

MSD's clAIRity Update – January 15, 2026

MSD's clAIRity Program is our ongoing work to mitigate the natural odor related to organic materials that decompose as a part of wastewater treatment and management. This monthly brief provides updates on the status of various projects under the clAIRity initiative over the past month.

Major Projects Advancing at Morris Forman

Serving more than two-thirds of Louisville, the Morris Forman Water Quality Treatment Center is MSD's largest treatment center, and several capital projects are advancing throughout 2026 to continue progress to modernize this vital asset.

A key focus has been upgrading/improving the facility's dryer trains, large systems that dry and process treated solids into safe, reusable material instead of sending it to landfills. One dryer train has entered final testing and is expected to return to full operation soon, while restoration work on the second train continues as key components arrive. Also, the facility's Hydrogen Sulfide Removal project advanced with major equipment installations, and the Thermal Hydrolysis Process program reached an important milestone with the delivery of new equipment/parts/components that support increased efficiency and beneficial reuse.

Together, these and other efforts at Morris Forman are enhancing reliability, capacity and long-term performance for MSD's system.

Upcoming Catch Basin Replacements in Chickasaw

Outdated or "untrapped" catch basins can be a source of odor in the sewer system. To address this, MSD is carrying out an extensive, multi-year program to replace catch basins across several Louisville neighborhoods. Beginning in February, MSD will replace 69 catch basins in the Chickasaw neighborhood as part of a \$1.05 million investment to reduce odor, improve system performance and modernize aging infrastructure.

December Odor Reports

MSD responded to 64 service requests related to odor throughout the month, down from 92 in December 2024, marking the third consecutive month (October through December) with fewer odor reports compared to the same time frame in 2024. The December requests came from 20 ZIP codes, and each resulted in an MSD crew investigating and responding as appropriate. For the majority of service calls, MSD crews on-site cleaned, deodorized and flushed with water the nearby sewer mains, catch basins or manholes where necessary.

In 2025, MSD received 1,221 odor-related service requests, an approximately 30 percent decrease from the 1,744 reports received in 2024. This significant reduction in odor reports reflects the ongoing hard work and dedication of MSD crews, who investigated and responded to every odor report to help minimize impacts for the community.

For more information or to report an odor, visit LouisvilleMSD.org/odor or call 502.540.6000.

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. Nearly 800 employees provide wastewater management, drainage and flood protection services across the 376 square miles of Louisville Metro and wastewater service in portions of Bullitt and Oldham Counties. 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.