

Project DRI enters second year

More than \$8 million spent on 108 projects in 12 months

The partnership between Louisville Metro and MSD to address the community's most pressing drainage problems has completed its first year.

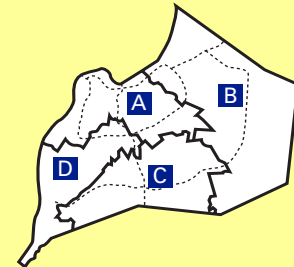
With 381 projects identified throughout Louisville Metro at a total cost of \$67 million, the two-and-a-half year plan will benefit neighborhoods with chronic drainage problems. During its first 12 months, Project DRI funded 108 neighborhood drainage projects at a cost of more than \$8 million.

MSD Executive Director Bud Schardein said Project DRI's progress in the first 12 months is significant.

"This marks a successful shift in focus for MSD from wastewater collection and treatment to stormwater drainage," Schardein said. "By working in partnership with Louisville Metro Government, we've been able to address the worst drainage problems to benefit the most people."

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Project DRI completed more than \$8 million in drainage improvements throughout Louisville Metro in 2003.



A) Beargrass Creek: 35 projects; \$2.6 million

B) Floyds Fork & North County: 13 projects; \$566,990

C) Pond Creek: 37 projects; \$3.7 million

D) Mill Creek: 27 projects; \$1 million

"By working in partnership with Louisville Metro Government, we've been able to address the worst drainage problems to benefit the most people."

City of Prospect joins MSD drainage service area

MSD has begun operating and maintaining the drainage system within the City of Prospect, according to an agreement approved by the Prospect City Council and MSD's Board.

Like other MSD drainage customers, Prospect residents will pay MSD's monthly drainage fee of \$4.14. The fee will be billed bi-monthly by the Louisville Water Company, which is MSD's billing and collection agent.

They'll benefit from MSD's drainage maintenance services to keep streams, ditches and pipes flowing properly. Those include periodic mowing and cleaning of major drainage channels; erosion and siltation control in drainage easements; pipe, catch basin and manhole cleaning; and preventive maintenance of Prospect's existing drainage facilities.

In addition, Prospect will be included in MSD's Neighborhood Maintenance Program where crews are dispatched to perform maintenance work that usually is completed in less than a week.

According to the agreement, the City of Prospect will pay MSD \$578,000 over a nine-year period. The payment stems from a 1987 agreement which gave fourth-class cities like Prospect the option to become part of the MSD drainage utility then or to join it later.

When a fourth-class city decides to join MSD's drainage utility, it is required to compensate MSD for the amount of drainage fees it would have collected had the city been part of the utility since 1987. Prospect's \$578,000 payment represents these drainage fees.

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CONNECT WITH MSD

502-540-6000

24/7 Customer Service:
587-0603

www.msdlouky.org

TDD/TTY: 540-6233

En español: 540-6423
(Entre 8 mañana y 5 p.m.
lunes a viernes)



Upcoming Events

March 3

Open House Public Meeting, Woodland Drive and Barbers Lane, Likens Avenue sewer projects and Old Cane Run Road, Likens and Gudgel avenues drainage improvement projects,

3 p.m. to 6 p.m., Southwest Government Center, 7219 Dixie Hwy.

March 4

Candlelight Subdivision Neighborhood Meeting,

7 p.m., Lassiter Middle School, 8200 Candleworth Dr.

March 8 and 22

MSD Board meeting,

10 a.m., 700 W. Liberty, first floor

MSD Milestones

Welcome to MSD:

Harry Goodman,

Operator-in-Training

Lawrence Lewis, Utility Trainee

Noble Marks, Operator-in-Training

Congratulations on these promotions:

Barry Bivin to Utility Worker III

Pat Bogard to Utility Worker III

Howard Gant to Utility Worker III

Stephon Gazaway

to Utility Worker III

Steve Jones to Utility Worker III

William Summers

to Operator-in-Training

Changing the pace:

Jeff Stinnett transferring to

Maintenance Support

We will miss:

Carl Randol, Central Region

Process Supervisor, retiring March 31

Jane Struck, Human Resources

Assistant, retiring March 31

Retirees Club News

Ed Garner (1995, Engineering)

is recovering from his 2003 stroke.

Robert Starkey (1996, Engineering)

passed away Dec. 21, 2003.

Area Team Project Roundup

Mill Creek: Nearly a mile of sewers and 1,200 feet of drainage improvements will be constructed along **Woodland Drive, Barbers Lane and Cane Run Road** near the Greenbelt Highway split. The \$698,655 project will connect 66 properties to sanitary sewers. The drainage improvements are part of Project DRI, the partnership between Louisville Metro and MSD to address the community's worst drainage problems.

Rear yard and roadside drainage improvements will be constructed along **South Crums Lane, Orchard Way, Sunset Drive and Sunflower and Mae avenues.** The \$369,000 project is part of Project DRI and will benefit more than 150 properties.

Thirty properties will benefit from construction of roadside and rear yard drainage improvements along **Oak Park and Paramount drives and Axtell Avenue.** The \$89,522 project—part of the Project DRI partnership between Louisville Metro and MSD—will construct a half-mile of improvements.

More than a quarter-mile of drainage improvements will be constructed south of Johnsonstown Road on **Fenmore Avenue** as part of Project DRI. The \$63,821 project will address nine customer service requests and affect 25 properties.

Project DRI will construct nearly a half-mile of roadside drainage improvements along **Alps Road,** near Mount Marcy Road and northeast of Lower Hunters Trace. The \$63,228 project will benefit 34 properties.

