

August 25, 1999

LOJIC blasts off with space center addition

An international center dedicated to developing new uses for geographic information systems will use data from the Louisville/Jefferson County Information Consortium (LOJIC).

The U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, AL is developing the Geospatial Training and Applications Center, to be built at the Huntsville site. The center will promote geographic information systems (GIS) technology and education, and will research and develop new geospatial databases, applications and technologies.

"LOJIC will be the center's source for education and research on GIS applications that have a local focus," according to MSD's Chief Information Officer Bruce Seigle. "LOJIC's use of geospatial technologies for infrastructure management, planning, natural resource management, medical epidemiology, and emergency preparedness and response are of particular interest," Seigle said.

Plans for the center include a state-of-the-art training facility, demonstration sites, hands-on simulations of spatial technologies and exhibits. "It will be a sort of space camp for businesses and organizations looking for new ways to use GIS applications in their operations and communities," Seigle said, referring to the Huntsville Space Center's youth astronaut program.

In exchange for supplying its data and resources, LOJIC staff and users will get direct access to new applications and GIS data the center expects to generate, and will participate in research projects. Seigle said the one-year term of the agreement may be renewed if both the center and LOJIC are satisfied with the results.

LOJIC member organizations include the City of Louisville and Jefferson County agencies, Louisville Water Co., PVA and MSD. Its staff is housed at MSD as part of the district's commitment to LOJIC.

McNeely project takes old plants off-line

A 26-year-old wastewater treatment plant is no longer in service, thanks to the recent McNeely Lake Pump Station and Force Main project.

The Apple Valley plant, built in 1967 to treat an average of 200,000 gallons of wastewater a day, has served properties south of Applegate Lane from Smyrna Lane to Vaughn Mill Road. It is one of four wastewater aging treatment plants taken out of service as the McNeely Lake project was built.

Floyds Fork Area Team Leader Vickie Coombs said the McNeely

Lake project and recent completion of the Fishpool interceptor retired five old pump stations and five aging wastewater treatment plants in the Okolona area. Operations and maintenance costs for the five treatment plants were nearly \$300,000 a year. The Apple Valley plant was taken off line earlier this month.

With completion of both the Fishpool and McNeely Lake projects, wastewater will be flowed to MSD's West County Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Year-round rate discount covers outdoor water use

Every spring and summer hoses keep patios clean while sprinklers help plants and seedlings survive the summer heat.

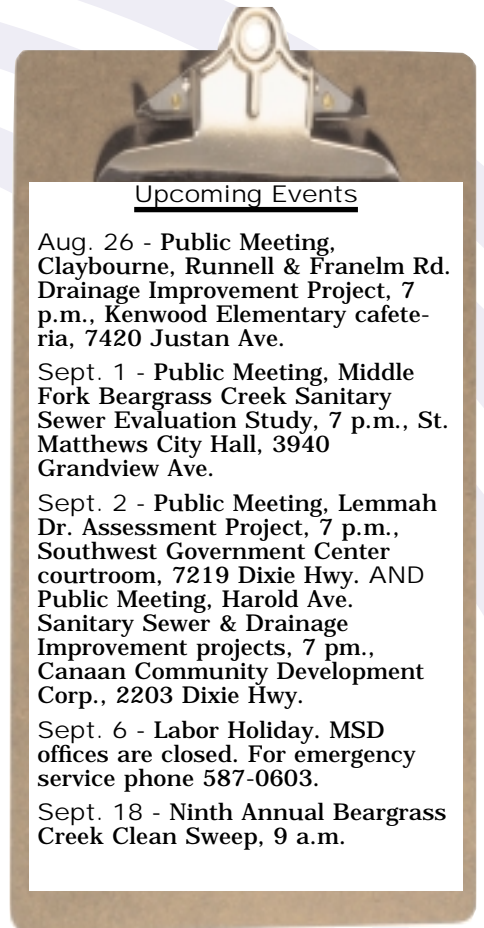
But bi-monthly sewer bills still charge for treating the same amount of water used, even though some of the water went into a garden or on the lawn instead of down a drain.

