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MEDIA UPDATE

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MSD flood protection crews working to protect the city from the rising Ohio River

LOUISVILLE, KY – As Ohio River waters rise, MSD takes steps to protect Louisville Metro from flooding. Currently, the Upper Pool gauge is at 22.79-feet with a projected crest of 26.5-feet on Sunday. The Upper Pool section is upriver from the locks and dam and includes downtown Louisville.

The Lower Pool is downstream of the locks and dam. Currently, the Lower Pool gauge is at 53.56-feet, with a projected crest of 57.5-feet on Sunday.

At this time, MSD **does not** anticipate the need to install any floodwall roadway closures. We do have seven of our 16 Flood Pumping Station in service, with one more that could go into service over the weekend. Throughout the past 10 days, MSD Flood Protection Department staff readied the system for this event.

Background

MSD maintains Louisville Metro's Ohio River Flood Protection System—keeping the river at bay and out of the city.

The system protects more than 200,000 people, 87,000 homes and \$24 billion in property throughout 110 square miles of Louisville Metro. It includes 29 miles of floodwall and earthen levee, 16 flood pumping stations, nearly 150 floodgates and 80 floodwall closures.

Where creeks and storm drains pass through the floodwall, gates can be closed to keep the river from flowing up the streams, and large pumps at the flood pumping stations are used to lift the water from the creeks into the river. Additional gates and pumping stations keep the river from backing up through storm drains and pipes, pumping the stormwater into the river.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers built the system after the city's two highest floods of record in 1937 and 1945. MSD has been responsible for the Flood Protection System since 1987.



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 650 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.