Louisville sees fourth-wettest year on record

Because weather plays such a significant role in MSD’s everyday operations, our staff members are trained for routine, as well as for extreme weather events.

At the close of 2015, the Ohio River was once again in flood stage. While the yearly average rainfall in our area is 44.91 inches, we saw a total of 62.41 inches of rainfall in 2015, making this the fourth-wettest year on record. This record rainfall put stresses on MSD systems throughout the year.

Flood Protection System

The MSD Flood Protection System includes 29 miles of floodwall and earthen levee, 315 floodgates, 79 floodwall closures and 16 flood-pump stations.

MSD flood-pump stations move inland water to the river when the floodwall and levee are sealed. In 2015, they pumped more than 16 billion gallons of water out of the city and into the river, thus diminishing localized flooding. This system stands ready to safeguard our community every day of the year.

Floodwaters are pumped through the Pond Creek Flood Pump Station to the river side of the levee in March 2015.

Drainage and Wastewater Collections

The MSD Collections System, which operates beneath your feet, carries away wastewater and rainwater to be cleaned at one of our Water Quality Treatment Centers. In the newer portions of the county, there is a separate stormwater system that conveys the rainwater to the nearest waterway. The entire system consists of more than 3,300 miles of pipe and 259 pumping stations.

The large amounts of rain Louisville experienced this year overwhelmed the system, at times, causing sewer overflows. MSD staff members regularly monitor locations that are known, suspected or reported to overflow during wet weather events. Once MSD is notified that an overflow may be occurring, personnel are dispatched to the location to assess the situation. A control zone is established; the public is notified; the discharge is addressed; and cleanup is scheduled at that time.

24/7 customer service

MSD provides a 24/7 point-of-contact for the community every day of the year. We handled more than 63,000 calls in 2015, many of those during peak rain events. Call us any time at 502.587.0603.

MSD staff and facilities stand at the ready to provide exceptional wastewater, drainage and flood protection services for our community.
MSD goal is in sight
Progressing toward five regional WQTCs

MSD is nearing the completion of its plan to eliminate inefficient water quality treatment centers (WQTCs) that are beyond their current design life, as it strives to attain its vision of safe, clean waterways for our community. At the beginning of 2015, MSD had 11 such facilities left in its system. Additionally, MSD acquired the Middletown Waste Disposal facility in Spring 2015, with the intent to eliminate this outdated facility, as well.

By April 2016, MSD will decommission the three remaining smaller inefficient treatment facilities—Bancroft, McNeeley Lake and Starview Estates—leaving five regional WQTCs in its system. These eliminations will not only reduce operational costs and maintenance issues related to these sites, but will enhance water quality in our river and streams.

Bancroft WQTC is scheduled to be off-line by March 31, 2016. Demolition of the facility is scheduled for completion in Spring 2016, with flow diverted to the Morris Forman WQTC. Elimination of this facility provides overflow protection to Goose Creek.

Flow to the regional Jeffersontown WQTC was redirected to Morris Forman and Cedar Creek WQTCs in mid-December 2015. This allows demolition of the Jeffersontown WQTC. The land will be cleared and, per agreement, returned to the city of Jeffersontown. Elimination of this facility provides overflow protection to the Chenoweth Run and Floyds Fork waterways.

Work continues to allow the elimination of the McNeeley Lake WQTC and Brook Bend Pump Station. Flow will be diverted to Derek R. Guthrie WQTC. Completion of this project by March 31, 2016, will offer protection from sanitary sewer overflows to the Pond Creek watershed.

The installation of new sewer pipe to divert flow from Starview Estates WQTC continues in the Middletown area. These conveyance lines will redirect flow to the regional Floyds Fork WQTC. The elimination of Berrytown, Middletown Industrial and Starview Estates WQTCs will offer overflow protection to Chenoweth Run and Floyds Fork waterways. The Berrytown and Middletown facilities were decommissioned late in 2015. Starview Estates WQTC is scheduled to be off-line by March 31, 2016. Demolition of the three facilities is scheduled for completion in Spring 2016.

One Water Board holds inaugural meeting

The One Water Board, which includes representatives of the Mayor’s office and the boards of both agencies, met for the first time on December 7, 2015. Louisville Metro Mayor Greg Fischer opened the meeting by thanking employees of both agencies for their dedication to the One Water initiative. “This is an effort to eliminate redundancies and improve savings that can lead to capital improvements.”

