

**This edition of Streamline highlights MSD's response to the February/March 2018 Flood.**

From mid-February to mid-March Louisville experienced its worst flood in 20 years. The cleanup continues at hundreds of homes and businesses, and MSD has its share of cleanup to complete as well. It is our mission to provide flood protection for our community.



Geese swim on Rowan Street on the "wet side" of the floodwall.

## Protecting our community from rising waters

On February 12, as Ohio River levels started to climb upward, most of our community was unaware of the planning taking place by MSD Flood Protection staff as they mobilized to protect our community. Staff began closing underground floodgates the next day, and planning to put flood pumping stations and closures in as the water levels were rising. Flood pumping stations push inland water up and out into the river. The first of these stations went into service on February 15.

- Floodgates are underground and out of site. They close off large drainage pipes that carry rainwater out to the river. Pumps take over the job of pushing water out that normally flows by gravity.
- The floodwall roadway closures are openings in the floodwall that cars and pedestrians can normally pass through. As waters rise, the openings are closed to keep the river out of the city. The first of those were installed on February 23 at 10th and 27th streets. Eventually, MSD had a total of six floodwall roadway closures in place during this flooding event.

By February 23, all 16 of MSD's flood pumping stations were in full service, 150 floodgates had been closed, and 29-miles of floodwall and earthen levee were keeping the river out of our city.

# STREAMLINE

News and Events at Louisville MSD · March 2018

## OUR VISION

Achieving Safe, Clean Waterways  
for a Healthy and Vibrant Community



A crane is used to lower pieces of the floodwall roadway closure across Bingham Way.

But, the worst was yet to come with the most rain recorded in Louisville for February and a swollen Ohio River. On Saturday evening, February 24, Louisville Metro was inundated with heavy rains. Most areas received 2-3 inches, with some getting as much as 4 inches of rain. All 16 flood pumping stations operated at full capacity for a four-hour period, pumping out a total of 8 billion gallons per minute. River levels rose 2.3 feet over the span of 12 hours.

Continued on page 2



## OUR MISSION

Providing Exceptional Wastewater, Drainage  
and Flood Protection Services for Our Community

24/7/365

502.587.0603 · [CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org](mailto:CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org)

  [LouisvilleMSD](https://www.louisvillemsd.com)

## Protecting our community... continued from page 1

**MSD pumped  
27,891,512,297  
gallons of water out  
of the city and into  
the Ohio River.**

— February/March 2018



**Above:** Floodwaters rush out of MSD's Pond Creek Flood Pumping Station. **Right:** The station sits idle when water levels are normal.

### Damage Sustained

While all of MSD's 16 flood pumping stations remained in operation during the flooding event. Some pumps experienced damage during the flood event, mostly due to their age and the extreme amount of stormwater.

- **Beargrass Creek Flood Pumping Station (FPS)** — which was put into service in 1954 —experienced a tremendous amount of debris and trash, which piled up on the inland side of the facility. The decision was made to keep the trash in place till the waters began to recede. Crews worked for two days to clear the debris.
- **Paddy's Run FPS** — which was put into service in 1953 — had one pump fail, leaving this station with five working pumps protecting and serving the area.
- **Pond Creek FPS** — which was put into service in 1989 — lost one of its four pumps during the event, leaving three pumps available for full capacity. Each pump at this station can push 450,000 gallons of water per minute out to the river.
- **Upper Mill Creek FPS** — which was put into service in 1979 — also lost one of its three pumps due to motor damage.

Other flood pumping stations sustained damage due to flooding in the lower levels. Those issues did not impede the operation of the pumps.



Crews work to install the floodwall roadway closure on Port Road in Riverport.



**February 2018 total rainfall  
10.47 inches at Louisville  
International Airport —  
broke a record that  
had stood for 134 years**

MSD Executive Director Tony Parrott speaks at a press briefing held at the 11th Street floodwall roadway closure. Looking on are (left to right) Deputy Mayor Ellen Heslen, U.S. Congressional Representative John Yarmuth, Mayor Greg Fischer, behind Yarmuth is EMA Director Jody Meiman.



While most of the city slept overnight on February 15, Flood Protection staff began installing underground floodgates in downtown Louisville.

#### **Rescue assistance provided**

During the overnight hours of February 24, MSD personnel constructed a temporary gravel road to assist the Lake Dreamland Fire Department with the evacuation of some area residents.

#### **Improvements made...more needed**

Many comparisons were made with this flood and the one that took place in March 1997. MSD has built more than 1 billion gallons of stormwater storage since that 1997 flood. This storage protected hundreds of homes. Additionally, MSD has bought and removed — with federal, state and MSD dollars — approximately 300 homes that repeatedly flood.

