

What is Project Clear?

Project Clear is the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District's initiative to improve water quality and alleviate many wastewater concerns in the St. Louis region. Project Clear will invest billions of dollars over a generation in planning, designing, and building community rainscaping and system improvements.

Though underground, and far less visible than the work required to build Busch Stadium, redesign I-64 or build a new bridge, MSD will be constructing the equivalent of eleven (11) Busch Stadiums, or nine (9) I-64 rebuilds, or seven (7) new Mississippi River Bridges.

Get the Rain Out is an important part of Project Clear designed to remove excess water from the sanitary sewer system to address basement backups and sewer overflows.



Frequently Asked Questions

Why should I allow removal of stormwater connections on my property?

Removal of stormwater connections is legally required by both local building codes and MSD's Sewer Use Ordinance. It is also the right thing to do for your neighborhood, reducing the likelihood of basement backups and sewer overflows. To comply with federal and state law, as well as other legal obligations, MSD is *required* to enforce its Sewer Use Ordinance to ensure the removal of stormwater connections that contribute to sewer overflows. Our strong preference is to work with you to resolve this issue.

Do I have to pay for the removal of stormwater connections?

No. With your participation, MSD will pay for removal of stormwater connections to the sanitary sewer through private laterals as part of this program. Please be aware, if property owners do not participate now, they may be required to disconnect in the future at their own expense. To protect the public's health and the natural environment in the most cost effective way, it is critical that MSD have full participation in these efforts.

What can I do? Who should I contact?

Review the materials sent to you describing stormwater connections on your property and sign the Disconnection Agreement. Even though removing stormwater connections is required, we cannot proceed without your written consent. Remember, this work will be done at NO CHARGE to you while a project is taking place in your neighborhood. Project staff is available anytime to answer your questions and address any concerns. Don't hesitate to call the contact listed in your letter to inquire.

For more information on Get the Rain Out and Project Clear, visit our website, www.ProjectClearSTL.org.



METROPOLITAN ST. LOUIS
SEWER DISTRICT

Get the RAIN OUT



ProjectClearSTL.org

What is the Purpose of Get the Rain Out?

Sanitary sewers are designed to carry wastewater from homes and businesses in MSD's service area to treatment plants. Stormwater entering the system during moderate to heavy rain events can overload it and cause untreated sewage to overflow into local creeks and streams and back up into basements. Local building codes and MSD's Sewer Use Ordinance prohibit stormwater connections to the sanitary sewer yet they are widespread in our area. You may have them and not be aware of it. Common examples are pictured below. For additional examples, visit www.ProjectClearSTL.org.

DOWNSPOUT: This downspout "disappears," that is it goes directly into the ground where it may connect to the sanitary sewer filling it with stormwater. MSD will repair it at no charge to you.



YARD DRAIN: Yard drains are designed to collect water that floods or pools in low spots and can be connected to the sanitary sewer. MSD will redirect yard drains at no charge to you.



DRIVEWAY DRAINS: Driveway drains collect water from low spots in driveways to prevent water from approaching a home or other structure. MSD will redirect driveway drains connected to the sanitary sewer at no charge to you.



MSD and Customers Working Together

The Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD) works every day to protect the public's health and the natural environment through effective wastewater and stormwater management strategies.

MSD is responsible for the public sewer system that homes and businesses connect to through lateral lines. Through a labyrinth of connected sewers, wastewater is transported to one of seven sewer treatment plants – more than 6,600 miles of sewers in all. That is like going from St. Louis to New York City and back three times! Individual property owners are responsible for another important part of the system, the sewer lateral that connects a home's plumbing to the public sewer in the street.

MSD repairs and replaces broken pipes and manholes within the public system as part of regular maintenance and operations.

Repairs are also needed to the sewer system on your property. You can help by reviewing the exhibits in your packet to understand the stormwater connections on your property and returning a signed Disconnection Agreement.



