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Knox County Efforts Lower Flood Insurance Premiums

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—Knox County residents will see between a 5-10% discount on their annual flood insurance premiums—which will be reflected directly on their bill—as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) advanced the County's Community Rating System (CRS) to Class 8.

The insurance premium reduction represents an additional 5 percent savings for residents, achieved through advanced measures encouraged by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), an organization overseen by FEMA.

Knox County participates in the voluntary CRS incentive program by working to achieve certain floodplain management activity credits earned for implementing specified outreach activities and development regulations. Also, by exceeding NFIP requirements to better safeguard residents from flooding.

"Reaching a Class 8 rating takes a lot of hard work and dedication on the part of county staff," said Jim Snowden, Senior Director of Knox County Engineering & Public Works. "I am proud of the what the County has done, and continues to do, to mitigate flooding and—in turn—increase flood insurance savings."

Floodplain Manager Eddy Roberts said he is pleased with the processes put in place to protect residents since they will help avoid economic disruptions and protect homes and businesses.

The latest progress report on the program can be downloaded <u>here</u>.

For information on Knox County's floodplain program contact Knox County Stormwater at (865) 215-5540.