



MSD

Louisville and Jefferson County
Metropolitan Sewer District

Update

News about activities and developments at MSD

July 27, 2001

Tree loss impacts the environment



Cutting down trees means more than a loss of shade.

A study of Houston, Texas shows a dramatic loss of trees has yielded more air pollution, increased storm runoff and a greater need for stormwater treatment. According to a recent article in *Water Environment & Technology* magazine, tree loss has cost Houston some \$55 million in environmental benefits.

American Forests, the organization that conducted the study, estimates 16 percent of Houston's tree canopy has been lost in the past 27 years. The group says Houston should employ measures that MSD already uses in Louisville and Jefferson County—such as preserving trees when making construction decisions and using trees to manage stormwater.

Lack of tree cover along streams is a major water-quality problem in the Chenoweth Run watershed, according to the Kentucky Division of Water.

MSD also uses bioengineering to preserve trees and restore vegetation along the banks of urban streams to prevent erosion, improve water quality and provide wildlife habitat.

Connection fees to reflect property types served

Fees for a property's first connection to sanitary sewer service will be higher beginning September 1.

They also will vary for residential and commercial properties.

Sewer connection fees for residential properties will increase to \$5,500. Commercial properties will pay \$7,100 to connect to sewer service.

Before the increase, the connection fee for all properties was \$4,900.

The connection fees are for first-time sewer service connections that are outside of an assessment project, when sewer service is extended to entire neighborhoods that vote in favor of getting sewers.

MSD's Board will establish connection fees annually, based on

MSD's average cost to install connections during the previous 12-month period, according to Finance Director Marion Gee.

To determine the new fees, MSD staff computed average costs for

both residential and commercial connections from April 2000 through March 2001. During that time, an average residential connection cost about \$5,514 and an average commercial connection cost approximately \$7,119.

Because higher costs are typically associated with commercial connections, separate calculations were performed for residential and commercial properties, Gee noted.

MSD's Board will establish sewer connection fees annually.

Controlling plant odor is plan's goal

A long-term plan will help MSD learn more about odors coming from its major wastewater treatment plants and how to control them.

"Controlling odors from treatment facilities is an ongoing concern," says Technical Services Engineer Sharon Worley. Through sampling and computer modeling, MSD will learn where odors are coming from, how strong they are and how far they travel from treatment plant sites.

The first step is monitoring the migration of odors off-site through

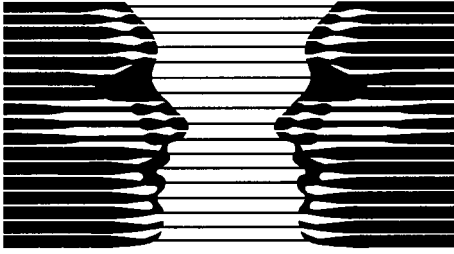
air sampling at locations around six of MSD's regional wastewater treatment facilities. The data is loaded into computer models that include information about each facility's location, size and surroundings.

Once air sampling data is entered, the computer models will yield valuable information, including how far odors travel off site, how strong they are and how often they occur.

That information will help MSD pinpoint odor problems at its treat-

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Keeping Customers First



Editor's note: Following are excerpts from customer comments.

"I'm very pleased with the work on the drainage channel in the back of my yard. Please pass on my compliments to the crew (Crewleader **Greg McCraney** and **Eric Blakey**, **Justan Henderson**, **Phillip Kirby**, **Lawrence Lewis** and Driver **Darrel Roof**) for their performance."

—Mary McKay, Louisville 40299

"I'd like to say 'thank you' to Customer Service Representative **Holly Underhill** for finding out the answers to my questions about when sewers are planned for our neighborhood-and calling me back with the details so quickly!"

—Charlene Dreher, Louisville 40299

MSD Milestones

MSD congratulates departing employees and thanks them for their service:

- **Dan Friedman**, Purchasing Manager, retiring
- **Janet Lee**, Revenue Specialist, retiring
- **Rick Pflieffer**, Risk & Benefits Manager, retiring

MSD congratulates these employees on their promotions:

- **Rebecca Gardner**, from Senior Buyer to Purchasing Manager

MSD welcomes to our team:

- **Robert Barker**, Equipment Tech Helper
- **James Poyner**, Auto/Heavy Equipment Tech

Watershed News

Mill Creek

Drainage work added to Lewiston project

A sewer and drainage project in the Shively area is progressing after the contractor chosen to construct it filed for bankruptcy.

