



# Mount Vernon

*An Innovative Community; Authentically Hometown*

## **MEDIA ALERT: Water Leak Found, East Chestnut Opening**

*Leak originated from abandoned service line*

MOUNT VERNON, Sept. 10, 2021 – A persistent water leak that resulted in the closure of East Chestnut Street in downtown Mount Vernon for two days this week has been found and fixed. The street was expected to be reopened to traffic Friday afternoon, easing the traffic through downtown that had been detoured around the immediate area since Wednesday.

Workers with the City of Mount Vernon as well as outside contractors worked for days to find the source of the water leak on East Chestnut Street between North Main and North Gay streets, in the vicinity of Mount Vernon City Hall and Municipal Court.

The City Water Department believes the leak was caused by an Aug. 12 lightning strike that led to a water main break on East Chestnut Street between North Main and North Gay streets. After that break was fixed, the leak persisted. Workers looked for the source of the leak uphill from the location, although it was ultimately found on East Chestnut.

“It was an abandoned service line that was not shut off at the main when it was abandoned. It has been properly abandoned,” said Ken Griffith, the City’s interim Director of Public Utilities. “The plates are being removed and the holes filled in. The road will be opened today.”

### END ###

### **ABOUT THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON:**

The City of Mount Vernon is an innovative community with an authentic hometown feel. Home to 17,000 people, Mount Vernon is the county seat for Knox County and boasts historic buildings and districts as well as business and professional, educational, and recreational opportunities through many adaptive reuses of the community’s infrastructure and spaces. Specific attractions are the historic Woodward Opera House, the Knox County Memorial Building and Theater, and the 250-acre Ariel~Foundation Park adjacent to the state scenic Kokosing River. The City has strong ties to higher education, with Mount Vernon Nazarene University, Kenyon College, and Central Ohio Technical College operating satellite locations in the historic downtown. Located 40 miles northeast of Columbus, Mount Vernon is near the geographic center of Ohio and has connections all over the globe.

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