Pond Creek: More than one mile of roadside drainage improvements will be installed along **Jeanine Drive** between East Indian Trail and Fern Valley Road, near Poplar Level Road.

The \$193,700 project, part of the DRI partnership between Louisville Metro and MSD, will benefit nearly 100 properties and address 31 customer requests.

Project DRI... *continued from page 1*

Of the 108 projects completed, more than half were in Louisville Metro's southwest quadrant at a combined cost of nearly \$5 million. According to Schardein, more than 60 percent of all 381 DRI projects are planned for southwest neighborhoods.

Since 1987, when MSD became the stormwater drainage utility for most of Jefferson County, more than \$150 million has been invested in drainage and flood protection projects. While much of this investment funded major channel improvements and flood storage basins, Schardein said MSD also completed significant amounts of neighborhood drainage work.

Most Project DRI work includes maintenance of silted drainage ditches, broken storm sewers and installing drainage facilities in neighborhoods where none exist.

Project DRI was developed after the 2003 general election, as Mayor Jerry Abramson and the 26 Metro Council representatives looked for a way to respond to citizen's drainage concerns. MSD also had heard from customers with drainage problems during a series of public meetings and through its Customer Service Department. Project DRI was unveiled January 27, 2003.



City of Prospect... *continued from page 1*

Until the payment period has ended, MSD won't construct major drainage improvements in Prospect, according to the agreement. But MSD Executive Director Bud Schardein said MSD will perform inspections of drainage problems requested by Prospect customers and use them to prioritize the community's needs. The prioritization will lay the groundwork for any capital construction projects to improve the drainage system after the payment period concludes.

The City of Prospect agreed to transfer to MSD all rights to use and access the drainage facilities. The agreement also allows MSD to retain the site of the Hunting Creek South Wastewater Treatment Plant, when it is no longer in service. According to Schardein, the site may be used for future stormwater drainage or wastewater projects.

Schardein said MSD and Prospect officials had discussed drainage service for about two years before signing the agreement. It was a natural progression since MSD has provided wastewater services to portions of Oldham County since 1993 and has provided wastewater collection and treatment services to Prospect since 1999.

As other services in the region consolidate, Schardein said MSD also is discussing arrangements similar to the Prospect agreement with other smaller jurisdictions. "These agreements carry win-win results for both our existing and new customers," he said. "Expanding MSD's service area keeps costs down for our existing customers and gives customers from acquired systems better services at lower prices than they're used to paying."



Drainage facilities like this will be maintained by MSD under an agreement with the City of Prospect to provide drainage services.

Customer First at Work

"My compliments to **Tony Clarkson, Robin Ferrell and Steve Thomas.**

They worked all day in the cold and are committed to making repairs."

--Cathy Childress, Valley Station, 40272

"The crew of **Dave Gittings, Rodney Johnson and Tony Morrison** was very professional, helpful and all-around nice. Thanks for a job well-done!"

--Jim Davis, Cherokee Triangle, 40205

"**Ezell Smith** was a gentleman and explained everything from start to finish."

--Arlene Kaufman, Cherokee Triangle, 40205

"Thanks to **Roderick "Moe" Harris, Arnett Henderson, Nelson Little, Ron Lovely, Kenny Morton and James Rutledge** who did a great job cleaning the ditch near my home. Also, thanks to **Tammy Moore** for her professional manner in expediting my concern."

--Charlie Ernst, Buechel, 40218

"Thanks to **Donnie Riddle** for a great job locating the back up. He deserves accolades for his work."

--Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Belcher, Buechel, 40218

New equipment improves employee safety



Installing new sewer lines in an excavated trench is now safer for MSD workers with new bracing equipment that is lightweight and may be installed from ground level instead of from inside the trench.

MSD will soon be using lightweight equipment designed to enhance the safety of employees working in excavated trenches. The new equipment weighs less and may be assembled above the excavation, according to MSD Safety and Emergency Response Administrator Allen Adams.

Before, MSD used shoring equipment that weighed more than 300 pounds and required employees to install it from inside an excavated trench. That presented safety hazards to MSD workers who had to install and remove the equipment in an unprotected excavation.

The Kentucky Occupational Safety and Health Administration requires MSD to protect employees working in an excavation that is five or more feet deep. Adams said the new equipment will take less time for employees to install and remove, without entering an excavated trench.

"Our objective is to supply lightweight equipment that can be safely installed and removed, providing the greatest protection for our employees," Adams said.



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MSD

Louisville and Jefferson County
Metropolitan Sewer District

700 West Liberty Street
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Bond rating, sale boost capital construction fund

MSD has issued more than \$100 million in new revenue bonds to fund capital construction projects outlined in its five-year plan.

The bond issue was completed following an “A-plus” rating assigned to the bond issue by Fitch Ratings, a New York-based ratings agency.

Fitch based its rating on MSD’s diverse and growing service area, and consistent financial performance supported by rate increases and moderate debt. Fitch rated the outlook for the bonds as stable.

The bonds will be used for wastewater and drainage system expansion and improvements, wastewater treatment facility upgrades and water quality initiatives, according to MSD Finance Director Marion Gee.

Customer fees for wastewater and stormwater service, along with charges to extend wastewater lines and connect new customers, generate MSD’s revenues. Those revenues fund operation and maintenance of MSD’s existing facilities. MSD does not receive supplementary monies from taxes or from other local government agencies.

“Bond sales raise capital for major construction initiatives,” Gee said. “This issue will help MSD complete new projects that are in our five-year planning window.”