Eliminating more than 300 inefficient water quality treatment centers is an important milestone as MSD strives to attain its vision of safe, clean waterways for our community.

The last one bites the dust

Eliminating 300+ inefficient WQTCs—leaves MSD with five regional water quality treatment centers

MSD has completed a 36-year journey to eliminate more than 300 inefficient water quality treatment centers (WQTCs) that are beyond their design life. In late May, MSD decommissioned the final remaining smaller inefficient treatment facility—McNeely Lake WQTC—leaving five regional WQTCs in its system.

Population expansion

As the population of Jefferson County grew throughout the 1950s and 60s, developers built small package treatment plants for many of the new subdivisions that were in areas not served by sewers. These package treatment plants had an average expected life of 20-30 years. With the expansion of sewer service, MSD acquired these facilities with their elimination as the long-term goal.

Recent progress—2015

At the beginning of 2015, MSD had 11 of these inefficient facilities left in its system. By the end of the year, it had whittled that number to three.

Jeffersontown WQTC was the largest of the eliminated treatment centers. Flow to this facility was redirected to the regional Morris Forman and Cedar Creek WQTCs in December 2015. Elimination of this facility provides overflow protection to the Chenoweth Run and Floyds Fork waterways.

Hunting Creek South, Timberlake, Hunting Creek North, Ken Carla and Shadow Wood WQTCs were all eliminated in 2015, with overflow protection for Harrods Creek. Elimination of Berrytown and Middletown Industrial WQTCs provides protection to Chenoweth Run and Floyds Fork waterways.

2016 sees the elimination of the last three WQTCs

MSD began the year with just three of these inefficient facilities left in its system—Bancroft, McNeely Lake and Starview Estates. In March, Bancroft and Starview Estates WQTCs were taken off-line, providing overflow protection to Goose Creek and Chenoweth Run, respectively.

The final small package treatment facility—McNeely Lake WQTC—went off-line in late May. Flow was diverted to Derek R. Guthrie WQTC, providing protection from sanitary sewer overflows to the Pond Creek watershed. This facility is scheduled for demolition in June.

Elimination of these sometimes leaky, inefficient facilities not only reduces operational costs and maintenance issues related to these sites, but enhances water quality in our streams and the Ohio River.

The McNeely Lake WQTC is scheduled for demolition in June, this will complete a 36-year journey to leave MSD with five larger regional water quality treatment centers in its system.
Message to the community concerning the proposed rate increase

June 2016

For the past decade, MSD has been focused on fulfilling the terms of our Consent Decree. This has come at the cost of deferred maintenance for our infrastructure that is not directly related to renovating our sewer system.

It is our role to be guardians of the community’s stormwater and wastewater infrastructure to ensure our residents are protected from flooding, wastewater overflows and other hazards. MSD has outlined a long-term plan to modernize its facilities and our aging infrastructure. This plan calls for $1 billion worth of improvements over the next five years as an investment in the future livability of our community.

In May, the MSD Board of Directors approved a preliminary rate increase of 20 percent to support this plan of improvements for community health and safety. The proposed 20 percent increase would add about $9.80 a month to the average residential MSD bill, taking it from $49.12 per month to $58.94 per month. This reflects an increase of 32 cents a day for the average customer.

This proposed increase will go before Louisville Metro Council on June 15. Metro Council must approve any rate increase of 7 percent or more. The MSD Board will take final action on the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget and new rates at the meeting on July 25.

Rate increases are never easy, but this will be an investment in the future safety, health and livability of our community. We understand rate increases can be difficult for lower income residents, and the recommendation includes $1 million to double the amount of assistance funding we provide... raising the total in assistance to $2 million.

I appreciate the role that each MSD employee plays in delivering the vital services that MSD provides to our community, every hour of every day. The success of our community depends on MSD’s delivery of wastewater treatment, stormwater management and flood protection.

Together we can achieve safe, clean waterways for our community.

Sincerely,

James A. Parrott
MSD Executive Director

The proposed rate increase of 20 percent was approved by the MSD Board on May 23, 2016. This will result in an average monthly increase for a residential customer of $9.80 per month for wastewater and drainage/stormwater, or 32 cents per day.

