

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: March 2, 2015

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Warmer Temperatures Could Lead to Local Flooding Citizens Encouraged to Take Flood Safety Precautions

Cincinnati, OH – The Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) is watching the weather conditions closely in anticipation of potential local flooding conditions due to warmer temperatures. The current river level forecast predicts that the Ohio River will reach 51.1 feet by early Saturday morning (March 7). Based on this information, MSD's Stormwater Management Utility (SMU) division anticipates activating flood operations at the Mill Creek Barrier Dam facility late Thursday (March 5) or early Friday (March 6). This protocol could change based upon how the weather event unfolds over the next few days.

Because of melting snow in conjunction with the rainfalls projected over the next couple of days, **MSD offers the following flood safety tips:**

- Avoid creeks, rivers or waterways that may swell rapidly.
- Don't drive through standing water unless absolutely necessary. Drivers should assume that water may be deeper than it appears, and could actually be flowing.
- Keep children away from water-bodies and storm inlets/intakes.
- Flooded basements should be entered with great caution, and it should be assumed that standing water could pose an electrical hazard.

From a building perspective:

- Ground surrounding foundations should be sloped away to promote proper drainage.
- Gutters, downspouts and area drains should be regularly cleaned, and kept free of debris.

Any MSD Customers that believe they may be experiencing a sewer backup should immediately call **513-352-4900**.

For additional information on MSD's sewer back up program, please visit us at <http://sbu.msdc.org/sbu/>. For additional information about stormwater management, please visit us at http://www.msdc.org/about_msdc/stormwater/index.html.

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