



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District *of* Greater Chicago

Press Release

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Anchors aweigh! MWRD announces contest to name new skimmer boats

Vessels to help keep area waterways clean

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) is adding two trash collection boats to its fleet in honor of its 125th Anniversary, and the public is invited to help name them.

The two new skimmer boats will operate along the Chicago Area Waterways (CAWS) from mid- April to mid-October and after significant storms year round, unless weather conditions prohibit safe operations. Currently, the MWRD operates two 28-foot pontoons to collect floatables that wind up in the CAWS during rainstorms. Workers remove debris along the South Branch to the North Branch of the Chicago River.

“The Chicago Area Waterways are a vital amenity for people in Cook County,” said Commissioner Debra Shore, chairman of the Public Information & Education Committee. “These new debris collection boats will improve water quality and the recreational experience for thousands of people canoeing, kayaking, boating, and enjoying the waterways.”

An invitation to help christen the boats will be extended to the individual(s) who submit the winning boat names. To submit names for consideration, please email public.affairs@mwrdd.org by September 15. The boats will be put into service later in the year.

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Our Water Environment: Take it personally

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.