



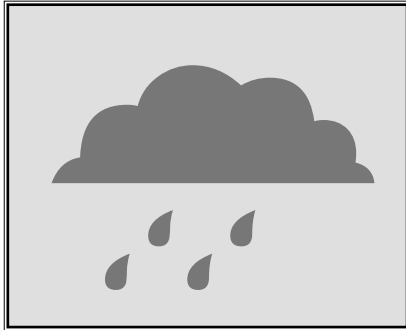
Wet Weather/Water Quality Area Team

Study gauges rain's impact on river quality

Is the Ohio River less polluted after a rain? Are pollutants most evident on the Kentucky side, Indiana side or in the middle of the river? How long does it take pollutants to travel the river?

To evaluate the impacts of wet weather sources of pollution along 42 miles of Ohio River and its tributaries, MSD is working with other organizations on a multi-year project.

The Louisville Area Wet Weather Demonstration Study surveys water quality during both dry and wet weather. The study takes a holistic approach to evaluate how wet weather affects combined and sanitary sewer overflows, stormwater discharges and other pollution sources, and their impact on water quality in the Ohio River.



Mill creeks in Kentucky, and Lentzier, Lancassange, Mill, Silver and Falling Run creeks in Indiana.

Since the study began in 1997, McManus said historical information about the test area and three dry-weather surveys have been completed. Two wet weather surveys have been conducted, and three to four more are planned. The surveys are conducted on both sides and the middle of the Ohio River at two-mile intervals. One or two dye surveys of the river also will be conducted. Then a water quality model for the test area will be developed.

So far, the surveys and sampling show a significant increase in some pollutants in the river that can take up to 72 hours

to dissipate from the test area, McManus noted.

ORSANCO began the study 1997 under a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Grant. These local organizations, along with MSD, are participating: City of Louisville, Louisville Water Co., Indiana Department of Environmental Management, University of Louisville, Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Geological Survey, and cities of Jeffersonville, Clarksville and New Albany, Indiana.

In addition to in-kind services, MSD is contributing \$75,000 toward the project in the current fiscal year.

"MSD has a responsibility to monitor and measure environmental impacts along the Ohio River, and embracing a cooperative study that characterizes pollution should benefit our community" said Executive Director Gordon Garner. He said the study would complement MSD's own surveys of creeks and watersheds, while providing tools to help develop plans for combined sewer and sanitary sewer overflows.

When completed in December 2001, the study will help municipalities and agencies like MSD identify pollution sources and the impact of wet weather on the river, according to John McManus of the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO). The study will yield water quality models that can predict how pollutants increase in the river during rains, and how long they impact water quality after rains subside, according to McManus.

The study area includes 15 miles of the McAlpine Pool of the Ohio River above the McAlpine Locks and Dam and 25 miles of the Cannelton Pool below the locks, ending just upstream of the Salt River confluence. Approximately 140 combined sewer overflows, eight municipal wastewater treatment plants, 55 industrial facilities and numerous sanitary sewer overflows discharge into this segment of the Ohio River, as well as polluted stormwater runoff from an urban area of more than one million people and their pets.

In addition to the Ohio River, water quality samples are collected from Harrods, Goose, Beargrass and



Upcoming Events

- Feb. 21 - President's Day Holiday. MSD Offices are open.
- Feb. 22 - Public Meeting, Pleasure Ridge (PR-2) Sewer Assessment Project, 7 p.m., Southwest Government Center, 7219 Dixie Hwy.
- Feb. 24 - Public Meeting, 2700 W. Chestnut Sewer Project, 7 p.m., Bethlehem Apostolic Church, 2205 W. Broadway, AND Public Meeting, Witawanga Sewer & Drainage Improvement Project, 7 p.m., City of Lyndon meeting room, 515 Wood Ave.
- Feb. 28 - MSD Board Meeting, 10 a.m., 700 W. Liberty, first floor.



Floyds Fork watershed area

MSD to acquire Tucker Station plant

MSD's Board has approved a plan to purchase the Tucker Station Wastewater Treatment Plant, and remove the plant from service.

Under the plan, MSD will buy the Tucker Station plant from Tucker Station Disposal Systems for \$55,000. MSD will operate the plant until construction of its Pope Lick Interceptor, Pope Lick Pump Station and Pope Lick Force Main and Gravity Sewer is completed.

MSD plans to build the Pope Lick Interceptor, which would take the Tucker Station plant, located on Kirkham Trace, and MSD's Cross Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant and Wooded Falls Pump Station all out of service. The Pope Lick Interceptor's planned route crosses the Tucker Station plant site and parallels an existing sewer line in the Tucker Station plant's service area.

When completed, the Pope Lick Interceptor will end at the Pope Lick Pump Station, which will move wastewater to MSD's Floyds Fork Wastewater Treatment Plant, scheduled to be in operation later this year.