Get the Rain Out: How It Works

Your neighborhood is not alone. Get the Rain Out will be implemented through hundreds of projects across MSD's service area over the next several years. Participation is easy and there is no charge to customers. The steps are:

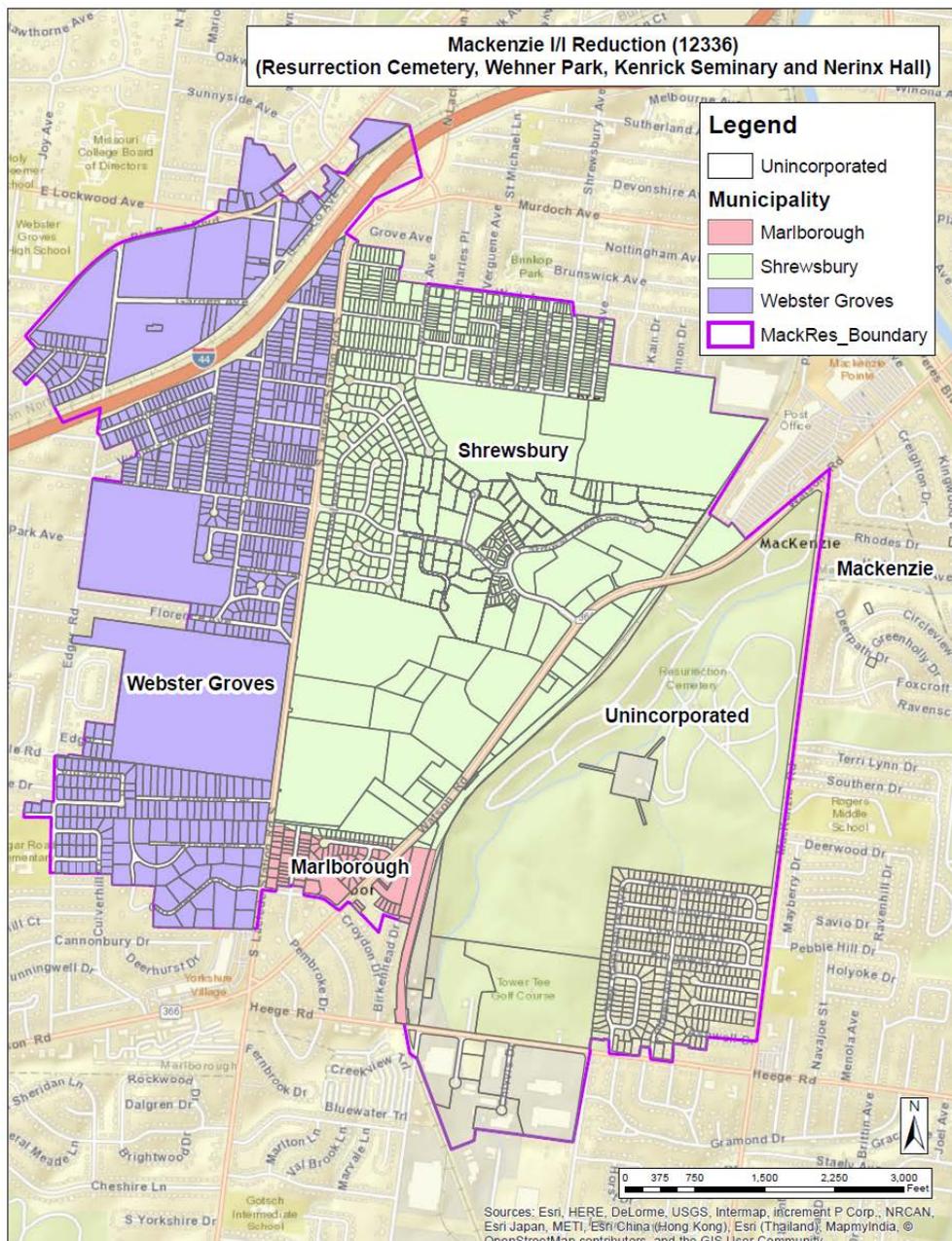
1. Potential stormwater connections to the sanitary sewer are identified by MSD.
2. Property owners with stormwater connections are notified of the requirement to disconnect and asked to sign a Disconnection Agreement.
3. MSD will hire a licensed plumber or drain layer who will remove the stormwater connections at no charge to customers.
4. Property owners are notified when the work will occur and what to expect.

Webster Groves Area Projects

MSD Project Clear
Mackenzie I/I Reduction
MSD Project #12336

MSD's consultant, CH2M, will be performing property inspections on all properties in the project area between mid-September and December.

