal officials recently approved a request from Gov. Bill Lee to issue a federal disaster declaration. The county will seek reimbursement for debris management costs, which include only out of the norm expenses. Costs tied to staff working regular shifts are not reimbursable.

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