

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Media Advisory

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MWRD, Senator Dick Durbin, Congressman Mike Quigley, US Army Corps of Engineers, USEPA, IEPA, other officials to celebrate completion of McCook Reservoir Stage 1

WHO: MWRD, Senator Dick Durbin, Congressman Mike Quigley, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and other officials

WHAT: Celebration of the completion of McCook Reservoir Stage 1; this reservoir adds another 3.5 bil-

lion gallons of storage capacity that will protect residents of Chicago and 36 suburban communi-

ties from flooding and prevent pollution from entering local waterways.

WHERE: Parking will be available at the Lawndale Avenue Solids Management Area, 7601 LaGrange

Road, Willow Springs, IL. Please see map.

WHEN: Monday, December 4 at 10 a.m. *Please allow 20 minutes to park and take a quick bus ride to the

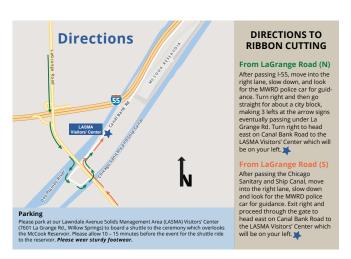
ribbon cutting location.

MEDIA: Please arrive by 9:30 a.m. to secure space on a designated media platform.

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will celebrate the completion of the 3.5-billiongallon section of the McCook Reservoir, part of the MWRD's Tunnel and Reservoir Plan (TARP).

McCook Reservoir Stage I can hold 3.5 billion gallons and is estimated to provide \$114 million per year in flood reduction benefits to 3.1 million people in Chicago and 36 other communities. When McCook Reservoir Stage II is completed, the reservoir will have a total storage capacity of 10 billion gallons and deliver an estimated total of \$143 million per year in flood reduction benefits.

Also known as the "Deep Tunnel," TARP is one of the country's largest public works project for pollution and flood control. TARP covers a 375-mile area that includes Chicago and 51 suburbs that rely on a combined collection system. The 109-mile tunnel system, which can capture 2.3 billion gal-



lons of water 150 to 300 feet below ground, was completed in 2006. The tunnel system was followed by the completion of the 350-million-gallon Majewski Reservoir in 1998 and the 7.9-billion-gallon Thornton Composite Reservoir in 2015.

Recovering Resources, Transforming Water