



MSD

Louisville and Jefferson County
Metropolitan Sewer District

Update

News about activities and developments at MSD

June 13, 2001

Roadside drainage improvements to help Grade Lane

Most any businessperson along Grade Lane will say that standing water along the road is a problem—even when it's not raining.

Water stands year-round in roadside ditches three to four deep. It doesn't start to drain to Wet Woods Creek until rain lifts the water to road level. "Rain or shine, this situation is a driving hazard," said Pond Creek Area Team Leader David Schaftlein.

Planned improvements include installing a drainage pipe more than three feet in diameter in Grade Lane's roadside ditches to carry stormwater to Wet Woods Creek. In addition to providing immediate relief to the businesses along Grade Lane, the improvements will serve as the permanent outlet for the street's widening in the future.

The project is expected to cost \$120,600.

MSD Milestones

MSD congratulates retiring employees and thanks them for their years of service:

- **Ernie Jones**, Tractor Trailer Driver
- **Furman Wallace**, Backflow Prevention Program Coordinator

MSD welcomes to our team:

- **Phyllis Croce**, Landscape Restoration Specialist
- **Roy Flynn**, Senior Development Engineer
- **James Rutledge**, Drainage Utility Trainee

Drainage work dries up neighborhood

No one thinks much about drainage problems during dry weather. But, when it rains more often than the sun shines, adequate drainage becomes a priority.

Since completion of a drainage improvement project in South Okolona's Kurtz Avenue neighborhood, area residents find they are thinking about drainage problems a lot less.

Built during the 1960s and

and meet MSD's Level of Service guidelines," said Steve Emly of the Pond Creek Area Team.

But, the project met some unplanned challenges. The location of existing underground utilities and elevations of existing sidewalks and pavement limited improvement options. Cooperation and coordination with other local utilities were necessary to achieve a design that would meet their requirements as well.

MSD, in partnership with Fuller, Mossbarger, Scott and May Engineers, designed a combined system of grass swales and



MSD and FMSM Engineers designed a combined system of grass swales and pipe to prevent roadside standing water.

'70s, the Kurtz Avenue neighborhood was starting to show signs of age. Roadside and rear yard drainage had become a way of life for residents. Standing water was a nuisance for days at a time after very light rain showers.

To relieve the problems, the Pond Creek Area Team initiated the Kurtz Avenue drainage improvement project in late 1999.

"The primary focus of the survey and design was to achieve a plan that would provide positive roadside and rear yard drainage



Standing water used to be a nuisance for days, even after light rain showers, in the Kurtz Avenue neighborhood.

pipe for the roadside portion. And a few properties that were outside the project's original limits were added in the final plans.

Since its completion, neighborhood residents have been satisfied. Within just 12 hours of a recent rain, there was no evidence of standing water in the area.

Mill Creek

Two sewer projects OK'ed to build

Nearly 600 properties will soon be connected to sanitary sewer service.

The Kramers-Crums Lane Collectors Project will construct more than three miles of sewer to connect 395 new customers to service. The project area is southeast of Cane Run Road and north of Rockford Lane. It includes Martin, Dohn, Dulworth and Guelat avenues, Donna Drive and part of Dover Road.

The project will take about a year to complete at a cost of \$2.2 million.

The Valley Trunk Sanitary Sewer Project will construct about 10,000 feet of sewer to connect 181 new customers to service. The project area is west of Dixie Highway and north of Johnsontown Road. It includes Chenault Road and Mapleview Drive.

The project will take less than a year to complete at a cost of about \$1 million.

Sneak previews set for GIS documentary

Two screenings of "The World in a Box," a Public Broadcasting System documentary on Geographic Information Systems are planned this week.

The screenings will begin at noon Thursday, June 14 and Friday, June 15 at the Jefferson County Health Department, 400 E. Gray Street.

The documentary features a segment about the Louisville/Jefferson County Information Consortium, a group of organizations that use GIS applications. LOJIC is housed at MSD.

In addition to previewing the 55-minute documentary, a discussion of the program and GIS applications will follow. The screenings are free and open to the public. For more information, phone Forest Staley at 574-6649.

Copies of the documentary also are available for purchase on the Internet at www.gita.org.

Watershed News

Beargrass Creek

Alderman partner with MSD on projects

Construction is set to begin on three drainage projects, in partnership with two members of Louisville's Board of Aldermen.

To relieve standing water along MacBrae Road, much of the existing drainage system in the area will be upgraded. Planned improvements include constructing paved swales and replacing driveway culverts, positively impacting 36 residential properties.

Sixth Ward Alderman Dan Johnson is cost-sharing the project's \$54,878 cost at 50 percent.

To control erosion and reinforce a rear-yard drainage channel on Norway Drive, drainage facility enhancements are planned. Work also will include enlarging some existing drainage facilities and rebuilding an existing headwall.

Seventh Ward Alderman George Melton, who requested the project be initiated, is cost-sharing the project's \$47,473 cost at 50 percent.

To reduce standing water along Shorewood Drive, roadside drainage improvements are planned. The project calls for installing paved swales and replacing driveway culverts, positively impacting 29 properties.

Alderman Melton also is cost-sharing this project's \$62,988 cost at 50 percent.

