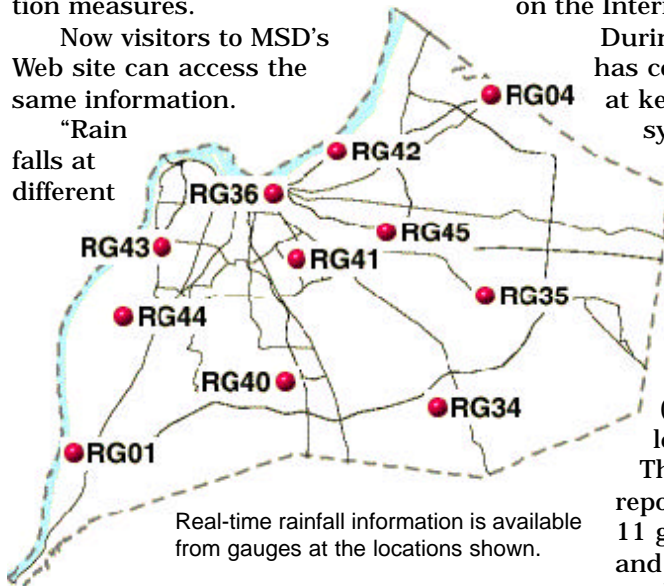


## Rain gauge readings will help warn public

Knowing how much rain is falling during storms helps MSD plan for heavy rain impacts at its facilities, and for mobilizing flood protection measures.

Now visitors to MSD's Web site can access the same information.

"Rain falls at different



rates, and rain's speed of descent impacts how quickly a flood hazard can occur," said Community Relations/Emergency Response

Director Bud Schardein. "Now people can learn on a real-time basis how fast rain is falling at 11 locations throughout Jefferson County on the Internet."

During the past year, MSD has connected 11 rain gauges at key facilities to a telemetry system that allows real-time rain gauge readings. The locations were chosen, according to Schardein, "because they provide a geographically diverse view of rainfall across Louisville and Jefferson County." (See map for rain gauge locations.)

The telemetry system reports rain rates from the 11 gauges every five minutes, and also provide cumulative totals during a storm.

Previously, MSD personnel physically checked the gauges during storms to learn how much rain had fallen.

(continued on back)

## Upcoming Events

**Nov. 15**-Public meeting, Hollow Creek Sewer Project, 7 p.m., Luhr Elementary cafeteria, 6900 Fegenbush Ln.

**Nov. 20**-Public meeting, Greenwood/Marie Anna Sewer Collectors, 7 p.m., Southwest Government Center, 7219 Dixie Hwy.

**Nov. 21**-Public meeting, Quinton Dr. Sewer Collectors, 7 p.m., Southwest Government Center, 7219 Dixie Hwy.

**Nov. 27**-MSD Board meeting, 10 a.m., 700 W. Liberty, first floor

**Nov. 29**-Public meeting, Phase 3 Hikes Point Sewer Remediation Project, 7 p.m., Seneca High cafeteria, 3510 Goldsmith Ln.

## FY 2000 financial performance on track

Preliminary financial results for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2000, show MSD's performance continues on track.

According to unaudited financial statements, operating revenues for FY 2000 were \$91,731,000, a 8.1 percent increase over the previous year. "Although revenues came in strong, the totals were two percent less than the \$93,579,000 in budgeted revenues," said Finance Director Marion Gee.

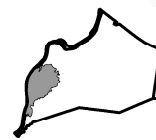
The revenue variance resulted from stormwater charges that were \$622,000 less than projected and other operating income more than \$1.6 million lower than expected. Other operating income includes connection fees, capacity charges and mapping fees.

Operating expenses for FY 2000 totaled \$79,267,000, a \$3.4 million increase from FY 1999 and \$5.4 million more than budgeted. Gee said \$4.5 million of the variance is due to labor-related costs that were higher than expected, including salaries and wages, overtime, and vacation and holiday charges.

But, Gee noted that MSD's labor costs in FY 2000 were nearly \$4 million less than for the previous year, mostly due to the 1999 early retirement incentive offered to eligible staff. Gee said MSD has been operating below the post-early retirement levels of 677 full-time employees with 650 full-time staff, 131 less than the number of full-time employees at the end of FY 1999. "Since 1995 MSD has reduced its staff dramatically, by 214 full-time employees, and reduced the number of full-time positions by an additional 17 percent in FY 2000," Gee said.

Capital program expenditures in FY 2000 totaled \$135,638,308, just one percent more than the amount budgeted. Gee said the difference is due to the \$4.8 million purchase of property for a central maintenance facility. "Originally, this purchase was to be budgeted over several fiscal years; instead, it was obtained at one time during a fiscal year that did not include it in the budget," he said.

More than 264 capital construction projects were initiated in FY 2000, Gee said. By the end of the fiscal year, 145 of those projects had been completed while 119 were in progress as of June 30.



Mill Creek watershed area

## Three sewer projects ready to build

Construction is set to begin on three sanitary sewer projects that will serve more than 450 properties.

**Greenwood Manor and Marie Anna Sanitary Sewer Collector project** will serve 289 properties in an area west of Greenbelt Highway. Team Contracting Inc. will complete the work at a cost of about \$1.4 million, and take nearly a year to complete.

