

BY LAUREN PINCH

As the muddy floodwaters subsided, images of a drowned city were quickly replaced by images of an industrious one. Nashville businesses and residents rapidly began the cleanup and recovery process after the devastating floods of May 1 and 2, pitching in to rebuild and lend their neighbors a hand. Although overwhelmed and saddened by the destruction, everyone's first question seemed to be: How can I help? >>

# REBUILDING MUSIC CITY USA

NASHVILLE  
CONTRACTORS  
TAKE CENTER  
STAGE IN FLOOD  
RECOVERY  
EFFORT

Floodwaters rose 4 feet above the Grand Ole Opry House stage on May 3. By May 7, the remediation process was under way (right).

GAYLORD ENTERTAINMENT (3)

Now that initial remediation and demolition efforts are nearly complete, contractors are moving full steam ahead on rebuilding the skeletons of hundreds of waterlogged commercial buildings. A glimmer of good news for Nashvillians: The work is mostly local, and it's happening fast.



The Metro Codes Department has issued more than 3,000 building permits to catch up with a backlog of 11,000 properties damaged by the flood.

Three major landmarks are well on their way to showcasing stronger, more robust spaces that exceed the buildings' original grandeur. Renovations to the Schermerhorn Symphony Center will be complete in December, including new elevators, communications systems, and basement-level HVAC, electrical and mechanical systems. At the Gaylord Opryland Resort, a massive overhaul of the lobbies, signature