

## Matchmaking: Area team finds certified businesses

Valentine's Day may be over, but MSD and its major business partners are looking to partner with certified minority- and woman-owned firms.

MSD is finalizing projects for the next fiscal year that begins July 1. Finding qualified firms to complete them has become a challenge for the Wet Weather & Water Quality Area Team.

*"We're looking for real partners for the long term. This is new technology and not many companies can come in and hit the ground running, but we will work with them and show them how."*

"In the past our focus has been on construction, but our direction has changed, employing more specialized technology that's new both in our service area and in our industry," says Team Leader Angela Akridge. "We're focused on using new technologies and methods that maximize water quality benefits, and that's made it challenging to find certified firms that can help."

The Wet Weather & Water Quality Team got creative. Working with the team's consulting

engineer Tetra Tech, they invited area certified minority- and woman-owned firms to attend WW & WQ University. Three sessions have been held since October 2002. More than 35 certified businesses have participated, learning first-hand from MSD's Wet Weather & Water Quality staff about MSD's plans to improve water quality and the tasks involved.

According to Tetra Tech Project Manager Ward Wilson, several firms have been identified from the sessions as possible partners for the Wet Weather & Water Quality program. He's meeting with them one-on-one, learning how they can fit into specific tasks. "We're looking for real partners for the long term," Wilson said. "I'm telling people I meet with that this is new technology and not many companies can come in and hit the ground running, but we will work with them and show them how."

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## Melting snow creates flooding concerns

Melting snow from the recent winter storm, followed by a weekend flood watch has MSD staff and crews preparing for rising water levels.

"As the melting snow and water—from as far away as Pennsylvania and West Virginia—drains into the Ohio Valley and the Ohio River, we must put our flood plans in place," said Executive Director Bud Schardein.

With more precipitation predicted in the coming week, MSD is ready to install street closures and place pump stations into operation if necessary. Two pump stations have already begun moving water from storm sewers to the



*Water depth signs show drivers when viaducts, bridge crossings and low-lying areas are unsafe to pass.*

Ohio River, cresting over the weekend at higher-than-normal levels.

Year round, MSD works to plan proper drainage throughout the service area so when

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(Entre 8 mañana y 5 p.m.  
lunes a viernes)



## Customer First at Work

“Thanks to **Tom Wise** for the prompt, courteous and professional attitude with which he helped locate my service connection. I would like to thank MSD for sending out such a dedicated professional.”  
–Karen Summers, Louisville, 40214

## MSD Milestones

Welcome to MSD:  
**Eric Turley**, Lab Tech II

Congratulations on promotions:  
**Robert Day** to Utility Worker III  
**Enoch Dean** to Utility Worker III  
**Bob Husband** to Utility Worker II  
**Tammy Moore** to Benefits Assistant  
**James Rutledge** to Operator-in-Training  
**Sharon Winburn** to Maintenance Support Rep  
**Val Winburn** to Utility Worker III

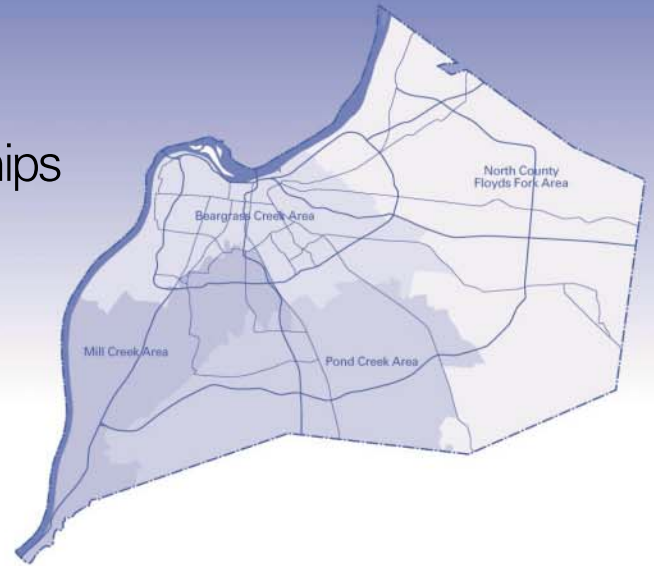
Changing the pace:  
**Nate Elliott**, transfer to Utility Worker II  
**Steve Prestigiaco**, transfer to Utility Worker II

## Area Team News Mayor seeks partnerships

Adding another milestone to his administration, Mayor Jerry Abramson attended the February 24 MSD Board meeting, the first sitting mayor to visit the Board since MSD’s creation in 1946.

“I just wanted to come by and say thank you,” Abramson said. He cited MSD’s participation in snow removal and Project DRI as examples of how Metro agencies can work together to meet the community’s needs.

Under Louisville Metro’s cabinet structure, MSD, along with other public works agencies, is finding new opportunities to save money and improve service. “This synergy already is making government more responsive to citizen concerns,” Abramson said. Cabinet representatives are exploring collective purchasing, interagency fleet management and other ways to share resources. “We’re glad MSD is part of Metro Government,” Abramson said.



## Pond Creek

A new roadside drainage system will reduce standing water in yards along Tuesday Way in the Woodland Manor subdivision. Construction will begin by April to install about 4,000 feet of paved roadside swale and 51 driveway aprons, according to Pond Creek Area Team Leader David Schaftlein. The project will cost \$154,802 to complete.

Schaftlein said the project will address 15 drainage service requests and benefit all properties along Tuesday Way and Carnes Court. It is the first of the 381 improvements planned under Project DRI, a partnership of Louisville Metro Government and MSD to correct drainage problems throughout Jefferson County neighborhoods.