**“Nine of MSD’s flood pumping stations are more than 65 years old — “museum quality and age,” and were built in the decades after Louisville’s Great Flood of 1937, which covered two-thirds of the city.”**

— MSD Chief of Operations  
Brian Bingham



**At MSD it's all hands on deck during rising waters and heavy rain.**



Floodwall Maintenance Electrician Patricia Capito keeps a watchful eye on operations at one of MSD's 16 flood pumping stations.

Waves from a passing barge crash into the picnic area of Waterfront Park.

**Next steps**

MSD Flood Protection staff continues inspection, evaluation and repair of our flood protection system. They work year-round to maintain 16 flood pumping stations — nine of which are more than 65 years old — 150 floodgates, and 29-miles of floodwall and earthen levee. You may even see them practicing the installation of each floodwall roadway closure once every three years.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers built the system after the city's two highest floods of record in 1937 and 1945. MSD has been responsible for the Flood Protection System since 1987.

For more information on our flood protection system visit:

**[LouisvilleMSD.org/what-we-do/flood-protection](http://LouisvilleMSD.org/what-we-do/flood-protection).**

**Customers can report any roadway flooding issues or sewer backups into homes 24/7/365.**

**MSD Customer Relations**

**502-587-0603**

**CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org**



Flood Protection Supervisor JP Carsone takes questions from the media about the rising river on February 24.

## Flood response requires “all hands on deck”

During flooding, many MSD employees from various departments join with our Flood Protection staff to keep our city safe. The job is 24/7 till the work is done.

### Leadership Response Team

Brian Bingham      Tony Parrott  
Mike Griffith      Marc Thomas

### Flood Protection Staff

Dane Anderson	Terry French-Marzian	Danny Janssen
Tom Armistead	Walt Furlong	Calbert Kelsey
Chris Bullock	Dontez Graham	Mark Moats
Patricia Capito	Richard Grigsby	William Phillips
JP Carsone	Ken Hudgins	Roderick Pulliam
David Ciez	Eric Hottel	Steve Williams

### Flood Pump Station/Emergency Response Team

Nick Age	Michael Fitzner	Wolffie Miller
Joey Ashby	Brandon Flaherty	Diana Mosby
Darryl Ayo	Lonnie Gaines	David Mulloy
Tim Barrett	Horace Gaither	Jermaine Murphy
Jordan Basham	Tony Glore	Jeff Nalley
Frank Becht	Billy Gnagie	Tori Perkins
Sheila Beard	Darrell Goodwin	Scott Porter
Jamar Blevins	Chris Gregory	Paula Purifoy
Jerry Bond Jr.	Adonis Henderson	Ronnie Richard
Yozette Borges	Ron Henderson	Angela Sanchez
Brian Bradley	Tim Hinkle	Matt Schaaf
David Coe	Joel Keutzer	Robin Shaw
Chad Collier	Sharlie Khan	Ron Scherer
Scott Davidson	Kellen Kukoly	Ken Stallings
Sharon Dawson	Mary Landgrave	Michael Steinbock
Jason Dempster	Loren Levitz	Ellis Swanson
Josh Dickerson	Nelson Little	John Tellman
Scott Doss	Charles McCutchen	Joe Wagner
Eugene Downs	Mike McGehee	Cathy Woosley
Chris Duke	Niccole Mardis	Gary Zollman
Gerald Dunlap	William Marshall	
Glenn Eilers	Jacob Mathis	

### Floodwall Closure Team

Mike Anderson	Nkenge Hannah	Damon Rhodes
Derry Baker	Fred Hollon	Ryan Satram
Pat Beasley	Damien Hughes	Shawn Sisk
Casey Bowlin	Walter Jackson	Darryl Smith
Dillon Brown	Calbert Kelsey	Ron Smith
Da'rius Calloway	James Krebs	Troy Smith
Ronald Chesser	Robert Lamar	LeShawn Thomas
Chad Crabtree	Garland Lindsay	Greg Thornton
Matt Davis	Whitne McFadden	Rick Tobin
Derrick Eddins	Danny McGee	Johnathan Trimble
Dwayne Edwards	Eric McKinney	Trevor Williams
Dustin French-Marzian	Ricky Mills Sr.	Willie White
Larry Gardner	Brett Parsons	Phillip Weaver
Stephon Gazaway	Kenny Patton	Troy Wethington
Kenny Gibson	Will Phillips	Travis Westmoreland
Tadd Glimore	Anthony Porter	Rontay Winston

### Sandbag Team

Kenny Gibson	Mike Dorton	Pat Busby
Chris Huelsman	Tyler Smith	Bobby Oliver
Mike Young	Adam Bader	Koye Keller
Brian Prinz	David Reynolds	Glen Cooper
Uriah Maudlin	Kurt Manley	Val Winburn

