

## ***Flooding and Flood Mitigation within Phenix City***

### **Flooding Issues within Phenix City**

In the first quarter of 2024 the City of Phenix City experienced a higher than usual amount of rain. Between January and March of 2024 the City's electronic rain gauge (which is maintained by the City's Engineering Department) recorded a total of 21.78 inches of rain, almost two feet! In the past three years the only comparable time period during which this quantity of rain came close to being matched was during the first quarter of 2023 which experienced an average total of just under 15 inches.

During the weekend of February 10-11 of 2024 a noteworthy rain event occurred. Over the course of these two days the City's electronic rain gauge recorded 6.4 inches of rain. As a comparison this same rain gauge recorded 5.7 inches of rain for the entirety of January just a month prior. Needless to say this amount of rain over such a relatively short period of time caused many problems for both the municipal government and the citizens of Phenix City. In the hours following this rain event the City received at least eight action center requests related to stormwater, flooding, or erosion. The pictures below show some of the damage caused.



### **Flood Mitigation within Phenix City**

In order to mitigate issues related to flooding the City of Phenix City maintains a comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) and has adopted several ordinances related to stormwater. The SWMP, stormwater-related City ordinances, and other stormwater resources are published on the City's stormwater webpage which can be accessed by following this [LINK](#).

This webpage also has a link to the *Low Impact Development Handbook for the State of Alabama*. This handbook is a great resource that explains many of the concepts that engineers use to manage stormwater and simplifies them so that a broader audience can grasp them. It also provides instructions for Best Management Practices (BMPs) and strategies that homeowners and business owners can implement to better manage stormwater originating or running through their property. This handbook can be accessed directly by following this [LINK](#).

