

# STREAMLINE

News and Events at Louisville MSD · January/February 2019

## OUR VISION

Achieving Safe, Clean Waterways  
for a Healthy and Vibrant Community

### Basins constructed since 1997 total more than 1 billion gallons of storage

- Aluma Basin
- Buechel Basin
- Executive Inn Basin
- Melco Basin
- PTRL basins
- South Fork Beargrass Creek basins
- Vulcan Quarry
- Whippys Mill Basin



Buechel Basin is a series of storage areas that protect the community by holding a total of 104 million gallons of stormwater overflow, which is equal to a 10-year storm.

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## OUR MISSION

Providing Exceptional Wastewater, Drainage  
and Flood Protection Services for Our Community

**24/7/365**

502.540.6000 · [CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org](mailto:CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org)



These homes off River Road are not protected by the Ohio River Flood Protection System.

## Protecting our community Heavy rainfall and rising waters call MSD flood protection into action

In 2018, Louisville Metro set a record few people were excited to see. The area received a record high of 68.83 inches of rainfall for the year. If the first two months are any indication, 2019 may compete for that prize. February 2019 was the eighth wettest February on record with 8.25 inches of rain. So far, the rain in 2019 has been more of a constant-steady rain rather than quick downpours. The steady rainfall is more manageable for MSD's Flood Protection System to manage and the MSD Drainage System to absorb.

## Stormwater drainage

MSD has built more than 1 billion gallons of stormwater storage since 1997. That year holds the number seven spot for historical crests in the area. Some of this storage also captures combined sewer overflows, providing further protection to the community.

**MSD is available 24/7  
at 502.540.6000**

Report a sanitary sewer backup before contacting a plumber.

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## Protecting our community

### Ohio River Flood Protection

As Ohio River levels start to climb upward, MSD Flood Protection staff mobilize to protect our community from the rising waters. The staff manages and maintains:

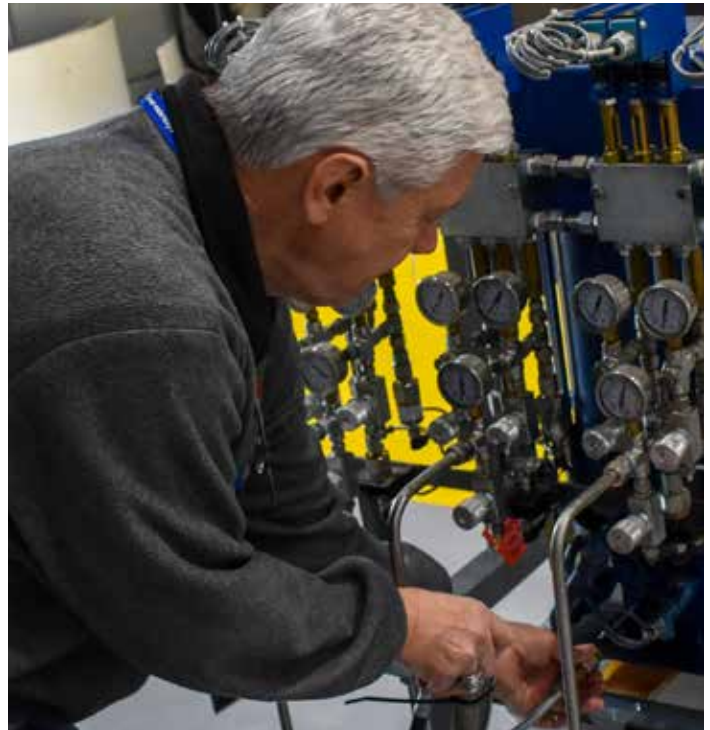
- 29 miles of floodwall and levee
- 16 flood pumping stations
- 150 underground floodgates
- 80 floodwall closures

It indeed is a team effort when river levels hit action or flood mode. MSD employees from various departments join with our Flood Protection staff to keep our city safe. The job is 24/7 till river levels subside.

Thank you to our Flood Protection staff who work long shifts with no days off, and to the staff who work both their regular MSD jobs and with the MSD Flood Protection Team when the river is high to keep our community safe from the rising waters.



Carolyn Fust, who is a part of MSD's Development Review Department, works to help out at our Beargrass Flood Pumping Station.



Curt Bynum adjusts the gauges at MSD's Beargrass Flood Pumping Station. Bynum's regular job is LOJIC Manager.

## Leading Innovation

Louisville MSD and Louisville Water have identified innovation as a key priority in their Strategic Business Plans and in the framework that guides their One Water partnership. The idea of innovation includes continually improving the service both utilities provide to this region; but, it's also the foundation for new lines of business and revenue.



Kimberly Reed  
Chief Innovation  
Officer

Kimberly Reed has been selected to lead this effort as Chief Innovation Officer for Louisville MSD and Louisville Water. Reed will also continue in her role of leading the shared service efforts with the One Water partnership between the two utilities.