MSD

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Mayor, Garner to co-chair Beargrass Creek task force

Louisville Mayor David Armstrong and MSD Executive Director Gordon Garner will co-chair a task force on Beargrass Creek.

The task force is part of the city's efforts to expand Waterfront Park up to and including Beargrass Creek. Mayor Armstrong has proposed extending the park about a half-mile up Beargrass Creek from the Ohio River to MSD's Beargrass Flood Pumping Station. Recreational boaters could be encouraged to cruise up the creek if it can be made navigable.

The task force will also explore the environmental impacts of opening Beargrass Creek to public use.

Garner said this involves looking at clean up, restoration, maintenance, historic preservation and funding partnerships. MSD recently participated in the development of the half-mile Butchertown Greenway Trail, which parallels the creek and connects the Butchertown neighborhood to the river.

Beargrass Creek enters the Ohio River near Towhead Island, and Mayor Armstrong has suggested the area as a "safe harbor" for pleasure craft that is not available in other parts of the waterfront. Under the Mayor's plan, commercial boat traffic would be routed north of Towhead Island.

One-time drought credit OK'ed for condos

MSD's Board has extended a one-time credit for sewer charges during last summer's drought to condominium associations who pay water and sewer bills for residential condo owners.

Not-for-profit condominium associations have until March 31 to submit a written request for the one-time credit. The credit applies only to one two-month billing cycle that occurred between July and October 1999.

On Oct. 25, 1999, the MSD Board approved the credit for residential sewer customers whose outdoor water usage increased significantly during the drought. As of Jan. 31, about 60 percent of residential customers eligible for the credit had applied for it. MSD has credited approximately 42,224 residential customer accounts with a combined \$697,000.

The credit was extended to non-profit condominium associations who pay water and sewer bills for single-family residential condo units. MSD's residential sewer bills are based on the amount of water used, discounted by 15 percent to account for water that isn't sent down a drain for wastewater treatment. Most large apartments and commercial properties don't pay sewer charges for irrigation because it is metered separately from indoor water use.

The summer of 1999 was the area's driest since 1931. MSD estimates its residential customers used 641 million gallons more of water in August and September 1999 than at the same time in 1998.



Mill Creek watershed area

Assessments set for Big Run sewer project

The 64 property owners in the Big Run (BR-5C) project area will pay between \$4,500 and \$6,300 for sanitary sewer service.

MSD's Board approved the range of guaranteed maximum assessments for the project area, located along Upper Hunters Trace, Lower Hunters Trace, Marian Drive and Flintlock Drive.

The assessments are the most property owners in the project area will pay as their shares of sewer construction and connection costs.



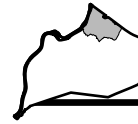
Pond Creek watershed area

Drainage to improve in City of Lynnview

A comprehensive project will improve rear-yard drainage for properties in the City of Lynnview, in the Preston Highway/Gilmore Lane area.

The project includes constructing swales and drainage channels along the back of properties in the area. Plans require removal of some trees and relocating some property fences. It is expected to take up to a year to complete.

S&S and Associates will perform the work at a cost of \$474,374.



North County watershed area

Aging pump station to be out of service

MSD will remove the 10-year-old Alban's Place Pump Station from service.

The pump station was built to serve the first section of Springhurst subdivision in eastern Jefferson County. The facility's age and location down a steep ravine between two residences make it difficult to continue operating and maintain, according to North County Area Team Leader Vince Bowlin.

The project will take the pump station out of service and provide sanitary sewer service to three properties in the City of Ten Broeck. Plans call for installing about 1,000 linear feet of sewer pipe and eight manholes, decommissioning the pump station and restoring pavement.

Flynn Brothers Contracting, Inc. will perform the work for \$109,078.



Beargrass Creek watershed area

Emergency actions save the day

Quick response and coordination between the Beargrass Creek Area Team and MSD Maintenance personnel fixed two emergency situations in the City of Louisville.

Both actions occurred late in 1999, according to Beargrass Creek/City Area Team Leader Loyiso Melisizwe, and both were completed within five days.

Maintenance staff discovered a sewer collapse in the alley behind the Cathedral of the Assumption on Fifth Street. The 24-inch line served the church and was located 12 feet below the ground surface. MSD staff worked with Basham Construction and Rental Co. to repair the line and restore customer connections. The repairs cost \$78,084.

During a televised inspection, Maintenance personnel discovered the top missing from a 24-inch line along Park Boulevard, under the Watterson Expressway. Silt had filled in the line, prohibiting the flow of wastewater.

Located 20 feet below the ground surface, 300 feet of the line were repaired in four days. E-Z Construction Co., working with MSD staff, performed the work at a cost of \$104,585.