



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago Press Release

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MWRD Commissioner Spyropoulos, volunteers collect debris during monthly Adopt-A-Beach

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) Commissioner Mariyana T. Spyropoulos and her cleanup crew joined other volunteers and

collected 47.6 pounds of trash and recyclables at the Alliance for the Great Lakes 12th Street Beach cleanup event held July 18 along the Chicago lakefront.

The John G. Shedd Aquarium hosted the monthly cleanup, and this was the season's fourth regularly scheduled gathering of the 2012 Adopt-A-Beach season.



MWRD Commissioner Mariyana T. Spyropoulos (in the red shirt) poses with members of her cleanup crew during the Alliance for the Great Lakes 12th Street Beach cleanup event hosted by the John G. Shedd Aquarium on July 18. A total of 47.6 pounds of trash and recyclable material was collected. Front Row (L - R): Madeline Santos, Eris Polo, Eve Polo, Leah Habm, Ella Johnson and Elizabeth Nelson. Middle row (L - R): Robin Bartell, Sadie Johnson and Ella Polo. Back row (L - R): Greg Bartell, Commissioner Mariyana T. Spyropoulos and Bob Bartell.

Volunteers collected items which cannot be collected by Chicago Park District tractors. Teams of three to four meticulously combed the sand looking for debris and waste and counting each item. Volunteers found lighter items such as shoes and clothing along with cigarettes and glass fragments as well as heavier items such as metal rods and blocks of concrete. During the July 18 event, 24.4 pounds of trash and 23.2 pounds of recyclables were collected.

"It's inspiring to see our youth learning the benefits of keeping our environment clean since they will inherit it in years to come," said Commissioner Spyropoulos.

Beach cleanings are held monthly and begin promptly at noon. Other upcoming dates for the 12th Street cleanup are: August 15, September 15 and October 17. For more information about the 12th Street Beach cleanups, visit sheddaquarium.org.

Our water environment, take it personally

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.