Some innovation efforts may focus on one of the utilities while others will be joint and could even include partners from outside MSD and Louisville Water. Becoming a "utility of the future," with a focus on innovation is key in Louisville Water and MSD being resilient and successful.



## Plan your rain garden now

Rain gardens help infiltrate rainwater before it reaches the drainage system, and reduce the amount of stormwater and pollutants running into storm drains, combined sewers or streams. For your **FREE Rain Garden Guide**, contact MSD Customer Relations at **502.540.6000**, or online at **CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org**. Or download the brochure at **LouisvilleMSD.org/HowYouCanHelp**



## MSD Board approves enhanced Supplier Diversity and new Community Benefits programs

On February 25, the MSD Board of Directors approved two programs that will improve the diversity of firms that receive MSD contracts and create community benefits in neighborhoods where the agency is working. The enhanced Supplier Diversity Program and new Community Benefits Program take effect on July 1, 2019.

### Why the change?

The program changes are the result of a Disparity Study completed in July 2018 by Mason Tillman Associates, Ltd. MSD commissioned the study in 2016 to analyze its contracting practices through a five-year period to determine if a statistically significant disparity existed in MSD awards of contracts to qualified Minority- and Woman-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBE). The study looked at our procurement policies and evaluated contract data for construction, construction-related services, engineering, and professional services and materials and commodities. Additionally, vendors were interviewed as part of the assessment process.

**“MSD’s enhanced Supplier Diversity and new Community Benefits programs are an important investment in the health, safety and quality of life for our contracting community and ratepayers in Louisville now and for years to come.”**

— MSD Executive Director  
Tony Parrott

### What are the results?

The study found statistically significant evidence of disparity in the award of MSD prime and sub-contracts among African-American, Asian-Indian and Caucasian Females. Based on these findings, the MSD Board approved new supplier diversity goals. Beginning July 1, 2019, construction and construction-related

services valued at or above \$150,000 must include goals for the following qualified vendors who can perform a clear and commercially useful scope of work on the project:

- African-Americans – 18 percent
- Asian-Indian Americans – 2 percent
- Caucasian Females – 15 percent



MSD’s Supplier Diversity Program will also include a 10 percent bid discount applied to bids up to \$500,000, with a maximum discount not to exceed \$50,000 on bids submitted by M/WBE vendors. The bid discount is an evaluation tool with the goal of correcting the disparity finding.

### What is a Community Benefits Program?

In addition to the enhanced Supplier Diversity Program, the MSD Board also approved a Community Benefits Program to leverage the economic and social impact MSD has in the community with large-scale engineering projects. The new Community Benefits Program will provide specific opportunities in workforce development, skills-trade training, small business outreach and mentorship, and expose youth to careers in the water sector. The vendor (contractor/firm) will provide a financial contribution, volunteer hours or in-kind services to local non-profits and schools. No dollars for this effort will come to MSD.

**For more information about our new programs and to view the Disparity Study, please visit [LouisvilleMSD.org/doing-business-us](http://LouisvilleMSD.org/doing-business-us).**

# AVOID MAKING A SERIOUS POTTY FOUL

## KNOW WHAT'S OK TO FLUSH DOWN THE TOILET



MSD's recently unveiled "Bowl Patrol" campaign features a friendly cast of characters that are spreading the message to only flush "the three Ps—pee, poo and toilet paper. The campaign uses humor to convey how to avoid a serious potty foul, which can result in unnecessary expense for home and business owners, as well as MSD.

MSD Collections Supervisor Claude Rottet said the problem of people sending the wrong items down the toilet causes massive issues for MSD equipment and personnel, and the biggest culprit is so-called "flushable" wipes. "Advertisers might call them 'flushable,' but only because they will typically make it past your toilet," he said. "They don't break down and, once they are in the system, it doesn't take much for them to cause damage."

That damage is costly. Because the wipes don't break down, they clog machinery and build up in wet wells. The results can range from hiring Vector truck operators to clean out wet wells to repairing broken pumps to sewer discharges and environmental fines. Additionally, working on the problems caused by the wipes takes away from employees' other duties. "It's a full-time job," Rottet said.

It isn't just "flushable" wipes Collections confronts. Rottet rattles off a list of items that routinely come through the sewer system and to Collections. "Dental floss, underwear, feminine hygiene products," he said. "We have to get cutters and go in and cut these items into little pieces to get them free from machinery."



While the tone of the "Bowl Patrol" might be light, it is intended to combat a severe problem. Rottet said he hopes people understand the consequences of flushing things that, frankly, shouldn't be flushed. "What you flush, does not just disappear," he said. "The only things that should go down a toilet are pee, poo and paper."

**Look for more information with your bill and follow us on social media to see more about the Bowl Patrol.**

@LouisvilleMSD

## Customer **Compliments**

Thank you to **Matthew Clark** and **Shari Payne** for clearing the blocked drain on the side of our Eastern Parkway building. We are pleased with your work!