MSD will present the Fiscal Year 2017 budget and preliminary rate increase to the Louisville Metro Council on June 15. The MSD Board will vote on the rate increase at the Board meeting on July 25, 2016. A notice of the proposed rate increase has been published in “The Courier-Journal.”

The rate increase is proposed to become effective August 1, 2016, pending approval by Louisville Metro Council.

Written comments may be addressed to:

MSD Board Rate Increase
PO Box 740011
Louisville, KY 40201
MSD hosts Conference

Louisville MSD hosted the 2016 Wet Weather Partnership conference at The Brown Hotel, in May. The conference theme was National Developments in the Regulation and Control of Urban Wet Weather Discharges. MSD Executive Director Tony Parrott spoke to the attendees, sharing local challenges with “Sustaining Vital Infrastructure—Funding Community Needs,” MSD Chief Engineer Angela Akridge presented an update of the Louisville Wet Weather Program.

A different sort of Roadeo

A team of MSD employees took their chances with tennis balls, bowling pins and traffic cones in the Roadeo, sponsored by the American Public Works Association Kentucky Chapter’s Central Branch, at Papa John’s Cardinal Stadium on May 18. The event brings together local municipal and utility construction equipment professionals in the spirit of fun competition for promoting safety awareness and heavy-equipment skills. Competing for MSD were Mike Brown, Uriah Maudlin, Jeremy Pierson and Jason Walls. Nelson Little served as coach and judge for the event.

Customer Compliments

I would like to thank Chey Burkhead and Chris Huelsman for the work they did at my home. They were professional and did an excellent job.
— Pat Legal

I had a drainage problem with my rental property. It was wonderful to speak with June Embers. She was polite and didn’t make me feel rushed. June answered every question I had before I even had to ask it. She was very sweet. It’s a great feeling when you receive exemplary service and care.
— Patricia Traud

Rodney Johnson worked on a backup at my property. He was very informative, helpful and pro-active. MSD has a very good employee, and I want to make sure everyone knows what a great job he did.
— Ebony Bartee

I’ve had some problems with street flooding near my home and asked for help from MSD. I was afraid I was going to get an ugly concrete flume out in my front yard, but Tonya Callahan spoke with Troy Smith about my concerns, and their solution was to put in a swale ditch. It is going to be green with grass and serve its purpose. I tip my hat to you and all of MSD for being so considerate in working through this problem where all parties are happy with the end results.
— Joe Winkie

MSD Milestones

Welcome to MSD

Lauren Bolender, Environmental Compliance Inspector
Sandra Conner, Staff Auditor II
Caleb Deerr, Seasonal Employee
Robert Morris, Maintenance Mechanic

Congratulations on your promotion/reclassification
Jonathan Baldrige, Maintenance Planner

Happy service anniversary

30 years - Curt Bynum
20 years - William Baskette Jr.
10 years - Robert Little
5 years - Joe Exely
Kyle Ramsey

Congratulations on your retirement

Larry Byrd
Kenneth Jones
Bridget Kehoe

Safe, clean waterways message at Waterfront Wednesday

Whitney Boles, Sheryl Lauder and Wes Sydnor delivered MSD’s message of achieving safe, clean waterways through rain barrels and rain gardens at a somewhat soggy Waterfront Wednesday in May.
Upcoming Events

JUNE 4
Neighborhood Summit
8 am-3:30 pm, Kentucky Exposition Center, 937 Phillips Lane

JUNE 7
Clifton Heights CSO Basin Pardon Our Dust Meeting
6-8 pm, American Printing House for the Blind, 1839 Frankfort Avenue

JUNE 9
Camp Taylor Area 2B and 4 Pardon Our Dust Meeting
5-7 pm, Louisville Nature Center, 3745 Illinois Avenue

JUNE 14
Portland CSO Basin Advanced Design Meeting
6:30-8 pm, Portland Neighborhood House, 201 N 25th Street

JUNE 18
Ohio River Sweep
9 am-Noon, sites listed to the right

JUNE 27
MSD Board Meeting
1 pm, Open Session, 700 West Liberty Street