



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

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MWRD pays tribute to engineers

National Engineers Week observed Feb. 19 through Feb. 25

Besides having the distinction of being the father of our country, President George Washington was also one of America's first engineers. The engineering profession has come a long way since then, especially in Cook County. The engineers working for and with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) have designed massive stormwater management and wastewater treatment projects so that Chicago and Cook County can thrive despite being located on a swamp.

Each year, engineers across the country are honored for their expertise and service during National Engineers Week. To recognize the occasion, the MWRD Board of Commissioners paid tribute to local engineers during its Feb. 16 Board meeting as MWRD Commissioner Frank Avila presented a resolution to Don Pries, 2012 Chicagoland Engineer Week Committee member.

"The MWRD innovations resulted from engineering ingenuity and the high standards of engineering professionals," said Commissioner Avila, who has more than 40 years of experience as a licensed professional engineer. "Engineers develop solutions and systems that allow all of us to enjoy an enhanced quality of life."

MWRD Executive Director David St. Pierre is also a licensed professional engineer and has over 25 years of field experience.

"Throughout the MWRD's 123 year history, professional engineers have overcome tremendous challenges to develop methods of treating wastewater and managing stormwater," said MWRD Executive Director David St. Pierre. "Our engineers have designed and built projects recognized as engineering wonders of the world and they have made us international leaders for pollution and flood control and for the protection of the environment. President Washington would be delighted to see how sophisticated the engineering profession has become."

Our water environment...Take it personally.



MWRD Commissioner Frank Avila, at left, and Commissioner Michael A. Alvarez, at right, present a resolution in tribute to National Engineers Week to Don Pries, 2012 Chicagoland Engineer Week Committee member.

Established in 1889, the MWRD (www.mwrld.org) is an award-winning, special purpose government agency responsible for wastewater treatment and stormwater management in Cook County, Illinois.