— Alley Cat Advocates

I want to extend my most gracious appreciation for **Stacey Witten** and the assistance she provided to have the ditches cleaned for Village of White Oaks, Powerhouse Lane, Lyndon Kentucky. Our Board is grateful, as well. Stacey rocks!

— Deanna D. Lewis

## MSD is available 24/7 at 502.540.6000

Report a sanitary sewer backup  
before contacting a plumber.

Determining if the problem is located  
on the public side of the system

will help to avoid unnecessary plumber expense.

**Make plans now to volunteer  
and make a difference!**

## Ohio River Sweep

**Saturday, June 15 · 9 AM to Noon**



MSD proudly sponsors Ohio River Sweep with ORSANCO, LG&E and Louisville Water. The event is one of the nation's largest and longest-running environmental cleanup events.

MSD employees will equip volunteers with gloves and bags.

For more information visit:

**[LouisvilleMSD.org/OhioRiverSweep](http://LouisvilleMSD.org/OhioRiverSweep)**

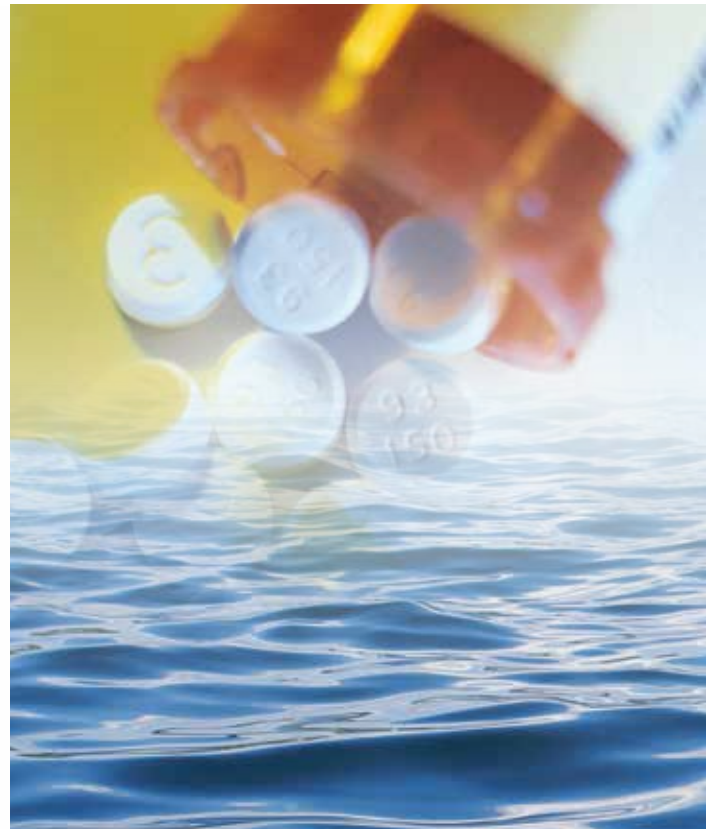
## Working together, we can achieve safe, clean waterways

Make sure that you safely and properly dispose of expired prescription drugs and other medications, like unsealed cough syrups, eye drops and nose sprays; and bulk or loose capsules and pills. Remember that it is never safe to flush pharmaceutical products down the toilet or drain because:

- They can seep into the drinking and ground water source and contaminate the environment.
- They can kill bacteria or produce drug-resistant bacteria in sewage treatment plants and septic systems.

**Instead of flushing, you can safely dispose any unused prescriptions at the following locations:**

- Jefferson County Sheriff's Office in downtown Louisville, 531 Court Place, Suite 600, Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 4 PM.
- St. Matthews Police Department, 3940 Grandview Avenue, Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 4 PM.







700 West Liberty Street  
Louisville, KY 40203-1911



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The public is welcome to attend MSD Board meetings.  
For MSD Board information and meeting schedule visit:  
[LouisvilleMSD.org/About-Us/MSD-Board](http://LouisvilleMSD.org/About-Us/MSD-Board)

## Upcoming Events

### MARCH 25

**MSD Personnel Board Committee Meeting**  
10:30 AM, 700 West Liberty Street

### MSD Board Meeting

1 PM, Open Session, 700 West Liberty Street

### APRIL 11

#### Joint Utility Reception

1-3 PM, The Olmsted, 3701 Frankfort Avenue

### APRIL 22

#### MSD Board Meeting

1 PM, Open Session, 700 West Liberty Street



Beargrass Creek. — Photo courtesy of John Nation



## Jefferson County dogs produce four dump-truck loads of waste EVERY day.

Pet waste that is left behind on sidewalks, in parks and  
at home finds its way to local waterways when it rains.  
Please do your part to help by scooping the poop!

Properly dispose of it in the trash.

**Working together,  
we can achieve safe, clean  
waterways for our community.**