"Customers question why they should pay a sewer charge for water used that didn't get sent down a drain to the treatment plant," said Revenue Manager Paul Hollensead. It's a legitimate question that, according to Hollensead, has been asked more frequently this summer because a lack of rainfall has

increased outdoor water use.

Residential bills for sewer service are based on the amount of water used, according to water meter readings. To account for water used outside that isn't sent down a drain for wastewater treatment, MSD's residential rates include a year-round 15 percent discount.

Hollensead said that most customers ask about sewer charges when they receive bills for summer months, when outdoor water usage peaks. "MSD customers are charged for 85 percent of metered water use all year because we acknowledge that not all of the water they use is treated," he said.



Upcoming Events

Aug. 26 - Public Meeting, Claybourne, Runnell & Franelm Rd. Drainage Improvement Project, 7 p.m., Kenwood Elementary cafeteria, 7420 Justan Ave.

Sept. 1 - Public Meeting, Middle Fork Beargrass Creek Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Study, 7 p.m., St. Matthews City Hall, 3940 Grandview Ave.

Sept. 2 - Public Meeting, Lemmah Dr. Assessment Project, 7 p.m., Southwest Government Center courtroom, 7219 Dixie Hwy. AND Public Meeting, Harold Ave. Sanitary Sewer & Drainage Improvement projects, 7 pm., Canaan Community Development Corp., 2203 Dixie Hwy.

Sept. 6 - Labor Holiday. MSD offices are closed. For emergency service phone 587-0603.

Sept. 18 - Ninth Annual Beargrass Creek Clean Sweep, 9 a.m.

Ten city 'pockets' to get sewer service

MSD has identified 236 properties in 10 Beargrass Creek Watershed neighborhoods to receive sanitary sewer service. Now served by septic tanks, the residences and businesses are among the hundreds of properties within the city that have never been connected to MSD's system.

The areas and number of properties to receive sewer service are: Browns Lane, five; Campground Road, 21; Clayton Road, eight; Dorsey Lane, 43; Durrett Lane, 27; Fegenbush Ln., 10; Fitzgerald Rd., 24; Ledyard and Primrose Ave., 31; Old Manslick Rd., 15; and Washburn and Fountain Ave., 52.

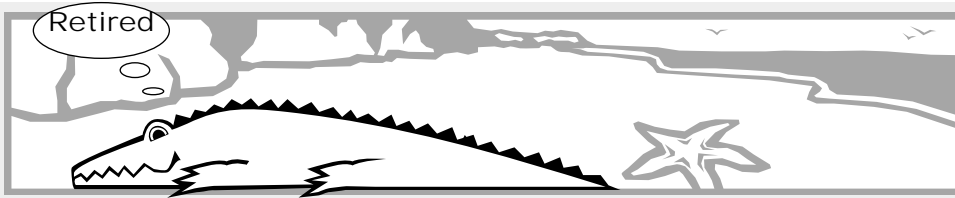
Customer assessments, which fund part of the sewer installation and connection, will contribute \$1,862,790 to the \$2,562,245 total cost of the projects. Customer assessments range from \$3,760 to \$28,490.

MSD will plan public meetings so affected property owners can learn more about the assessments and process, and vote on whether to have sewer service.



MSD

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As these co-workers leave their MSD careers for new challenges or well-earned relaxation, we recognize their commitment to our customers, our community and our organization. We thank them for their service and wish them the best.

Robert L. McDonald, II, Wastewater Education Coordinator, 25 years of service
"Bob brought a smile and heart as big as the outdoors he loves to work with him each day. His expertise in Operations, his enthusiasm for his work, and his dedication to our Training Team are, and will be, missed." - Elizabeth Mitchell, Training Administrator

Richard L. Hutchinson, Special Assistant, 23 years of service
"Hutch is a true professional in every sense. His attention to detail is legend (UNOX pilot plant, corrective action program, support for the anaerobic side stream pilot plant, consent reviews, Action Plan for the 90s and KDPEs permit modifications and renewal). Hutch knew what had to be done and did it. I, for one, shall miss his dedication and timely performance. Hutch, good luck and enjoy to the fullest your most deserved retirement." - Carl Neumayer, Director of Operations



Floyds Ford watershed area

Sewer rehabilitation to begin in Okolona area

A project to rehabilitate sanitary sewers in the McNeely Lake and Gainesborough areas of Okolona will begin soon.

