**Practice makes perfect**

MSD practiced installation of the floodgate closure at Second Street and River Road on October 26. The area was closed to traffic during this exercise.

MSD is required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to practice installation or closure of all openings in the flood protection system every three years. This closure is the only “swing gate” in that system.

Louisville Metro’s Ohio River Flood Protection System exists to keep the river at bay and out of the city. The system includes:
- 29 miles of floodwall and earthen levee
- 315 floodgates
- 79 floodwall closures
- 16 flood-pump stations

Flood-pump stations move inland water from creeks and streams to the river when the floodwall and levee are sealed. This system stands ready to safeguard our community every day of the year.

Our staff tests the pump stations monthly to ensure that they function properly. In times of flooding, information collected from our network of rain gauges, customer calls and area monitoring allows us to direct resources to the most severely affected areas.

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**Ohio River Tunnel Project enters construction phase**

Contracts have been awarded for the Ohio River Tunnel and Shafts Project and the Lexington & Payne Combined Sewer Overflow Interceptor Project. Site preparations such as erosion control and security fencing will begin soon, with construction set to begin in January 2018.

Work to prepare the tunnel boring machine has begun. It will take 10 months to prepare and ship the device to the site. The 2.5 mile tunnel will be 20 feet in diameter and approximately 200 feet below the surface.

Underground Storage basins and the Ohio River Tunnel are part of MSD’s larger endeavor to prevent sewage from overflowing into Louisville’s waterways. The basins and tunnel are designed to capture rainwater and sewage, which otherwise can overwhelm the sewer system during rain events and flow untreated into our waterways. These underground storage areas retain the mixture of rainwater and sewage until the rain subsides and system capacity is available, then it is gradually released back into the sewer system. At that point, the water is conveyed to MSD’s Morris Forman Water Quality Treatment Center, treated and returned to the Ohio River.
MSD Honors

Congratulations to Shelby Lockhart who was selected for the Fund for the Arts NeXt Class of 2018. NeXt is a nationally recognized professional development program that prepares the next generation of emerging professionals for volunteer leadership roles within the arts community.

Adventures in Water celebrates 10th year

A large wipes clog is dislodged at our Hite Creek Water Quality Treatment Center

Avoid a backup by tossing wipes into the trash

Wipes do not break down, even if their labels read “flushable.” They can cause problems in plumbing systems and lead to sewer backups in your home or place of business.

Wipes clog and damage sewer line pumps, screens and other mechanical parts at water quality treatment centers. They cause 60 percent of the clogs that MSD employees must repair. Do everyone a favor and toss your wipes in the trash—not into the toilet.

Customer Compliments

The MSD Drainage Crew working in my area did an excellent job. Thank you to Keith Brooks, Curtis Otto and Derek Shields for your hard work.

— Yvonne Cherry

Thank you to MSD and Austin Duvall, Lewis Geary and Leslie Graham. I am very satisfied with the drainage work they completed on my driveway and yard.

— Bonnie Ashley

I thank Rick Bledsoe, Chey Burkhead, Dwayne Edwards and Kaleb Green for providing excellent customer service. These employees are indeed a tremendous asset to your company. It is a rare occasion whenever you meet compassionate and caring individuals that take pride in their work. This team of individuals not only took pride in their work to restore a cave-in around a catch basin, but they demonstrated excellent customer service every day.

— Cynthia Rollins

Project DRI (Drainage Response Initiative) crews will soon begin drainage improvement work on:

- Kilmer Boulevard
- Old Towne Road
- Navaho Place
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.

**Building Our Blocks celebrates a season of success**

Mayor Greg Fischer’s initiative—Building Our Blocks—is designed to bring together city agencies and partner organizations such as Louisville Water Company and MSD in day-long, collaborative efforts aimed at minimizing blight, deterring crime, beautifying neighborhoods and building hope—one block at a time.

MSD’s Building Our Blocks Core Team was honored by Mayor Fischer at the “2017 Celebrating Performance Improvement and Civic Innovation.” Saundra Gibson, MSD Business & Community Partnership Administrator coordinated our participation in this initiative during the past year. MSD employees would canvas neighborhoods—picking up trash, receiving service requests and informing residents about MSD programs—Plumbing Modification, Senior Citizen Discount, Downspout Disconnection. Our crews cleaned catch basins—reducing neighborhood odors and improving drainage flow.

We look forward to continuing this relationship with Louisville Metro and the community in 2018.

MSD’s Miriam Fisher (left) and Johonne Hamilton collect trash during Building Our Blocks.
Prevent surface flooding in your neighborhood by *raking leaves and debris away from catch basins*, and properly disposing of the debris.

If basins are still clogged, contact **MSD Customer Relations** – at **502-587-0603**— we will send someone to help.