



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

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“Throwing of the Mops into the Trash” ceremony to highlight Cleveland Corridor Sewer Improvement Project

- Who:** Mayor Andrew Przybylo, the Village of Niles Board of Trustees, Chairman Joe LoVerde and the Niles Stormwater Commission, and President Mariyana T. Spyropoulos and the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
- What:** “Throwing of the Mops into the Trash” ceremony to highlight Cleveland Corridor Sewer Improvement Project
- When:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 beginning at 4:30 p.m.
- Where:** Grennan Heights Gym, 8255 N. Oketo, Niles

Niles Mayor Andrew Przybylo, the Village of Niles Board of Trustees, Chairman Joe LoVerde and the Niles Stormwater Commission, and Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago President Mariyana T. Spyropoulos and Board of Commissioners proudly invite the public to a “Grand Opening Ceremony” for the Cleveland Corridor Sewer Improvement Project.

This ribbon-cutting-style ceremony will forego the traditional scissors and ribbon for a ceremonial “Throwing of the Mops Into the Trash,” an act symbolic of the hundreds of homeowners that will experience mitigated flooding risk as a result of the largest infrastructure project in Village history.

Local dignitaries will gather with neighbors from the community at the Grennan Heights Gym, 8255 N. Oketo, Niles, on Wednesday, March 29. The event begins at 4:30pm, with a Grand Opening Ceremony scheduled for 5:00pm. The Village will treat residents to an indoor picnic, serving complementary hot dogs, chips and beverages.

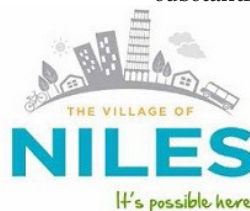
The Cleveland Corridor Sewer Improvement Project is the last project in Tier I of the Village’s Stormwater Master Plan. The long-awaited project was built at a price tag of \$9 million, which was financed through the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund — administered by the Illinois Environmental

Protection Agency — and a \$2 million reimbursement from the MWRD. Work involved installation of new storm sewers, with a 72-inch main line along Cleveland and Monroe Streets and branches extending out into the surrounding neighborhood. Originally scheduled to last over a year until June 2017, construction finished ahead of schedule with substantial completion achieved before Thanksgiving 2016.

The project will reduce surface water flooding in the area, where more than 140 homes have suffered flood damages due to overland flows. The project also protects the Chicago River, separating sewer waste from storm drains that drain into the waterway.

With Tier I of the Village’s Stormwater Master Plan completed, officials are looking ahead to designing the Tier II projects that will further advance Niles’ aggressive flood mitigation efforts. Aside from stormwater management, the Village recently announced another major infrastructure project, with studies for a \$90-million alternative water supply project underway with neighbor Morton Grove.

For more information:
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Recovering Resources, Transforming Water

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.