Pond Creek

Sewer, drainage work planned for Okolona area

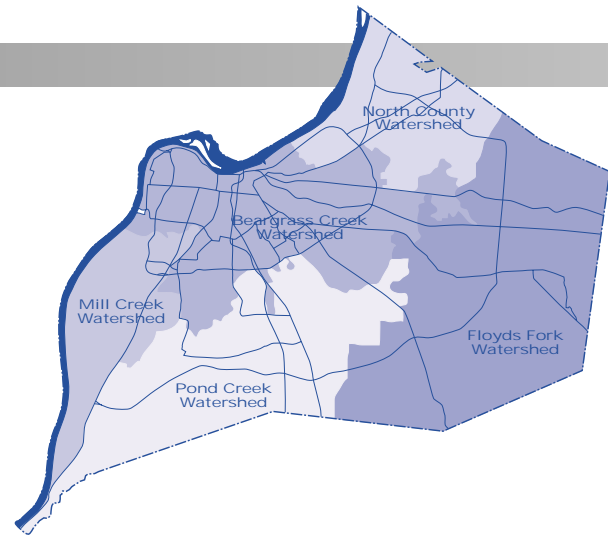
To better serve area residents and businesses while anticipating future growth, MSD will upgrade sanitary sewers in Okolona's Oaklawn neighborhood and improve drainage behind properties on Deanna Drive.

"Essentially, we'll be increasing sewer system capacity in the area to eliminate an industrial sanitary sewer overflow into Wet Woods Creek," said Pond Creek Area Team Leader David Schaftlein. Existing 15-inch sewer lines will be replaced with 24-inch lines, ensuring enough system capacity to adequately serve the area now and in the future.

Now, three industries in the area often shut down production during heavy rains because the undersized sewer system either backs up or overflows into Wet Woods Creek. In addition to improving the creek's water quality by eliminating the overflow, MSD will improve the bank slope of Wet Woods Creek and place native plants along the banks.

The project also includes improving a rear-yard ditch along Deanna Drive from Minors Lane to Wet Woods Creek. Schaftlein estimates that 20 properties will benefit from the work.

The entire project is estimated to cost \$741,149.



Studies to yield new floodplain information

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and MSD are completing long-term studies of two Jefferson County streams that will enable MSD to propose revisions to outdated floodplain mapping.

Studies of Floyds Fork and Harrods Creek began in 2000, updating previous studies completed more than a decade ago, according to Development Team Leader Randy Stambaugh. "Back then areas around both streams were much less developed," Stambaugh said. Growth in these sectors have changed runoff patterns, impacting the hydrology and hydraulics of both streams.

Information from the studies will help MSD develop new floodplain maps for the areas around the streams, and submit those to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for approval.

MSD is cost-sharing the studies with the Corps of Engineers. MSD's Board approved a \$60,000 match for federal funding in the same amount to complete the studies.

Stambaugh said both studies should be completed late in 2002.

Comments sought on proposed rate hike

Got a question about sewer and drainage charges, or an opinion about a proposed increase in MSD's rates?

MSD invites the public to attend a public hearing about a proposed five-percent increase in connection fees and sewer and drainage service charges on June 18 beginning at 7 p.m. The hearing will be at MSD's main office, 700 W. Liberty Street.

Under the proposed rate schedule, the average residential wastewater bill would increase by 75-cents to \$15.75 a month. Drainage service charges for residential customers also would increase by 17cents to \$3.65 a month.

Written comments on the proposed increase also are invited. Address comments to:

MSD-Attention: Bud Schardein
700 W. Liberty St.
Louisville, KY 40203-1911

On May 29 MSD's Board has approved a preliminary rate resolution authorizing a five-percent increase in connection fees and sewer and drainage service charges for all customer classes. If approved, the new rates will be affective August 1.

Ohio River Sweep is Saturday

This Saturday, hundreds of local volunteers are expected to pick up litter and debris as part of the 12th annual Ohio River Sweep. They'll be joining an anticipated 20,000 volunteers from Pittsburgh to Cairo, Illinois in the annual effort.

Billed as the largest single environmental cleanup project in the U.S., the Sweep aims to clean up more than 1,900 miles of Ohio riverbank through six states. Last year some 13,000 tons of debris—from car bodies to aluminum cans—were collected.

MSD's Bud Schardein, local coordinator of the Sweep, said as

many as 600 volunteers are expected to converge on the river



banks this Saturday. In addition to MSD, local sponsors are the City of Louisville's Operation Brightside, Jefferson County Public Works, the U.S. Corps of Engineers, The Louisville

Water Company and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Local business owner Jack Mefford is offering \$2,000 to the largest non-profit group participating in the Sweep and \$1,000 to the second-largest group.

To volunteer for the sweep or for details, phone MSD's Janice Lewis at 540-6366. Volunteers will receive a commemorative T-shirt, as well as work gloves and all the trash bags they can fill on Sweep Day.



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

Inside *Update*

- Volunteers sought for 12th Ohio River Sweep
- Tell MSD your thoughts on proposed rate hike
- Waterway studies key to revising floodplain map
- Okolona drainage project dries out Kurtz Avenue

Upcoming Events

June 16

Ohio River Sweep, 9 a.m. at various locations. Call Janice Lewis at 540-6366 for details.

June 18

Public hearing, Proposed rate increase, 7 p.m., 700 W. Liberty, first floor

June 25

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

July 4

Independence Day holiday. MSD offices are closed. For 24-hour emergency service phone 587-0603.

Pump stations to be upgraded

A pair of sanitary sewer pump stations will be fitted with grinders, enabling them to operate more efficiently and economically.

Located on 34th Street and the corner of Fourth and Main streets, the two pump stations are key service components for much of the west end and downtown business district.

Now, as debris enters sanitary and storm sewers, it is captured at pump stations by bar screens. "Debris is removed daily to prevent obstructions, at a cost of about \$100,000 a year for both pump stations," according to Beargrass Area Team Leader Loyiso Melisizwe.

When installed, the grinders will

wear down debris into small pieces that can pass through the pumps without clogging or damaging them. Cost to install the grinders at both pump stations is about \$172,000.

With savings from operations and maintenance costs, Melisizwe estimates the grinders should pay for themselves within two years.

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