

# STREAMLINE

News and Events at Louisville MSD • October/November 2018

## OUR VISION

Achieving Safe, Clean Waterways  
for a Healthy and Vibrant Community

## MSD applauds the passage of water workforce development opportunities

On October 23, 2018, President Donald Trump signed the biennial Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), which includes significant provisions that benefit drinking water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure and policy.

Included in WRDA is a \$1 million per year competitive Water Workforce Development Program grant. Utility agencies from both rural and urban communities will be eligible to apply for the grant funding to use for a variety of job training and workforce development programs.

**“We recognize the need for a qualified and skilled workforce to meet our infrastructure challenges.”**

— MSD Executive Director  
Tony Parrott

Louisville MSD will be hit with a wave of retirements in the next 5 to 10 years, as 19 percent of our workforce will be eligible to retire. MSD Executive Director Tony Parrott states, “The competitive grant program will help train workers to build and repair essential water systems in our community and throughout the country while providing pathways to careers with competitive wages and benefits.”



## OUR MISSION

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

**24/7/365**

502.540.6000 · [CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org](mailto:CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org)

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



MSD officially welcomes the “Bumblebee” to the tunnel construction site.

## Tunnel Boring Machine ‘Bumblebee’ arrives at the site

### 412-foot-long workhorse will excavate Waterway Protection Tunnel 18 stories underground

MSD’s \$200 million Waterway Protection Tunnel project is preparing to move to the tunneling phase with the arrival of a massive tunnel boring machine named “Bumblebee.”

MSD celebrated the arrival of the machine’s signature piece — a 22-foot diameter cutterhead — at a ceremony on November 5. Project engineers and community leaders signed a banner unveiling the machine’s name “Bumblebee,” inspired by the Champ’s famous line, “Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee.”

Parts for the 412-foot long machine have been arriving in Louisville on more than 50 tractor-trailer trucks during the past month. A crane will lower Bumblebee’s components into the working shafts at the 12th and Rowan streets site. Workers will then assemble the machine underground. Tunneling of the Waterway Protection Tunnel is planned to begin later this month.

Over the next 12 months, Bumblebee will carve through more than four miles of solid bedrock, 18 stories underground. It will move forward with 3.5 million pounds of thrust, applying nearly 1.5 million pounds per foot of torque.

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## 'Bumblebee' arrives



Attendees "christen" the cutterhead with bottles of Louisville Water's pure tap®.

"Tunnel boring projects are wonders of engineering and technology, and we are excited to bring this type of solution to Louisville to help create safe and clean waterways," said MSD Executive Director Tony Parrott.

Once complete, MSD's Waterway Protection Tunnel will help prevent wastewater and stormwater from overflowing during periods of heavy rain — ultimately reducing pollution in the Ohio River and Beargrass Creek. The Waterway Protection Tunnel will have the capacity to store 55 million gallons of combined wastewater and stormwater until capacity is available in the MSD sewer system. The contents are then pumped back into the system, conveyed to MSD's Morris Forman Water Quality Treatment Center for proper treatment and release to the Ohio River. The tunnel is slated to be operational by the end of 2020.

Learn more about the project at  
[LouisvilleMSD.org/tunnel](https://LouisvilleMSD.org/tunnel)  
 Get Boring News at  
[LouisvilleMSD.org/tunnel/newletter](https://LouisvilleMSD.org/tunnel/newletter)



### MSD employees name tunnel boring machine

MSD Accounting Analyst Mike Fitzner submitted the name Bumblebee as part of a naming contest MSD conducted among its employees. Fittingly, Bumblebee smashed the competition. Fitzner has a special connection to Muhammad Ali, which led to his naming choice. The heavyweight champion came to the bank branch where his mother was working to sign autographs for charity. His mom had baked cookies for the event. "Ali enjoyed the cookies and asked to meet the baker. He told her that she was wasting her time working in a bank and should own a bakery," said Fitzner. "Ali gave her the confidence to do just that."

## Progress continues underground for repair of one of Louisville's most critical sewer lines

MSD continues to work as diligently and safely as possible to repair the sewer line that is more than 20-feet below Main Street. This pipe known as the Ohio River Interceptor carries 40 percent of the community's wastewater to MSD's Morris Forman Water Quality Treatment Center for proper treatment and release to the Ohio River.

MSD contractors are currently installing corrosion-resistant PVC panels that fit together by hand and are sealed to the unique shape of the pipe — forming a new pipe inside the old one. Ventilation pipes are pumping air in and out of the system to keep workers safe. The panel installation work will continue through the first week of December. When the repair of the pipe is complete, work can begin on dismantling the pump-around. All work should be complete by the end of the year.

For more information on MSD's West Main Repair visit <http://louisvillemsd.org/westmainrepair>.



New PVC panels line the interior of a large sewer line under Main Street between Fourth and Seventh streets.



MSD employees Johnny Caudill (left) and Rick Tobin (right) responded to the scene of an accident on Westport Road.

## Fast response by MSD crew helps an injured man

Quick action by a Louisville MSD work crew may have been key to preventing an accident becoming even more tragic on Westport Road Monday, October 22.

The incident took place when Louisville MSD employee Rick Tobin saw a man in a wheelchair going up a wheelchair access ramp. The man accidentally flipped off of the ramp and was launched out of his chair, landing face-first in the Westport Road driving lane.