### Dispatch/Operations Control

Yvonne Austin	Brent Corley	Sherry Peters
Joines Brittle	Tony Morrison	

### Emergency Road Construction

Pat Beasley	Terry French-Marzian	Leshawn Thomas
Chris Bullock	Darryl King	

### Technical Assistance

George Anderson	Scott Davidson	Mark Keller
Mike Brazel	Josh Dickerson	Ben Merry
Eddie Brown	Darryl Evans	Steve Robbins
		Ronald Simpson

### Media/Community/Governmental Relations

Zach Baird	Sheryl Lauder	Chad Williamson
Kelley Dearing-Smith	Wes Sydnor	

### Customer Relations

Cassandra Anderson	Jesmond Gentry	Barbara Roberson
Julie Blanford	Helen Givens	Marya Summers
Tashonda Claycomb	Lanita Grimes	Charlotte Whitfield-Baker
Tracey Crawley	Johonne Hamilton	Stacey Witten
Leila Cunningham	Connie Rhodes	

## Customer **Compliments**

The Lake Dreamland Fire Protection District would like to extend our appreciation for a job well done by creating an access road during the recent flooding event.

**JP Carsone** provided invaluable service to the community, he and his crew of **Patrick Beasley, Chris Bullock, Terry French-Marzian, Darryl King** and **Leshawn Thomas** created an access road to allow emergency vehicles to access the area in the event of a police, fire or medical emergency. The professionalism displayed by Carsone and his staff was exemplary. MSD went above and beyond to protect the citizens of Louisville Metro, especially the 10 families along South Overbrook Drive during this time of flooding.

— Freddie L. George Jr., Colonel  
Fire Chief  
Lake Dreamland Fire Protection District

Just a quick note to say “nice job” by **MSD** during the recent flooding — it’s a huge task, and you all did a great job keeping the city safe!

— Peter J. Cinotto  
Deputy Director, Kentucky  
USGS Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Water Science Center

I wanted to send a message of gratitude for all you have done for us with our drainage issues due to heavy rains. Thank you to **Joe Exely** and **David Johnson** for taking our concerns so seriously and assuring no flooding at the Visually Impaired Preschool Services facility. This past week has been a severe test of the solution, and I wanted you to know that when I came by on Saturday to check things out, the drainage was working 100 percent. We are grateful for your hard work to protect our school. Sending positive thoughts of sunny skies in the days ahead.

— Diane M. Nelson  
Executive Director  
Visually Impaired Preschool Services

Early Sunday morning, as a result of the excessive rainfall, we had a drain in our basement laundry room back up, creating a standing water situation. The water drained out after a few hours, but I was not sure if the water contained any sewage and what could have caused the backup. I requested that someone with MSD take a look and advise on how to proceed. I was extremely impressed with the attention and speed with which MSD handled my request. Thank you to **Latodd Bivens, Darrell Goodwin** and **Marya Summer**. You guys are awesome.

— Mark Rosenthal



700 West Liberty Street  
Louisville, KY 40203-1911



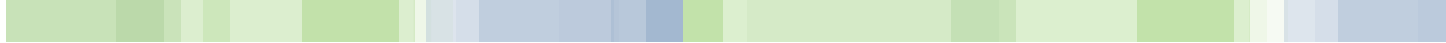
StreamLine is a publication of Louisville MSD.  
© COPYRIGHT 2018  
LOJIC map data copyrighted by the Louisville and Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District, Louisville Water Company, Louisville Metro Government and Jefferson County Property Valuation Administrator. All rights reserved.

Editor:  
Sheryl Lauder  
Communications Program Manager  
Sheryl.Lauder@LouisvilleMSD.org

Contributor:  
Chad Williamson  
Communications Specialist

MSD Board information:  
You can find information about  
MSD Board actions on our website,  
[msdrecords.LouisvilleMSD.org](http://msdrecords.LouisvilleMSD.org)

The public is welcome to attend MSD Board meetings.  
Access <http://msdrecords.louisvillemsd.org/openmsd/board.aspx> for the full schedule of both regular and Board committee meetings.



## Upcoming Events

**MARCH 27**  
**MSD Board Meeting**  
1 PM, Open Session, 700 West Liberty Street

**APRIL 6**  
**MSD Supplier Diversity Program Orientation**  
9 AM, 700 W Liberty Street

**APRIL 10**  
**MSD Audit Committee Meeting**  
4 PM, 700 W Liberty Street

**APRIL 12**  
**MSD Personnel Committee Meeting**  
2 PM, 700 W Liberty Street

**APRIL 23**  
**MSD Board Meeting**  
1 PM, Open Session, 700 West Liberty Street



Floyds Fork



### You can help improve our waterways by...

Composting grass clippings, and decreasing your use of fertilizer and pesticides.

Rainwater flows over rooftops, lawns, parking lots and roadways as it travels to storm drains and ditches. This water accumulates pollutants along its journey—such as lawn chemicals, oil, litter and pet waste—which flow directly to our waterways.