

It's better to be over prepared than under water...

MSD crews were busy with flood preparation leading up to the arrival of the remnants of Hurricane Harvey. All day on August 31, crews checked "hot spots" or areas known to have drainage problems. There are more than 150 such areas in Jefferson County, including viaducts and other low-lying areas.

"It is imperative to keep drainage ditches, catch basins and

retention basins free of debris," stated MSD Operations Support Services Director Tony Marconi.

Louisville received an average of 4-inches of rain over a two-day period, not anywhere near the totals that fell in southeastern Texas.

Will changes in the floodplain ordinance affect you?

See page 2



ABOVE: MSD crews begin to clear debris from a drainage channel on Ilex Avenue in the Newburg Neighborhood.

BELOW: The drainage channel was free of debris ahead of heavy rains predicted for September 1 and 2.



STREAMLINE

News and Events at Louisville MSD · September 2017

OUR VISION

Achieving Safe, Clean Waterways
for a Healthy and Vibrant Community

Aging infrastructure contributes to street cave-in



The intersection of Main and Hancock streets is closed to traffic due to a sewer collapse.

On August 30, a section of roadway at the intersection of Main and Hancock streets caved-in due to a collapsed sewer pipe. MSD crews worked quickly to secure the area closing the intersection and sections of each street to traffic.

The collapse is due to a failure in a 102-inch concrete sewer pipe that dates to 1948. Repair work was delayed due to the arrival of heavy rains with the remnants of Hurricane Harvey.

This section of pipe carries approximately one-third of the wastewater flow generated in Louisville Metro. Work to redirect flow has begun. Excavation can begin once the pumps and temporary pipes are in place. Work is expected to continue for several weeks on this repair. MSD experiences an average of nine cave-ins per month, but this one is exceptional in size and scope.



OUR MISSION

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

24/7/365

502.587.0603 · CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org

  [LouisvilleMSD](https://www.LouisvilleMSD.org)

Local floodplain rules revised

The Louisville Metro Council has approved updated rules to the Local Floodplain Ordinance, which affects structures in flood-prone areas. The city does not ban development within a floodplain, but the new rules set stricter standards for development in those areas. These changes should result in a higher community rating, and more importantly, safer structures. The new rules reduce the risk for new development and add protection for streams and their tributaries.

Changes that provide more protection

- New construction in the Local Floodplain must have the lowest floor of a residential building elevated 2-feet above the floodplain. Previously, the requirement was 1-foot. Commercial structure requirements remain at 1-foot.
- All new public and private roads must be at or above the base flood elevation. New parking areas are limited to no more than 6-inches below the floodplain. Previously, there was no requirement.
- No development is allowed within a 25-foot buffer zone of streams (both banks) and their tributaries, including those that are dry some of the year.

- Adding soil to a floodplain now has a 1 to 1.5 ratio in most watersheds. If you add 1 unit of soil to a floodplain, you must remove 1.5 units on the property within the floodplain. This net loss of dirt will increase floodplain storage.

Changes that reduce protection

The Council voted to relax the rolling 10-year window for improvements allowed to structures in the floodplain to a 1-year window. Improvement costs, including any repairs, cannot exceed 50 percent of a home's value in one year unless the improvements include elevating the structure at least 1-foot above the floodplain.

There are 12,000 structures within the Local Floodplain of Jefferson County. Of those 12,000, there are 7,000 within the FEMA Floodplain. The Local Floodplain is broader than the FEMA Floodplain. FEMA requires flood insurance on all homes in the FEMA Floodplain that carry a mortgage.

MSD encourages all homeowners within the Local Floodplain to have flood insurance. Any development (including renovations and additions) in the floodplain requires a permit from MSD and the Kentucky Division of Water.



MSD Awards

MSD brings home WEF awards

The Water Environment Federation (WEF) selected MSD Operations Special Projects Program Manager **Robert Bates** for its Public Communication & Outreach Program Award—Individual Category. This award recognizes significant accomplishments in promoting public awareness and the understanding of water environment issues through the development and implementation of outreach, education and communication programs.

MSD's **Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer (MS4) Department** earned a Silver Level award in Municipal Stormwater and Green Infrastructure Project Management from WEF. This award was established through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to recognize high-performing regulated MS4 Programs. The objective of the program is to meet and exceed regulatory requirements in a manner that is both technically effective and cost efficient. Congratulations to **Jordan Basham, Wes Sydnor** and **Erin Wagoner**.

