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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE *(Aug. 12, 2013)*

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. -- What the City and its partner, MTSU, are doing to improve the quality of water flowing into area streams and rivers will be outlined during a public meeting Sept. 17 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Patterson Park Community Center, 451 Mercury Blvd.

At the meeting, City staff will present the City's annual stormwater report, said Robert Haley, a City of Murfreesboro engineer who oversees the City's compliance with federal and state storm water program requirements. Attendees will have the opportunity to comment and offer suggestions.

Murfreesboro's National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requires the City to implement several programs to reduce the amount of pollution (primarily silt) that is washed into area streams and rivers. The annual report outlines progress being made to achieve this goal.

The City partnered with MTSU for help administering one of the more important requirements of the permit, public education and outreach. MTSU works special outreach projects for us, where we focus education on a particular problem, or in a certain watershed, Haley explained, and the MTSU team recruits volunteers for stream clean-ups and tree plantings. The City also utilizes its website, government access TV Channel 3, brochures and press releases to inform citizens about what businesses and residents should be doing to protect local water resources.

For more information on the public meeting, please contact Robert Haley at 848-3200 or by email at roberthaley@murfreesborotn.gov.