The Board elected Ellen Hesen (Mayor’s Representative) as Chairperson of the Board and John Bleidt (Board of Water Works) as Vice Chair. Babs Elliott (Mayor’s Office) was elected Secretary, and Chad Collier (MSD) was named the Fiscal Agent. Representing MSD, as members of both the MSD Board and the One Water Board, were Joyce Mott and JT Sims.

One Water is an initiative between Louisville Water and MSD for sharing services and employees, which will provide efficiencies for ratepayers and each agency. Tim Kraus serves as Director of Business Transformation for One Water.
**Start planning a rain garden for your yard or community**

Rain gardens help infiltrate rainwater before it reaches the drainage system. Homeowners help reduce the amount of stormwater and pollutants running off their property into storm drains, combined sewers or streams by planting rain gardens.

Rain gardens are usually bowl-shaped areas—filled with soil, compost and a bit of sand—planted with a diversity of native wetland and prairie wildflowers and grasses. Most residential rain gardens are 6-12 inches deep. Once created, they require little to no irrigation for successful growth, and offer an option to the traditional water-thirsty landscape.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compliments</th>
<th>Customer Relations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Welcome to MSD</strong></td>
<td><strong>MSD Milestones</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ricky Anderson</strong>, Control Systems Specialist</td>
<td><strong>Congratulations on your promotion/reclassification</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Charles McCutchen</strong>, Buildings and Grounds Laborer</td>
<td><strong>Derry Baker Jr., Utility Worker III</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thaddeus Gough</strong>, Utility Trainee</td>
<td><strong>Dillon Brown, Utility Worker II</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Anthony Mudd</strong>, Health &amp; Safety Administrator</td>
<td><strong>Paul Gray, Collections Supervisor</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LeShawn Thomas</strong>, Utility Worker III</td>
<td><strong>Mark Kessinger, Construction Inspector III</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Charlotte Whitfield-Baker</strong>, Customer Relations Specialist</td>
<td><strong>John Tellman, Construction Inspector III</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kelvin Wilson</strong>, Utility Worker III</td>
<td><strong>LeShawn Thomas, Utility Worker II</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stacy Witten</strong>, Customer Relations Specialist</td>
<td><strong>Charlotte Whitfield-Baker, Customer Relations Specialist</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lester Wurzel</strong>, Construction Inspector III</td>
<td><strong>Kelvin Wilson, Utility Worker III</strong></td>
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**Happy service anniversary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Customer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>25 years</strong></td>
<td><strong>Joseph Falleri</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>10 years</strong></td>
<td><strong>David Scott Ehman</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5 years</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chiffon Denise Vaughn</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Marya Summers** provided me with excellent service when she helped me sort out my account. Her professionalism and ability exceeded my expectations. Her commitment to great customer service is to be commended.

— Steven Back

**Jordan Basham, Sheryl Lauder, Wesley Sydnor** and **Erin Wagoner** led a project that allowed Maupin Elementary to install a beautiful rain garden. Not only does it fit with the school’s mission, it provides so many learning opportunities, adds beauty to the campus, and is a benefit to the community.

— Maria Clemons, Principal

Maupin Elementary: A Catalpa Model School

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<tr>
<th>Nathan Capps, Michael Turner and Kelvin Wilson</th>
<th>Situated your rain garden at least 10 feet from the building foundation. It should be located close enough to the water runoff source (a driveway or a disconnected downspout) that runoff is easily routed to the garden bed.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>completed some erosion repair at my house. They were polite, efficient and went beyond the call of duty.</td>
<td>For more information contact MSD Customer Relations at 502.587.0603 or <a href="mailto:CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org">CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org</a> for a <strong>FREE</strong> copy of our Rain Garden Handbook.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

— Peggy Lang

**The Green Building**—on Market Street in the NuLu area—features a rain garden, which absorbs rainwater before it reaches the sanitary sewer system, helping to reduce overflows and surface flooding in the area.

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Use native plants, like Blue Lobelia, for late summer and fall color.
Help keep street drains flowing

Catch basins and street gutter drains cannot function properly when their grates are clogged with leaves, ice and snow. Please clear away debris from catch basin grates.

If a basin still does not drain, contact MSD at 502-587-0603.

Make plans now to attend
Ohio River Sweep

Saturday · June 18, 2016 · 9 a.m. to Noon

Contact MSD’s Rhonda Boyle-Grotzer, at 502-548-8409 or rhonda.boyle@louisvillemsd.org for information.