



**MSD**

Louisville and Jefferson County  
Metropolitan Sewer District

# Update

News about activities and developments at MSD

**June 26, 2002**

## Fish coming to Louisville streets *Stencils warn of water pollution hazards*

Each year thousands of gallons of oil, antifreeze and other substances are dumped into storm drains that flow to the Ohio River. To increase public awareness of this environmental hazard, Jefferson County high school students and teachers are working with MSD to take this message to the streets.

They are applying stencils on pavement next to storm drains throughout the city. The message, "Dump no waste, drains to Ohio River," is illustrated with a fish. "We want people to get the message that dumping chemicals and pollutants into storm drains harms the environment," said Julie

Potempa, MSD's manager of the stencil program.

Already students and teachers are applying these highly visible



messages near storm drains in western Louisville. They will

continue through August 2.

"Many storm drains flow directly into the river without being treated at a wastewater plant," Potempa said. "The stencils remind people that they can help protect the river from pollution that is harmful to fish."

Storm drain stencils have been used in more than 40 states and have proven to be effective in raising public awareness of storm drain connections to surface water. A survey of residents in areas of Washington and Wisconsin where the stencils appear revealed that 75 percent of

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## Health Department pact to control mosquitoes

Summer weather in Jefferson County is inviting to mosquitoes.

To keep mosquito populations down, MSD contracts with the Jefferson County Health Department's Division of Environmental Health Protection to treat more than 14,300 catch basins.

The agreement with the Health Department began three years ago. It calls for the Health Department to treat MSD catch basins with bait briquettes that also act as a larvicide. "The mosquito-baiting program has been effective from a public health standpoint, as well as cost-effective for MSD," said

Maintenance Support Services Manager Rick Watkins.

Mosquitoes can carry diseases, including St. Louis encephalitis and West Nile virus that are potentially fatal to humans, animals and birds. Mosquitoes pass viruses when they bite. Ongoing treatment of catch basins throughout the summer helps reduce mosquito populations by eliminating 14,300 breeding spots.

Up to four treatments are scheduled from May through October this year. If conditions require, Watkins said additional treatments may be scheduled.

Under the agreement, MSD will reimburse the Health Department for its actual costs to treat the catch basins, up to \$60,000 for three

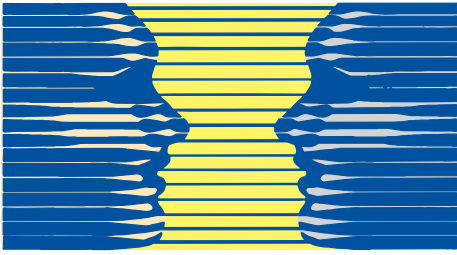
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## Keep mosquitoes away

To keep mosquitoes away, try these steps:

- Eliminate breeding sites: empty rain-gathering containers, change water in birdbaths often, keep swimming pools and hot tubs clean and covered when not in use, and unclog gutters and downspouts
- Make sure screens on doors and windows fit tightly
- Wear protective clothing at night when mosquitoes are present
- Use insect repellent
- Remember that those working outdoors and participating in recreational activities are most susceptible to bites

*(Source: Kentucky Department for Public Health Web site)*



## Customer First at Work

*Editor's note: Following are excerpts of customer comments.*

**"Marya Summers** and MSD's Customer Service Department deserve a pat on the back for helping me get a tap location on my father's property."

—Susan Manning  
Valley Station, 40272

"Compliments to **Julie Blanford** on the excellent customer service she provided during the plumber's reimbursement process. She kept me up-to-date on the progress of the request."

—Kathleen R. Payette  
St. Matthews, 40205

**"Sam Marino, Steve Thomas and Donald Burrus** should be commended for the great job repairing a cave-in on my property. Your Customer Service staff also was kind and helpful."

—Dorothy Nacke  
Pleasure Ridge Park, 40258

"The crew that came out to tv-inspect my line not only fixed the problem, they even explained their findings to my wife and daughter."

—Larry Hessig  
Fern Creek, 40229

"Thanks to **Greg Bissel, Enoch Dean and Otis Pope** the cave-in on my property that connects to the creek was repaired."

—Rita Barber  
Fairdale, 40214



## Area Team News

### Mill Creek

#### PRP sewer project OK'ed

Construction is set to begin on a sewer project to serve properties in the Venango Drive area near Pleasure Ridge Park High School.

Plans call for constructing nearly two miles of sewer to serve about 100 properties in the area that have relied on septic systems. It is expected to take about six months to complete and cost \$967,603.

### Morris Forman Wastewater Treatment Plant

#### Inflatable dam to reduce overflows, prevent backups

Preventing a combined sewer overflow from discharging into the Ohio River is the chief goal of an inflatable dam to be installed in the sewer system near the Morris Forman Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The inflatable dam will replace an existing, fixed dam, and will help keep untreated wastewater from discharging into the Ohio River. When installation is completed, the inflatable dam will be among the MSD facilities operated automatically.

When deflated, the dam will allow wastewater to be gradually released to the treatment plant, reducing the risk of sewer backups.

The inflatable dam will cost \$348,500 to install.

