



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District *of* Greater Chicago

Press Release

Allison Fore

Public and Intergovernmental Affairs Officer

312.751.6633

public.affairs@mwr.org

100 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611

For immediate release February 20, 2014

Feb. 20, 2014 Storm Update

In anticipation of today's storm, the MWRD lowered the waterways to make capacity for runoff water flowing into the Chicago Area Waterway System.

Our Deep Tunnel is in service and has already received flow. The Mainstream Tunnel is 38% full and the Des Plaines Tunnel is 22% full. The Calumet tunnel is 13% full. The entire tunnel system can hold up to 2.3 billion gallons. The O'Hare CUP Reservoir holds 354 million gallons and is currently empty.

We encourage the public to minimize their use of water to reduce the amount of water flowing into the sewer system during this rain event. Postponing high water consumption activities such as bathing or showering, running dishwashers or washing clothes will help provide maximum capacity in the local and intercepting sewer systems.

###

###

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.