



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Want to Know When Conditions are Likely for Sewer Overflows and Basement Backups? Sign Up for Email Alerts Now

CINCINNATI – During rains, sewers in Hamilton County can fill up with stormwater, resulting in overflows of raw sewage and stormwater into our local streams and rivers and sewage backups into basements.

The Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD) is under a federal mandate to fix this problem and is implementing hundreds of sewer improvement projects across Hamilton County through a program known as Project Groundwork.

As part of this program, MSD sponsors a CSO notification program to alert Hamilton County residents when existing or predicted weather conditions are likely to cause combined sewer overflows (CSOs) into waterways or sewer backups.

MSD issues an alert when a rainfall of 1/4 inch or more is predicted or recorded in Hamilton County, or when water levels in local rivers and streams are elevated and could cause an overflow or backup to occur.

The alert urges residents to avoid contact with streams or rivers near a CSO discharge location for at least 72 hours after a rainfall, as contact with the water could be hazardous. It also advises avoiding contact with local waterways until 72 hours after water levels have returned to normal.

Signs are posted at each CSO discharge location along the Mill Creek, Little Miami River, Muddy Creek and Ohio River, as well as their tributaries. There are about 207 CSO discharge locations.

If a sewer backup occurs at your property, please report it immediately to MSD 24/7 at 352-4900 or online through the [Sewer Backup Response Program website](#).

There are two ways to receive alerts: by mail and by calling our information line:

By phone: Call the CSO Information Line at **(513) 244-5116** to listen to the latest notification.

By email: If you would like to sign up to receive a CSO advisory by email, please click on this link from the MSD website: <http://bit.ly/298MJUj>

In addition to its CSO Notification Program, MSD hosts a website and app called Recr8OhioRiver.org that provides water quality data and river conditions for the Ohio River in the Cincinnati area.

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