

MWRD V.P. BARBARA McGOWAN DISTRIBUTES 1,500 RAIN BARRELS ACROSS WEST SIDE

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Betty Gilliam, Rose Williams, Mattie Holmes, LaVonne Carr, Commissioner Barbara McGowan, Annie Robertson, Ald. Chris Taliaferro & Mattie Peoples attend a rain barrel workshop at the South Austin Coalition Community Council Senior Forum.



MWRD Vice President Barbara McGowan, 29th Ward Alderman Chris Taliaferro, and Arnold Bearden conduct a workshop instructing residents on how to install rain barrels.

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Arnold Bearden, President of the Community Environmental Network, Ald. Chris Taliaferro, Lillian Drummond of the Austin Senior Satellite Center, and MWRD Vice President Barbara McGowan strategize distribution of rain barrels on the West Side.

“The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago is proud to provide these valuable rain barrels at no cost to residents,” declared Vice President Barbara McGowan, who has been on a personal crusade supplying more than 1,500 rain barrels to homeowners across Chicago’s West Side. “The investment we make here will pay instant dividends the next time it rains and we have the opportunity to alleviate flooding and conserve water.

Now it’s time to put these barrels to work!”

The newly-formed partnerships are a result of a new rain barrel distribution program the MWRD established to coordinate with various city wards and suburbs. City ward offices can work with non-governmental organizations and community groups to enroll in the program. The MWRD also works with campus-type facilities, such as churches, schools, and community centers. Aldermen



Ald. Emma Mitts & Commissioner Barbara McGowan consult on rain barrel distribution in the 37th ward as a strategy for reducing residential flooding.