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FLOODING UPDATE MEDIA ADVISORY

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All MSD Flood Pumping Stations still in service

LOUISVILLE, KY— MSD continues to have all 16 flood pumping stations (FPS) in service. Projections show they will remain in service through March 4. The flood pumping stations are part of the floodwall and levee system. Openings in the system are closed to keep the rising river out of the city. The pumps take inland water and push it out to the river.

Indications are that the river is at or near its crest at 35.6 feet on the upper gauge and 67.04 feet on the lower gauge. Normal pool on the upper gauge is 12 feet. Low stage on the lower is 9 feet.

Roadway Closures

MSD Crews installed floodwall closures at Port Road and 11th Street yesterday. Based on current projections, closures could begin to come down as early as Tuesday. They will be removed in the reverse order that they went into service. The first to come down will be the closure at 11th Street. The last one to be removed will be 27th Street. River levels determine when the closures are removed.

Order of removal:

1. 11th Street
2. Port Road
3. Bingham Way
4. Second Street
5. 10th Street
6. 27 Street

Damage Sustained

Some MSD flood pumping stations have experience damage. However, all 16 stations remained in operation.

- Pond Creek FPS — constructed in 1989 — lost one of its four pumps in the early hours of Monday, February 26. The remaining three pumps are working, protecting and serving the area. However, we lost redundancy at this station. The damaged pump will be repaired after this flooding event.

- Paddy's Run FPS — which was put into service in 1953 — had one pump fail early Sunday, February 25. This station still has five working pumps protecting and serving the area, but we lost redundancy at this station. The damaged pump will be repaired after this flooding event.
- Upper Mill Creek FPS — which was put into service in 1979 — also lost one of its three pumps due to motor damage early Sunday, February 25. The two remaining pumps are still working, servicing the area, However, redundancy was lost with one pump out of service.
- Beargrass Creek FPS has a tremendous amount of debris and trash piled up on the city side of the facility. The debris has become an unexpected positive for the station. A decision was made to leave the debris until tomorrow because it is functioning as an additional filter for the mechanical components of the station.

Other flood pumping stations sustained damage due to flooding in the lower levels. Those issues do not impede the operation of the pumps.

Extra Staff

Extra maintenance staff, call center staff, and crews were scheduled to respond to weather predictions and the resulting sanitary backups into homes and roadway flooding. We did temporarily suspend sanitary backup requests around midnight due to the size of the storm and the sanitary system capacity. We cannot determine the cause of a backup when the sanitary system is full.

Since 1997

MSD has built more than 1 billion gallons of stormwater storage since 1997. This additional storage protected hundreds of homes. Additionally, MSD has bought — with federal, state and MSD dollars — approximately 300 homes that repeatedly flood.

Customers can report any roadway flooding issues or sewer backups into homes 24/7/365.

From midnight through 11 a.m. today, MSD has received 317 calls to the Customer Service center, most related to sewer backups and drainage and catch basin issues.

MSD Customer Relations
502-587-0603

CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org.

MSD Flood Protection staff work year-round to maintain these flood pumping stations, 150 floodgates and 29-miles of floodwall and earthen levee. Nine MSD pump stations are 70 years old and were built when Louisville had much less impervious surface.

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 pump 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.



LouisvilleMSD

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 600 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.