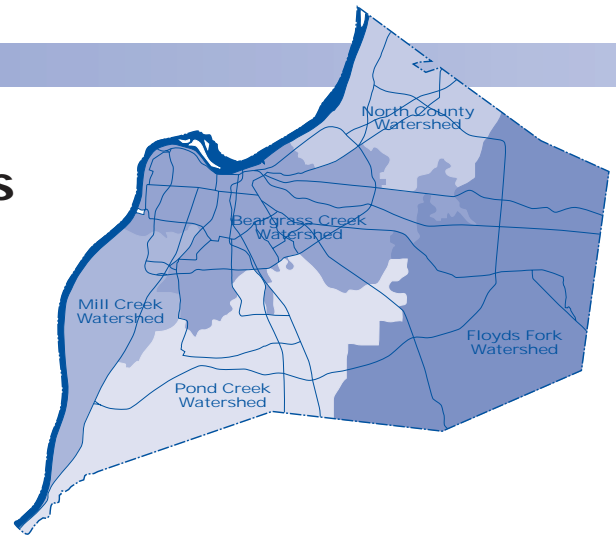
### Pond Creek

#### Portion of Fern Creek project gets underway

Work will begin soon on part of the Fern Creek/Nottingham sewer interceptor project.

The line will extend from Sunny Slopes to Stoneybrook Drive. When completed, it will take three private septic systems out of service and provide a service outlet for a proposed 40-home subdivision.

Construction of the line is expected to cost \$182,000. The project is part of the larger Fern Creek/Nottingham Interceptor #6 Project, which won't be completed until 2005.



## MSD Milestones

### Welcome to Team MSD:

- Tony Glore, Training Administrator, 7/8

### Congratulations on new positions:

- Sarah Lynn Cunningham, CERES Principles Engineer, from Executive Offices to Engineering, 6/8
- Joyce Daugherty, from Information Technology to Revenue/Finance, 5/25

- Tim Durham, promoted to Utility Worker III, 6/29
- Robin Ferrell, promoted to Utility Leader, 6/15
- Thomas Kuhn, Master Maintenance Mechanic, from East Region to West Region, 6/1
- Janice Lewis, Communications Specialist, from Community Relations/Emergency Response to Engineering, 6/8

### Thanks for the years of service:

- Joy Goodman, Benefits Specialist, retiring 7/31

# High river level makes clean up a challenge

Thanks to heavy spring rains, more trash and debris than usual washed up on the banks of the Ohio River and its tributaries. That didn't stop 350 local volunteers from spending Saturday, June 15 to clear some 30 tons of trash from the riverside as part of the 13th annual Ohio River Sweep.



Members of the East End Boys and Girls Club prepare to scour the riverbanks along Cox Park.

"The river and creeks were exceptionally high during the winter and spring," according to MSD's Acting Executive Director and Sweep Coordinator Bud Schardein. "When water levels dropped, more debris than usual was left on the banks."

In addition to trees limbs and other natural debris, local volunteers mostly hauled in plastic

containers, aluminum cans and vehicle tires.

Along with MSD, which also coordinates the local Sweep, sponsors include Louisville Water Company and LG&E. Both Louisville and Jefferson County Public Works departments assisted, and Louisville Police's River Patrol

was on hand to ensure volunteer safety. Waste Management, Inc. provides free landfill space for the trash.

Billed as one of the largest environmental clean up projects in the U.S., the yearly event covers about 1,800 miles of Ohio River

and tributary banks from Pennsylvania to Illinois. More than 17,000 volunteers throughout six states, armed with plastic bags, gloves and shovels pitched in this year. The Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission coordinates the Sweep regionally.



Former MSD employee Mark Sites, with daughter, Margaret, and son, John, display their largest "prize" from the Ohio River Sweep: a wheel and whitewall tire.



County Environmental Management staff Cass Harris and Bob Schindler kept tabs on Sweep progress at Cox Park. Nine-year-old Colleen Harris, visiting from South Carolina, was eager to help.

## Fish coming

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those who had seen the stencils knew the drains flowed to surface water.

Potempa says stenciling won't solve all water pollution problems, but it's a step toward public education and support. According to the U.S. EPA, more than 60 percent of surface water pollution comes from non-industrial sources, including stormwater runoff and wastes dumped into storm drains.

## Health Department

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treatments a year and a maximum of \$80,000 a year for four treatments. Cost for the service in 2001 was slightly more than \$59,000. For help with mosquito problems, phone Jefferson County Health Department at 574-6650. For help with concerns about catch basins, contact Customer Service any time at 587-0603 or [customerservice@msdlouky.org](mailto:customerservice@msdlouky.org).

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Metropolitan Sewer District

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# MSD

Louisville and Jefferson County  
Metropolitan Sewer District

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## Inside Update

- Fish sighted on Louisville streets
- 350 help sweep Ohio River banks
- MSD, Health Department join to control mosquitoes
- How to avoid mosquitoes on your property

## Programs, personnel earn honors

The Industrial Waste Department Response Team received a **certificate of appreciation for the Hanuman Redux 2001 exercise**. The mock emergency drill involved a bio-terrorism drill and included other emergency response personnel. Local responders cut their response time in half from previous exercises.

After We Flush, the program that teaches fifth graders about wastewater treatment, was recognized by the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies with the **2002 Public Information and Education Award**. The award was presented at AMSA's national conference in May.

Former Executive Director Gordon R. Garner received a **special honor from U.S. EPA Secretary Christine Todd Whitman** at the national AMSA conference in May. The plaque recognizes Garner's "visionary leadership and significant contribution to programs that protect the nation's water resources."

Wet Weather/Water Quality Team Leader Anglea Akridge received the **Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers President's Award** for the campaign she co-chaired to generate media coverage and membership interest.

## Upcoming Events

### July 4

*Independence Day holiday.* MSD's offices are closed. For 24-hour customer service phone 587-0603

### July 8

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

### July 8-10

*Public meetings*, Mill Creek sewer projects, 11 a.m. daily, Southwest Government Center, 7219 Dixie Hwy.

### July 22

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