The Lewiston Drive project will connect 244 properties to sewer service and improve drainage along Upper Hunters Trace. Properties in the area now rely on on-site septic systems for wastewater treatment.

The surety company for the bankrupt contractor has taken responsibility for the project, according to Mill Creek Area Team Leader Tom Williams. The project became more complicated when workers discovered existing utility lines in the area that were not shown on the plans.

Despite the setbacks, Williams said construction should be completed this fall.

Project brings sewers, removes pump stations

Construction will begin soon to connect more than 100 properties in the St. Andrews Church Road area to sewer service.

In the process, MSD will take two inefficient pump stations-Melody Lane and Cardinal Hill-out of service.

Sewers will be extended along the northern end of St. Andrews Church Road and include Melody Lane and Manslick, Palatka, Quillman, Iroquois Park and Mount Calvary roads.

The project is expected to cost \$1.25 million and take nearly a year to complete.

Pond Creek

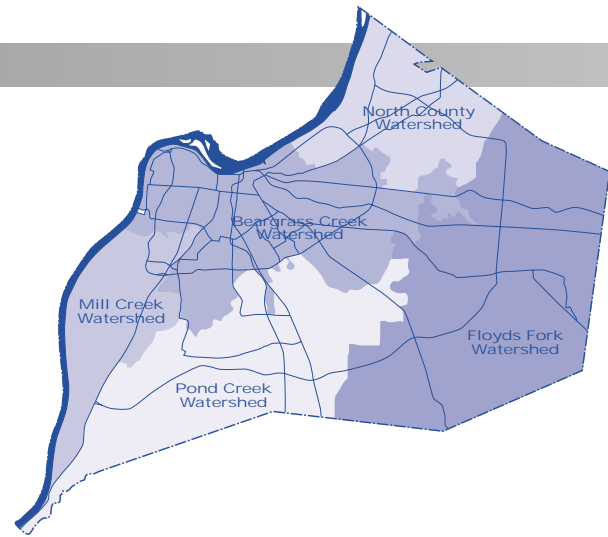
Drainage relief planned for Confederate Acres

Plans to enhance roadside and yard drainage along some Confederate Acres streets are about to become reality.

The subdivision north of Outer Loop has been plagued by drainage problems, many resulting from a non-functioning drainage system at the intersection of Harpers Ferry Road and Atlanta Parkway, according to Pond Creek Area Team Leader David Schaftlein. "The area is extremely flat and roadside swales are heavily silted, impeding stormwater flow," Schaftlein said.

To reduce standing water, roadside swales will be regraded and 30 driveway culverts or aprons will be installed or replaced.

Schaftlein said the project will address 14 drainage service requests and benefit 31 properties in the neighborhood.



Controlling plant odor

(continued from front)

ment plants and allocate funding to correct them.

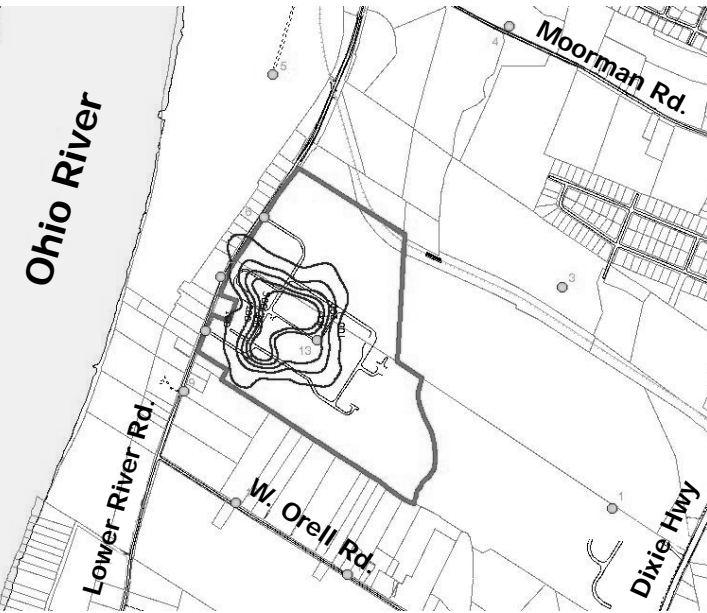
Already air sampling and monitoring around West County Wastewater Treatment Plant has

treatment facility-the Morris Forman plant-are ongoing, Worley said. A new solids treatment process is currently under construction at the plant that will take the old process, a known source of off-site odor, out of service.