*Properties along Tuesday Way will be the first to experience drainage relief as Project D.R.I. gets underway.*

## DiverseWorks is part of the routine

For consulting engineers CH2M Hill and the Morris Forman Area Team, finding certified businesses to work in the highly specialized area of wastewater treatment plants is ongoing. “Everyone on our staff and the Morris Forman team is involved in identifying opportunities to involve minority- and woman-owned firms,” according to CH2M Hill Vice President Gary Swanson.

Established relationships with several certified firms allow the Morris Forman Team to incorporate them into the annual business planning cycle. “As new opportunities come up, we look for

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## Matchmaking... *Continued from page 1*



*Minority- and woman-businesses joined the WW & WQ Team to learn how their companies could make local waterways cleaner.*

Already, St. Louis-based minority firm ERM is working with the team on real time control, a technology that predicts when and where heavy rains will fall, routing combined sewer flow to areas with available capacity to store it until rains subside. J.Y. Legner Associates, a local minority-owned technical staffing firm, provides personnel for ongoing water quality sampling throughout MSD's service area.

Akridge hopes future WW & WQ University classes feature many of the technical experts the team has employed to implement wet weather controls throughout MSD's system. "That's an exciting benefit for certified firms in Louisville," Akridge notes. "Other cities face the same problems and will be looking to Louisville for businesses that can help them achieve the same results we will be getting here. Learning about the technologies here can help them grow their businesses in an area that's expanding and much needed in other markets."

## DiverseWorks... *Continued from page 2*

ways to either increase the participation of existing firms or bring in new ones to fill those needs," Swanson said.



Sometimes certified firms with specific expertise contact Swanson directly, like Messier & Associates did regarding inspection and construction management opportunities. "Now Fernando Messier works with an experienced construction manager, relieving the manager's work overload and providing valuable support to MSD while learning construction contract administration from a CH2M veteran," Swanson said.

Chris Dickinson, principal in the Louisville office of Gresham, Smith and Partners, credits networking for connecting the Beargrass Creek Area Team with certified firms. Active involvement with the Kentuckiana Minority Supplier Development Council also gives the firm opportunities to meet potential partners.

Because many projects require highly specialized services, both Dickinson and Swanson said their companies' offices in other markets can help. That's how Swanson found ERM, who has worked extensively with CH2M Hill's St. Louis office on telemetry and control systems. ERM now works with the Morris Forman Area Team, and has opened a Louisville office.

Dickinson and Swanson both said they look first for qualified certified firms in the local market, always starting with the DiverseWorks list of certified businesses. "It better serves MSD and makes sure that MSD's program has the maximum economic benefit in its service area," according to Swanson.

"The preference always is to work with local businesses," Dickinson said. "The opportunity to build relationships that keep growing contributes to better service for MSD."

## Upcoming Events

March 10 and 24  
**MSD Board meeting,**  
 10 a.m., 700 W. Liberty,  
 first floor

March 25  
**Public meeting, Beargrass  
 Creek Flood Protection,**  
 7 p.m., St. Agnes School  
 cafeteria,  
 1800 Newburg Rd.

## After Work

**MSD Retirees' Club News**  
 By DOTTIE METCALFE  
 Past President and  
 Charter Member

The Retirees' Club  
 congratulates  
**Bud Schardein, Jr.** on  
 his elevation to executive  
 director of MSD. We are  
 happy for you.

We have lost two of our  
 most faithful members.  
**Mr. Charles E. Gaines**  
 (Operations) and  
**Melvin Fritsch** (Treatment  
 Plant) both recently passed  
 away. Gaines, 96, may have  
 been our oldest member and  
 remained active as long as he  
 could. Fritsch and his wife,  
 Geraldine, were active in the  
 club. Both will be missed.

**Forrest Steinlage**  
 (Engineering, ret. 8/1/85) has  
 been ill and **Carl Taylor**  
 (Operations, ret. 5/31/91) has  
 been in the hospital. My  
 husband also has been in  
 the hospital, so I haven't  
 been in close touch with our  
 membership.

The club's next meeting will  
 be in April. Watch for the  
 date in Update and the  
 notice in your mailbox.



# MSD

Louisville and Jefferson County  
Metropolitan Sewer District

700 West Liberty Street  
Louisville, KY 40203-1911



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## Melting snow...

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heavy rains occur, flood potential is reduced. Also, the 27-mile long flood protection system is a barrier for much of the area against rising river levels. Throughout Louisville Metro, massive stormwater detention basins collect excess rain and runoff to reduce flash flooding in vulnerable neighborhoods.

In 45 known flood-prone locations like viaducts and low bridge crossings, MSD warning signs mark the depth of standing water. “The signs alert drivers when water is high enough to damage vehicles or endanger passengers,” Schardein said. “Fast-moving water that’s just two feet deep is enough to lift and move a vehicle.”

Schardein says many flood-related accidents can be avoided. “With some advance preparation and common sense, property loss and injuries can be reduced.”

## When floods strike

Flash flooding is a temporary condition that comes and passes quickly. Taking unnecessary risks can result in loss of life or serious injury. When heavy rains fall, use common sense.

- Stay out of floodwaters. As little as six inches of moving water can throw an adult off balance; two feet can sweep away a vehicle or truck.
- Turn off gas and electricity if you can without wading into water.
- Move vehicles to higher ground.
- Do not walk into a flooded basement, due to the risk of electrocution.
- Store valuables away from places likely to flood.
- If you must evacuate, don’t forget to take pets.