



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District *of* Greater Chicago

Media Advisory

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MWRD to host public meetings to discuss Watershed Management Ordinance

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) will be hosting four public meetings to present the draft Cook County Watershed Management Ordinance (WMO) for public review. The first of four meetings will be held at the Northlake Village Hall on Wednesday, July 24 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The purpose of the WMO is to establish uniform stormwater management regulations for Cook County, and by doing so, reduce flood damages that can result from commercial, municipal and residential developments. Paved roads, parking lots, walkways and buildings make cities livable, but they also reduce the amount of land on which water can be absorbed and modify the floodplain. If communities grow without careful and thorough stormwater planning, sewer systems and local waterways can become overwhelmed and contribute to flooding.

The MWRD formed an Advisory Committee comprised of representatives from municipalities, government agencies, and nongovernmental organizations to evaluate and prepare the WMO. Widespread implementation of the WMO will improve stormwater drainage and detention and will also protect wetlands and riparian areas. The WMO is also focused on reduction of soil erosion, which can damage properties and increase sediment in the waterways.

The draft WMO incorporates comments received during the 2009 WMO public review period, results received from an Economic Impact Study, and input from the WMO Advisory Committee. Numerous changes have been made since the original public review period was held in 2009. We have scheduled four public meetings to discuss the draft and to receive public input. The public comment period concludes on August 9, 2013.

The dates and locations of the meetings, all beginning at 7 p.m., include:

Wednesday, July 24, 2013

West Central Municipal Conference
Northlake City Hall
55 E. North Ave, Northlake

Monday, August 5, 2013

Southwest Conference of Mayors
Chicago Ridge Village Hall
10455 S Ridgeland Ave, Chicago Ridge

Wednesday, August 7, 2013

Northwest Municipal Conference
Mount Prospect Village Hall
50 S. Emerson Street, Mount Prospect

Thursday, August 8, 2013

South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association
SSMMA Main Office
1904 W. 174th Street, East Hazel Crest

The WMO can be downloaded at <http://wmo.mwr.org>.

Written comments can be provided via email or by letter.

Send emails to: **WMOInbox@mwr.org**

Send letters to: **Catherine A. O'Connor, Director of Engineering**

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*Established in 1889, the MWRD (www.mwr.org) is an award-winning, special purpose government agency responsible for wastewater treatment and stormwater management in Cook County, Illinois. **Our water environment, Take it personally.***