"Although that process and its odor

will be eliminated, we hope to determine if there are other significant sources of odors to address at Morris Forman," she said.

Overall, MSD hopes that the frequency and intensity of off-site odors around its facilities will be substantially reduced. That means that fewer than 100 times a year only slightly detectable odors

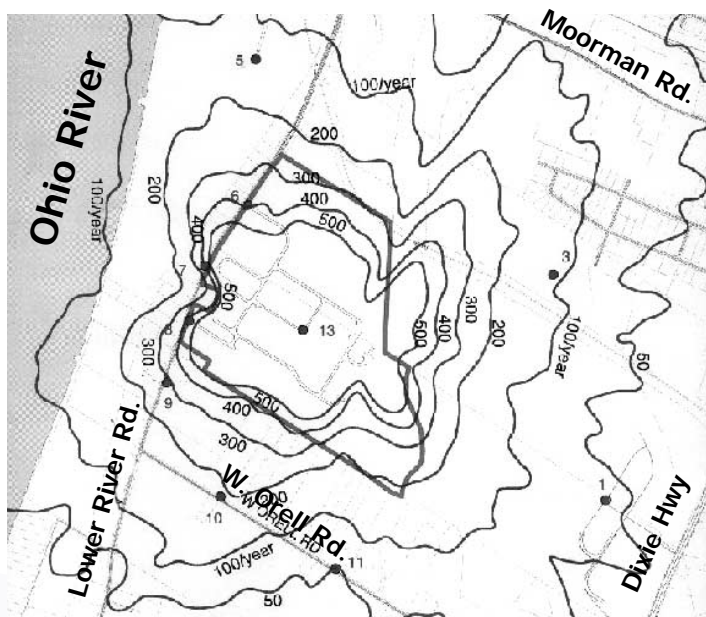


As control measures are taken, most odor will stay on the West County plant site (as shown by the contour lines) and annoy neighbors less.

been completed. Sampling at the Cedar Creek, Hite Creek and Jeffersontown wastewater treatment facilities continues through July. Worley said sampling at the Floyds Fork Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility won't begin until next summer, after wastewater flows to the new plant have increased.

Air sampling and monitoring at MSD's largest wastewater

will be briefly noticeable around treatment plant sites.



Now West County plant neighbors experience odor problems hundreds of times a year (see contour lines and frequencies above).

MSD teams score for Operation Brightside



Two MSD-sponsored teams were among the 300 teams participating in the area's largest outdoor volleyball tournament to benefit Operation Brightside.

The MSD Diggers won their first three games before falling short. **Robin Bowling, Kevin Bright, Steve Emly, Maggie Happel, Kim Loechle, Trish Reynolds and Jason Wade** made up the Diggers roster.

The MSD Setters won two games before losing their first game in the double-elimination tournament to sister team, the Diggers. **Peggy Burgin, Wade Drane, Gus and Pat Klein, Donnie Lambdin, Yosette Smith, and Dennis and Vicki Thommasson** competed for the MSD Setters team.

In addition to MSD staff, retired employees, spouses and siblings participated on MSD's two teams. "Considering there were no formal practices, MSD teams made a great showing for a great cause," said Public Affairs Coordinator Robin Bowling who organized MSD's participation.

The 12th Annual Operation Brightside/Coca-Cola Volleyball Classic was held July 21 and 22 at Waterfront Park.



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700 West Liberty Street
Louisville, KY 40203-1911
502-540-6000
www.msdlouky.org

Inside *Update*

- Connection fees to reflect property types
- Plan underway to control treatment plant odors
- MSD employees serve, spike for Operation Brightside
- Fewer trees means environmental risks

Upcoming Events

August 2

Public Meeting, Chapel Hill Sewer Project, 7 p.m., Central Government Center, 7201 Outer Loop

August 13

MSD Board meeting, 10 a.m., 700 W. Liberty, first floor

Cooksie honored by NCNW

Human Resources Manager and Affirmative Action Officer Kathy Cooksie received the Gold Bethune Achiever Award by the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. (NCNW) at the Mary McLeod Bethune Recognition Program on July 14.

The Louisville Section of NCNW selected Cooksie for the award based upon her contribution to local programs.

The award is named for NCNW founder Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune. Dr. Bethune also founded Bethune-Cookman College in Florida and served as an advisor on African American affairs to four U.S. presidents.

NCNW recognizes its members who contribute funds or who have contributed to the Louisville community by setting examples and offering encouragement and inspiration to young women to follow in Bethune's footsteps.

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