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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**May 15, 2018**

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## **High school ecology classes partner with MSD for a beautiful solution to help keep stormwater out of the sewer system**

LOUISVILLE, KY – MSD will expand its successful program of bringing the science of rain gardens to Louisville area schools as students at Louisville Male High School plant a rain garden based on a plan developed by their ecology classes.

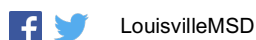
MSD Project Administrator Erin Wagoner will oversee the installation of the garden. Planting will begin at 8 AM with the first class starting the project and will be completed when the second class takes over at 9:30 AM.

Wagoner was contacted by Angela Page, a biology and ecology teacher at Jefferson County Public Schools' Louisville Male High School, to instruct students on the ecological benefits of rain gardens. The rain garden at Male High School results from the combination of two plans developed by the two ecology classes. A team of professionals selected the final design from numerous plans pitched by student study groups.

Rain gardens consist of native plants that have adapted to our climate. They have deep, dense root systems that can capture and infiltrate stormwater runoff. Rain gardens keep stormwater out of our combined sewer systems, relieving sewer overflows. The gardens play a part in achieving clean, safe waterways for a healthy and vibrant community.

### **Media Opportunity**

- Male High School
- 4409 Preston Highway
- May 16, 2018
- MSD Project Administrator Erin Wagoner will be available for interviews at 8:30 and 10 AM
- Photo releases are on file for participating students
- All visitors must sign in at the school office, parking is available at the main entrance



### **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.