



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

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MWRD Commissioner Mariyana Spyropoulos visits Rolling Meadows to explain flood prevention efforts

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) Commissioner Mariyana Spyropoulos explained ongoing flood prevention projects during a program held at the Rolling Meadows Public Library Tuesday evening.

Commissioner Spyropoulos discussed the MWRD's efforts to manage sewage and stormwater since its formation 124 years ago, including an overview of the innovative development of the tunnel and reservoir system which will help alleviate flooding once fully operational.

"Even before the Clean Water Act was implemented, the MWRD started planning the Deep Tunnel system in the early 1970s," Commissioner Spyropoulos explained. "The completed tunnels and Majewski reservoir have already been helping to prevent flooding in many areas of the county."

In addition to building the massive structures to control combined sewer overflows and minimize flooding, the MWRD is simultaneously exploring green infrastructure options which also offers opportunities for homeowners to join in the effort to prevent flooding and conserve water. Installing rain barrels, rain gardens, native landscaping and porous pavement instead of asphalt or concrete are some of the more common efforts homeowners are undertaking. The MWRD sells rain barrels to Cook County residents for \$58 plus tax, and delivery is included.

"The Rolling Meadows Environmental Committee (RMEC) was honored to have Commissioner Spyropoulos speak to our community," said Tyson Lagoni, Co-Chair, Rolling Meadows Environmental Committee. "We learned a lot about the history of the water management challenges in Chicagoland, what the MWRD is doing to address them along with how municipalities, businesses and residents can do their share to reduce pollution and flooding. The RMEC looks forward to continuing to partner with the MWRD to implement best practices for protecting the Salt Creek watershed in our city."

Additional information about the MWRD can be found at www.mwrdd.org.

Our water environment, take it personally.



In the photo: (L-R) MWRD Commissioner Mariyana T. Spyropoulos with Leigh Anderson, winner of the rain barrel drawing held at the Rolling Meadows Public Library.

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