

## Tennessee Infrastructure In The News

April 1, 2010

### A daily roundup of recent news stories and opinion pieces about Tennessee transportation, water and flood control infrastructure

For the full story, click the headline or use the link.

#### [6 E. Tenn. Areas Could Get Millions For Infrastructure Projects \(Wvlt-Tv Knoxville\)](#)

The State of Tennessee has recommended six East Tennessee communities receive Appalachian Regional Commission grants to help their local governments or nonprofit organizations with various improvement projects. Governor Phil Bredesen made the announcement Tuesday afternoon, naming a total of 17 communities across the states that each deserves the federally appropriated funds. "I am pleased to recommend these 17 communities for grants from the Appalachian Regional Commission, and I am confident these funds will contribute to a foundation for long-term economic growth in the region," Governor Bredesen said in a news release. "Tennessee's Appalachian communities benefit greatly from the support of the ARC, and I want to thank the organization for its generous investment in our state." The six East Tennessee projects being recommended by the governor span all corners of the WVLT Volunteer TV News viewing area.

<http://www.volunteertv.com/news/headlines/89666322.html?ref=322>

#### [East Tennessee Experiences Fourth Earthquake In Four Days \(WVLT-TV Knoxville\)](#)

East Tennessee was rocked by its fourth earthquake in four days early Wednesday morning. The U.S. Geological Survey confirms the quake struck at 1:16 a.m. just about a mile northeast of Greenback. Geologists place the 2.0 magnitude earthquake's epicenter in the yard of a home on Morgantown Road near its intersection with Meadow Road. It originated in a small fault about 12.1 miles underground. It had been a pretty quiet year for earthquakes in the Eastern Tennessee Seismic Zone prior to the recent quartet of tremors. The zone is known as one of the most seismically active areas of the south.

<http://www.volunteertv.com/news/headlines/89668367.html>

#### [Cades Cove Road To Reopen Month Ahead Of Schedule \(Associated Press\)](#)

One of the most popular tourist spots in the Smokies will be accessible again earlier than expected. The National Park Service announced Wednesday that Cades Cove Loop Road is now expected to reopen April 24 -- about a month earlier than had been planned. The 11-mile, one-way road was closed and rebuilt over the winter. When it opens, only bicycles and pedestrians will be allowed on it until noon the first day and a "Cades Cove Loop Lope" run has been scheduled for the second day.

<http://content.usatoday.net/dist/custom/gci/InsidePage.aspx?cld=tennessean&sParam=33161819.story>

#### [Cades Cove Loop Road To Reopen Month Early: 'Loop Lope' Planned \(N-S\)](#)

Cades Cove Loop Road will reopen about a month earlier than expected after a \$6.7 million redo of the popular 11-mile route in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The road was projected to be closed three months, beginning March 1, for major work, including a repaving of the loop. The April 24 reopening will feature a field day with only bicycles and pedestrians allowed on the road, which is used by an estimated 563,000 vehicles a year, until noon. On Sunday morning, April 25, the park and the Friends of the Smokies are planning a one-time-only "Cades Cove Loop Lope," which will offer pre-registered runners a choice of the full 11-mile loop or a 3.5 mile loop course. Both events are being planned to minimize visitor inconvenience. Construction work was briefly halted earlier this month over disagreements in the Senate on a stopgap funding bill that affected federal road projects.

<http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2010/mar/31/cades-cove-loop-road-reopen-month-early/>

**Cades Cove Loop Gets Face-Lift (Knoxville News-Sentinel/Fowler)**

Crews repaving the 11-mile-long Loop Road in Cades Cove have endured everything from sudden snows to deer crossing the hot asphalt, cloven hooves briefly mucking up their work. Still, work on the popular roadway is wrapping up a month ahead of schedule, and officials with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park are planning a two-day celebration. "It's a high-profile project," Federal Highway Administration engineer Jason Dvelis said of the first major face-lift of Loop Road since 1978. "(Cades Cove) is the most visited section of the most visited park in the United States." To commemorate the reopening on Saturday, April 24, only bicyclists and hikers will be allowed on the road until noon, when the road will be opened officially to automobile traffic. Then, the next morning, a one-time-only event for runners titled the "Cades Cove Loop Lope" will be held as a fundraiser for Friends of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2010/apr/01/loop-repairs-finished/>

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