The goal is to reduce the amount of stormwater that enters the sewer system through leaky manhole covers and sewer lines that have become corroded over the years. By keeping stormwater out of sewer lines, sewer overflows and backups also will be reduced, according to Wet Weather/Water Quality Area Team Leader Roddy Williams.

The project includes installing 664 chimney seals on area manholes to prevent stormwater from seeping into sewers around manhole covers. About 2,700 linear feet of sewer lines will be relined by injecting cured-in-place pipe into existing sewer pipes; it conforms to the pipe's size and shape, filling in holes and cracks that have allowed water to enter the lines.

The project may take up to a year to complete, and Williams said additional phases may be planned in the McNeely Lake area.

S & S Associates, Inc. of Louisville was awarded the project contract for \$848,717.



North County watershed area

Final Indian Hill phase ready to begin

The last section of the Indian Hills collector system is ready for construction and expected to take a year to complete.

The project, which will provide sanitary sewer service to 98 homes in north Indian Hills, was delayed by acquiring some easements and figuring how sewer lines would cross I-71, according to North County Area Team Leader Vince Bowlin. MSD will connect the Indian Hills north collector by a gravity line along the interstate.

MAC Construction & Excavating, Inc., New Albany, will construct the project at a cost of \$3.5 million. It is expected to take a year to complete.



Pond Creek watershed area

Billie Lane pump station to go off-line

A pump station near the Whispering Hills neighborhood will be taken off line because of maintenance and overflow problems.

The Billie Lane pump station was to be eliminated as part of another project, but the project was expedited because of the plant's problems, according to Pond Creek Area Team Leader Dave Schaftlein.

Cornell Harbison Excavating, Inc., Georgetown, IN, will perform the work for \$85,144.



Beargrass Creek watershed area

Budget increase includes more city partnerships

Nearly \$2 million has been added to the Beargrass Creek watershed budget to allow MSD to partner with the City of Louisville on drainage improvement projects.

"In the past, we've shared costs with the city on many projects that were traditionally funded by the city through individual Alderman discretionary funds," explained Beargrass Creek Watershed Area Team Leader Loyiso Melisizwe. Some funding for projects co-funded by the city was included in the Beargrass Creek Watershed Area's current fiscal year budget.

But this fiscal year Mayor Dave Armstrong's budget for the city included a new feature: \$1.5 million for specific drainage projects to be cost-shared with MSD. With the additional funds approved for the Beargrass Creek Watershed, MSD can proceed with those projects.

"The net effect is that MSD will spend \$2.2 million to finance \$3.6 million in drainage projects around the city," according to Melisizwe.

Ninth sweep keeps Beargrass Creek clean

Looking for a way to spend a Saturday morning that helps the environment?

Join the ninth annual Beargrass Sweep Sept. 18. The cleanup begins at 9:30 a.m. and continues to 12:30 p.m. Volunteers may come to any of these sites to participate:

Cherokee Park at Lexington Rd.

Behind Jim Porter's (Lexington & Grinstead)

Spring St. bridge near Mellwood Ave.

Brown Park, St. Matthews

Newburg Rd. across from Bellarmine

Eva Bandman Park

Target/Winn-Dixie on Taylorsville Rd.

Big Rock, Cherokee Park

Brooklawn Childrens Home, Goldsmith Ln.

Beargrass Pump Station

Schuff Lane bridge near Newburg Rd.

Trevillian Way bridge at Creason Park

Germantown Ballpark

Bowling Blvd. Behind Mall St. Matthews

As an event sponsor, MSD provides trash and debris pickup from the collection sites. For more information phone Bud Schardein, 540-6319.