Questions regarding this project – contact Dave Yates, CH2M, dave.yates@ch2m.com, 314-335-3048

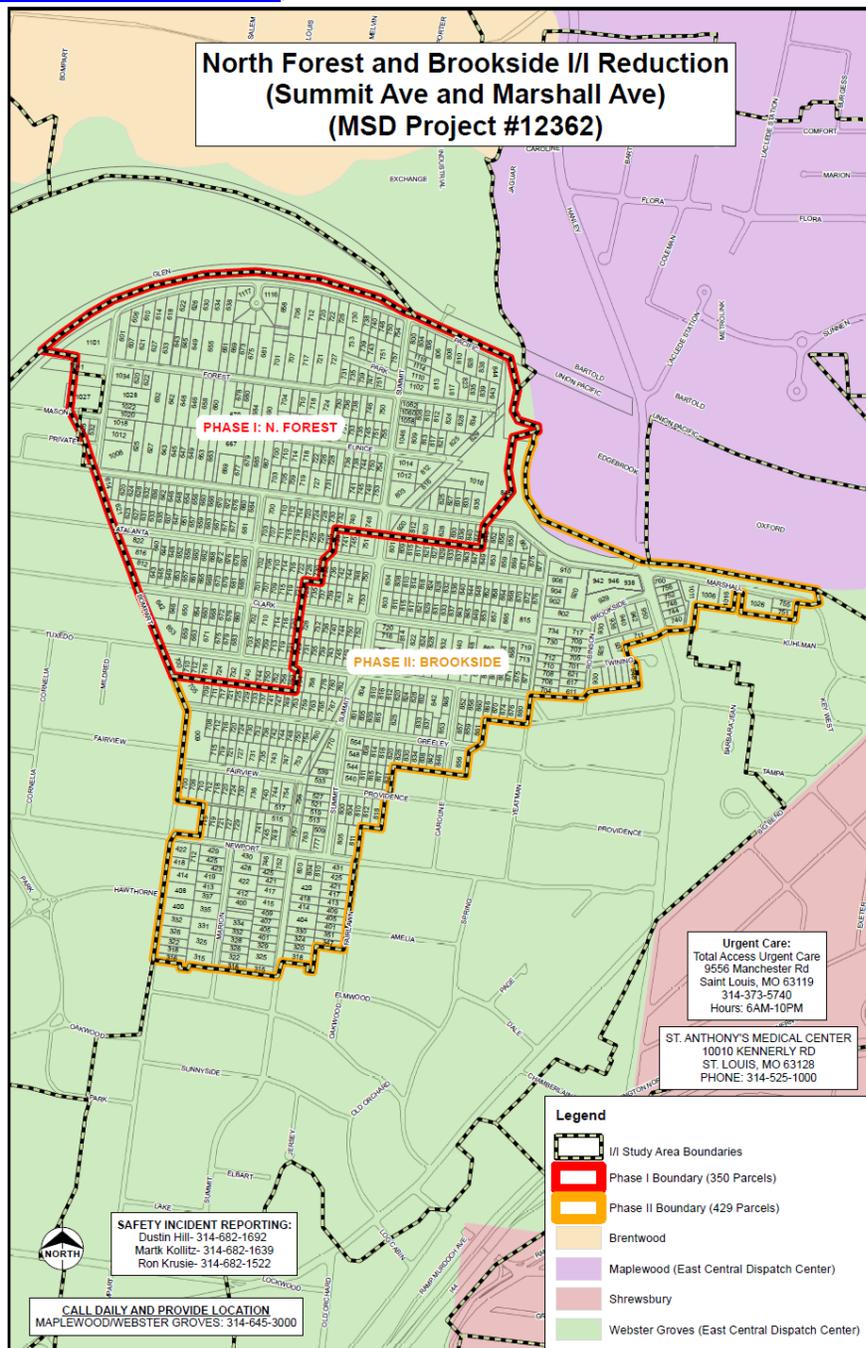


Webster Groves Area Projects

MSD Project Clear
North Forest and Brookside I/I Reduction
MSD Project #12362

MSD's consultant, Burns & McDonnell, will be performing property inspections on all properties in the project area during the next two to four months (September through early January)

Questions regarding this project – contact Dustin Hill, Burns & McDonnell, drhill@burnsmcd.com, 314-682-1692



Webster Groves Area Projects

MSD Project Sanitary Sewer System Improvement MSD RDP Tributaries (Deer Creek) CSO Tunnel MSD Project #12441

MSD's consultants, HDR Engineering and Kowelman Engineering, will be performing property inspections, including soil borings and geophysical surveying, mostly in creeks and roads in Webster Groves, Clayton, Richmond Heights, Maplewood, Brentwood and Shrewsbury. Inspections have started and will continue over the next two years.

Questions regarding this project – contact Doug Hickey, HDR Engineering, doug.hickey@hdrinc.com, 314-425-8318

Proposed Tunnel Shown in Yellow.

