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MEDIA ADVISORY

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Sewer leak into South Fork Beargrass Creek leads to dead fish in the stream

LOUISVILLE, KY – MSD stream sampling crews discovered dead fish the South Fork of Beargrass Creek near Trevilian Way and Joe Creason Park. They tested and found low dissolved oxygen in the water, low current volume and higher than normal water temperatures. MSD and Kentucky Division of Water staff members located a leaking sewer line approximately one-half mile upstream from the dead fish. MSD sanitary crews conducted dye tests to confirm the location of the leak. An MSD tele-inspection — which is putting a mobile camera into the pipe — identified a defect in the sewer line.

MSD has diverted the sewer flow to other pipes in the area so that the damaged pipe can be emptied and repaired. No one has lost sewer service, and the pipe is no longer discharging to the creek.

Signs are posted advising the public to not fish, swim or wade in the area. Approximately 200 dead fish and trash that were in the stream have been removed.

About MSD

The Louisville/Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) works to achieve and maintain clean, environmentally safe waterways for a healthy and vibrant community. The organization's more than 630 employees provide wastewater management, drainage and flood protection services across the 376 square miles of Louisville Metro. In addition to operating and maintaining Louisville Metro's sewer system, floodwall system, water quality treatment centers and flood pumping stations, MSD invests in hundreds of infrastructure improvement projects each year, plants more than 1,000 trees and other vegetation annually to enhance water filtration and reduce runoff, and provides numerous outreach programs to inform and educate the community about protecting our waterways.