



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District *of* Greater Chicago

Press Release

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Good news for homeowners: MWRD to issue tax abatement

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) Board of Commissioners has passed ordinances directing the Cook County Clerk to reduce taxes by \$17.8 million. This tax reduction will be reflected in the second installment 2014 real estate tax bills that will be mailed to homeowners this July.

The MWRD is a government agency responsible for treating wastewater and providing stormwater management. The MWRD was created in 1889 to protect the source of the county's drinking water, Lake Michigan.

"As government agencies continue to work to maximize tax dollars, it is important to maintain accountability and manage these resources prudently," said

MWRD President Mariyana T. Spyropoulos. "The Board and staff continually seek to identify efficiencies that will result in tax savings for taxpayers."

The MWRD is funded primarily through property taxes, which are restricted under a tax cap imposed by the Illinois General Assembly. The MWRD also recovers costs of treating wastewater through a user charge imposed on certain non-residential users of the MWRD's system. Since 1985, the MWRD has returned nearly \$412.6 million to taxpayers and has maintained its AAA bond rating from Fitch and Standard & Poor's since 2006.

Additional information about the MWRD can be found at www.mwr.org.

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Recovering Resources, Transforming Water

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.