



NEWS from the Shelby County Mayor's Office

Lee Harris, Mayor

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JULY 21, 2023

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**SHELBY COUNTY TO START SPECIAL DEBRIS PICKUP FOR RESIDENTS IN
UNINCORPORATED SHELBY COUNTY IMPACTED BY THE JUNE 25TH
WINDSTORM**

Following the declaration of a local state of emergency by Mayor Lee Harris, resources are being mobilized to help residents clear the remaining debris and clean up neighborhoods.

Shelby County, TN – The Shelby County Roads, Bridges, and Engineering Department will begin preparations to collect yard debris from residential properties in unincorporated areas of Shelby County by collecting location information from citizens for pickup. The special debris collection will begin July 24, 2023, and continue through October 26, 2023.

Requests for pickup may be submitted to the Shelby County Roads, Bridges, and Engineering Department at **901-222-7705**. Officials ask for your patience as it will take work crews several months to collect all eligible debris.

The windstorm that hit Shelby County in June caused widespread damage. Following Mayor Lee Harris' declaration of a local state of emergency, Shelby County anticipates President Joe Biden's Administration to declare it a federal disaster. This designation will allow the Roads, Bridges, and Engineering Department to remove downed tree limbs and other yard debris from

residential properties only. Therefore, the Roads, Bridges, and Engineering Department is mobilizing to begin this removal process. The maximum allowable length of tree limbs for pick up is eight (8) feet. Household waste cannot be mixed with the tree debris. Residents will need to bring debris to the curb and place it in an area that does not block traffic. If residents hired a contractor, the contractor would need to clean tree debris as part of their services. County crews will not be able to remove tree debris left by contractors.

Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris: “Last month’s windstorm left many Shelby County residents without power and burdened them with downed trees and limbs. Even with the power back on, the damage left behind will take months for residents to manage. We are mobilizing resources to assist them and clean up our neighborhoods.”

Darren Sanders, Administrator of Shelby County Roads, Bridges, and Engineering Department: “Clean up from a windstorm like we saw is a daunting task and often impossible for some homeowners to do without outside help. With this kind of devastation, government resources are able to assist, but please be patient with our crews. They will be working for many months to make sure every resident in need of assistance receives it.”

Brenda Jones, Director of Shelby County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency: “Immediately following last month’s windstorm, Shelby County crews were dispatched to clean up debris from roads, distribute water and grocery assistance, and open cooling centers as those without power faced rising temperatures. However, during a disaster declaration, the work to assist residents continues long after the power is turned back on. We will all continue working together to make sure residents can get back to their normal lives.”

(End of Release)