"I ran to the scene trying to get the man before oncoming traffic reached him," Tobin said. "Thankfully, I was able to stop a car before it would have hit the man."

While a bystander called 911, Tobin's work partner, Johnny Caudill, pulled their work truck out to stop traffic and placed cones around the perimeter. They directed traffic until an ambulance arrived to transport the injured man to the hospital. Once the police arrived on the scene, they commended the men for their fast thinking and quick actions.

Tobin said he spoke to the man, who lives in a nearby assisted living facility, the next day, and said the man was in good spirits and that he thanked the men for their help. Tobin said he was acting out of instinct.

## Students learn about stream health on Little Goose Creek

On October 29, MSD presented a stream health workshop to middle school students at the Montessori School of Louisville, located along Little Goose Creek near Springhurst. The students were curious about all that MSD does to protect and improve stream health. MSD's Erin Wagoner, along with Rich Fangman a biologist with Redwing, and Karen Schaffer, an environmental scientist from Stantec lead activities on watershed and pollution sources, aquatic macroinvertebrate identification, stream health field observations, water quality testing, and fish sampling with electrofishing equipment.

Students took water quality samples from two locations on Little Goose Creek to compare results, as well as evaluating MSD's more extensive data as part of their lesson.

For more information about educational opportunities for your school contact Communications Program Manager Sheryl Lauder at 502.540.6552 or by email at [Sheryl.Lauder@LouisvilleMSD.org](mailto:Sheryl.Lauder@LouisvilleMSD.org).

**To all:** A HUGE thanks for such an educational and engaging workshop. The kids loved it. Every person listed it as their "high" for the day. While many found handling the fish the most exciting part, others commented on how much they learned about the water itself. We plan to look more closely at the data collected tomorrow and compare results from the two sites. Thank you for all your hard work preparing this meaningful experience for our students.

Carrie Tilton  
Montessori School  
of Louisville

**Right:** Students study a vial of macroinvertebrates.

**Below:** Students learn how to use stream monitoring equipment on Little Goose Creek.





The tenth annual **Adventures in Water Education Festival** was held October 16 through 18, on the lawn at Water Tower Park. MSD had three display booths this year, one featuring our wastewater treatment process, another focusing on our stormwater and drainage and the third one about our tunnel project. More than 1,850 elementary students visited for a real-world extension of their classroom learning experience.

## This Thanksgiving and everyday... avoid a clogged pipe

### Can the grease!

Never pour fats, oils and grease down a sink, drain or toilet. Pour used grease into an empty, heat-safe container, such as a soup can, and store it in the freezer. Once the grease has become solid, toss the can into the garbage.



Scrape food waste into the trash. Wipe all pots, pans, dishes and cooking utensils with a paper towel to soak up grease before washing them.



Catch the scraps in your sink with a basket or strainer, instead of using the garbage disposal, and throw them away in the trash can.



Recycle your deep-fryer oil by taking it to Louisville Metro's grease drop-off location at 7501 Grade Lane.

## Customer **Compliments**

I want to make sure this entire crew gets a pat on the back. They came to my home to inspect and work on a backup. **Barry Bivin, Donald Duerson, Ricky Haycraft** and **Steve Thomas** were friendly, professional and kept me informed on each step of what they were doing.

— Tommy Duffy

Thank you to the MSD crew that came to my house to unclog the sewer line. **Reginald Gaston** and **Tony Porter** did an excellent job!

— Bernard Wathan

**Marya Summers** provided me with the best customer service that I have had in a long time. She took the time to explain my water and sewer bill, breaking down each charge in an easy to understand way.

— Ramona Wharton

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! I am so grateful to you and the whole MSD team for your prompt attention to the drainage issue at my home. **June Embers, Joe Exely** and **John Tellman** were informative and kind to me. I hope MSD receives the rate increase that is needed to improve drainage in our community.

I look forward to learning more and will support your organization in any way I can. I plan to call Councilman Reed's office today and ask him to vote for the rate increase.

— Tiffany Bingham

An MSD crew repaired an erosion issue near my home and restored all the disturbed areas. Thank you to **Phillip Bradley** and **Dalton Chamberlain** for this fine work.

— Nancy Hunter

The MSD drainage crew of **Bailey Baird, Gary Evans, Donovan Henry** and **Eric Sawyers** did an excellent job cleaning the drainage ditch near my home. Thank you!

— Peggy Baldouf

**MSD is available 24/7  
at 502.540.6000**

Report a sanitary sewer backup before contacting a plumber. Determining if the problem is located on the public side of the system will help to avoid unnecessary plumber expense.



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The public is welcome to attend MSD Board meetings.  
For MSD Board information and meeting schedule visit:  
LouisvilleMSD.org/About-Us/MSD-Board



## Upcoming Events

**NOVEMBER 12**  
**MSD Board Meeting**  
1 PM, Open Session, 700 West Liberty Street

**NOVEMBER 13**  
**MSD Board Personnel Committee Meeting**  
1 PM, 700 West Liberty Street



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Do not stand on or put your hand into the grate.  
Contact **MSD Customer Relations at 502.540.6000**  
or **CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org.**  
— we will send someone to help.