Customer Compliments

The crew that handled the drainage project in my yard did outstanding work. They were thorough and professional. I am thankful for their hard work. My thanks to **Dwayne Edward, Kaleb Green, Jason Kustes** and **Gregory Meriwether**.

— Jackie Weber

I am so impressed with the MSD crews working to clear a ditch line in our area that I wanted to make sure the supervisors and managers knew how hard this team works. The work was performed by **Henry Donovan Jr., Vernon Johnson, William Phillips III** and **Kirk Willis**. They did an excellent job.

— Daniel Luckett Jr.

Administrative Clerk for Councilwoman Marianne Butler

I'm writing to commend the three gentlemen—**Derry Baker Jr., Jermaine Murphy** and **Travis Westmoreland**—who came to check my sewer line. They were courteous, worked efficiently and arrived less than two hours after I placed a request.

— Peggy Foley

Wetlands clean water and help reduce flooding



“Water quality increases with routing runoff through wetlands. They are nature’s kidneys, acting as filters.”
 — MS4 Program Manager Wes Sydnor

Wetlands have been constructed along the South Fork of Beargrass Creek.

Two new wetlands have been created in what was once a natural channel of Beargrass Creek along Newburg Road. The 12,000 square feet of marshland and pond will act as a filter for stormwater and also an environmental classroom and research area for students at St. Agnes Catholic School and Bellarmine University.

Wetlands clean the water and help reduce flooding by acting as a natural sponge. The design includes underground dams to hold back groundwater and native plantings. They are designed to look natural and require little maintenance.

Wetlands provide habitat for aquatic life, birds, insects and amphibians. Nature builds in mosquitoes control with aquatic life, bats and birds that eat mosquitoes.

This project is supported by the Passionist Earth & Spirit Center, Shelton Environmental Education Coalition and MSD. The wetlands were designed by Thomas Biebighauser, an ecologist based in Morehead, Kentucky. University of Louisville engineering students were involved with the planning. This project is among a few constructed wetlands in Louisville.

MSD Milestones

Welcome to MSD

- Jonathan Eason**, Utility Trainee
- Colette Easter**, Engineer II
- Lisa Gaus**, IWD Temporary Employee
- Eugenia Glover**, Access ID Coordinator
- Michial Otto Jr.**, Seasonal Employee
- Terry Raymer**, Laborer-Collections
- Miko Santana**, Utility Trainee
- Kyle Sipes**, Internal Audit Intern
- Jasmine Willis**, Seasonal Employee
- Adrienne Wright**, Storeroom Supervisor

Congratulations on your promotion/reclassification

- Chris Asher**, Utility Worker III
- Chris Huelsman**, Drainage Inspector
- Brian Lawson**, Process Tech I
- Theresa Singleton**, Administrative Assistant-Collections
- Val Winburn**, Drainage Supervisor
- Lester Wurzel**, Construction Inspection Supervisor

Welcome to a new role

- Lauren Butler**, Construction Inspector I
- Sherita Davis**, Staff Auditor I

Happy service anniversary

- 20 years** Sharise Horne
- 10 years** Erick Bean, Mike Brazel, Ralph Burba Jr., Mark Moats, Morris Tolbert, Keith Washington Jr.
- 5 years** Terry Hammack

Congratulations on your retirement

- Jill Allen**, Carole Guntle
- Robin Bowling**, Dearon Mimms
- Kevin Bright**, Steve Tedder
- Anthony Calhoun**, Denver Whalen



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MSD Board information:
You can find information about MSD Board actions on our website, 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

SEPTEMBER 12
Infrastructure Committee Meeting
1 pm, 700 West Liberty Street

SEPTEMBER 25
MSD Board Meeting
1 pm, Open Session, 700 West Liberty Street

SEPTEMBER 27
Doing Business with MSD
9 am, 700 West Liberty Street



Watercress grows in abundance in the Middle Fork of Beargrass Creek near Oxmoor Center. Photo courtesy of John Nation.



Properly drain your pool to protect our streams

- Wait for 10 days after chemical treatment before draining any water
- Test the pool water to ensure that it is safe prior to draining (about 0.1 parts per million total chlorine)
- Maintain a pH range of 6 to 8
- Discharge water slowly, no more than 30 gallons per minute
- Drain just one pool at a time
- Do not discharge pool water to the stormwater system, like catch basins or the street, because this water will reach a natural body of water
- Drain pools only to the sanitary sewer via a connection on the property—such as a toilet, bathtub or floor drain
- If you need to access an MSD manhole for discharge, call the MSD Industrial Waste Department, at 502.540.6917; allow two business days