**Kramers/Crums Lane Sanitary Sewer Interceptor** will serve 160 properties in an area north of Rockford Lane and east of Cane Run Road. Flynn Brothers Inc. will construct the project at a cost of \$2.4 million, and take a year or more to complete.

**Oak Hills Phase II Sanitary Sewer Project** will extend service to nine properties in the Rosemary/Blanton Lane area. Pace Contracting, LLC will construct the project at a cost of \$62,000, and complete it early in 2001.



MSD

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## EPA program finalized for Chenoweth Run

MSD and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have finalized an agreement for a pretreatment reinvention project in eastern Jefferson County.

Since early 1999, MSD has participated in EPA's Excellence in



Leadership program, known as Project XL, to measure the environmental performance of industrial wastewater pretreatment. The agreement signed September 28 focuses MSD's work in the Chenoweth Run watershed and industries in the Jeffersontown area.

Already MSD has installed flow meters in the area to establish baseline information on mass loading from the sewer collection system to MSD's Jeffersontown Wastewater Treatment Plant. The goal is to measure the environmental impact of pretreatment and to focus resources to further improve water quality. This area was chosen for the project because it has permitted industrial users and is served by a single wastewater treatment plant.

Through Project XL, the EPA is testing innovative ways to improve the national pretreatment program, and to reinvent the way that pollu-

tion from industrial sources is controlled. MSD is one of only five publicly owned wastewater utilities in the U.S. selected to participate in the project.

Through MSD's study in Jefferson County, performance measures showing how pretreatment impacts the environment are being developed. Project XL's goal is to help pretreatment programs nationwide move from simply monitoring to demonstrating the environmental impact pretreatment has on water quality.

MSD also has been working with industrial customers, state and national environmental officials, environmental advocates and private citizens to help define the program and performance measures. EPA spokeswoman Michelle Cook noted, "MSD's stakeholder involvement process is exemplary and a model for others to follow."

The national pretreatment program was established more than 20 years ago and has contributed to a national decline in pollutants once prevalent in streams throughout the U.S. Pretreatment has reduced significant non-compliance rates for Jefferson County streams from 44 percent in the early 1990s to less than 10 percent currently.

Project XL was developed in response to industry complaints that the pretreatment program was too regulatory, involved too much paperwork and didn't measure water-quality impact.

## Sewer rehab program to continue

MSD's Board has approved seven sewer rehabilitation projects for the coming months.

This is the second year MSD has awarded an annual contract designed to minimize inflow and infiltration of stormwater into sanitary sewers, according to Wet Weather/Water Quality Team Leader Roddy Williams. "The goal is to minimize sanitary sewer overflows during wet weather as well as basement backups," Williams said.

The program accomplishes these goals by repairing manhole defects and replacing cracked sewer pipes that send stormwater into sanitary sewers, and removing root balls that block sewer lines. The annual contract for the work allows projects to be performed more efficiently and at less cost, Williams said.

A new feature to remove root balls from sewer lines without cutting the lines has been added to the program. Using a foam additive in the sewer lines, live roots are killed and their growth inhibited for three to four years. Williams said this method is less expensive than cutting sewer lines to remove roots. Since last summer's drought, root blocks in sewer lines have tripled over previous years.

Seven projects have been targeted for rehabilitation work in the coming months in the Valley Village, Hikes Point, Buechel and Jeffersontown areas.

S&S Associates was awarded the contract to perform the work for no more than \$4 million.



Floyds Fork watershed area

## Contractor chosen to expand Cedar Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant

Judy Construction Co. has been selected to design and build a five million gallons per day treatment capacity expansion at the Cedar Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The Cynthiana-based company was chosen during a six-month process, according to Floyd's Fork Area Team Leader Vicki Coombs. More than eight firms submitted statements of qualifications in May 2000. A selection team of seven MSD staff members narrowed the field to three design/build teams.

Judy Construction's proposal clearly stood out, Coombs said, plus the company recently completed construction of MSD's new Floyd's Fork Wastewater Treatment Plant. That project won the 2000 Award of Excellence from the Associated Builders and Contractors of Kentuckiana for being completed ahead of schedule at or under budget.

That experience, combined with Judy Construction's approach to wet weather issues, erosion prevention and sediment control and aggressive plan to subcontract work to minority- and woman-owned firms led to the company's selection for the Cedar Creek expansion project, Coombs said.

Built in 1995, the Cedar Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant is located along Cedar Creek south of the Snyder Freeway near Fern Creek. The plant now treats an average of 2.5 million gallons of wastewater a day. In May 2000, the Cedar Creek plant received a Platinum Award from the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies, recognizing the plant's five consecutive years of full compliance with its National Pollution Discharge Elimination Permit.

## Rain gauge readings

(continued from front)

Schardein said the information on MSD's Web site can help people in flood-prone areas know in advance of possible flood hazards. He said MSD also hopes the information will help local weather forecasters better inform the public about flood trouble spots as well as demonstrate how different rates of rain fall can impact individual neighborhoods differently.

To access the rain gauge readings, visit MSD's Web site, <http://www.msdlouky.org> and click on, "Is it raining in Louisville or Jefferson County?" Schardein said MSD provides the information as a public service and there is no charge to access it.

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