



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

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For immediate release

August 11, 2017

MWRD seeks applicants for Sustainable Landscaping and Biosolids User awards *Applications due September 15, 2017*

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) is accepting applications from Cook County individuals, organizations and businesses for its 2016 Sustainable Landscaping and Biosolids Beneficial Reuse Awards until September 15.

The awards recognizes the activities and innovations from entities such as park districts, villages, schools, golf courses, and athletic clubs in two separate categories: sustainable landscaping and beneficial use of biosolids. Biosolids are a product of the MWRD's water treatment process and are a sustainable alternative to chemical fertilizers.

The beneficial use of biosolids may be demonstrated through any one or a combination of the following:

- Continuous commitment to maximize the use of biosolids to improve the cost-effectiveness of landscape management.
- Promotion such as, but not limited to, referrals and field demonstrations of biosolids.
- Educational efforts on the environmental/economic benefits of using biosolids.

Qualifications for the Sustainable Landscaping award may be demonstrated through the innovative use of green infrastructure, capital investment, and how an individual or organization promotes green landscaping to educate the community. The goal is to present an award to an individual or community that integrates sustainable practices in the environment that manages stormwater.

For the purpose for the award, green infrastructure includes:

- Rainwater Harvesting, i.e. through rain barrels
- Rain Gardens
- Native Landscaping
- Stormwater Trees
- Porous Pavement
- Bio-Swales
- Green Roofs
- Greenways
- Wetlands
- Green Alleys, Streets, and Parking Lots

Activities completed after January 1, 2012 are eligible for an award, and an individual or organization is eligible once every five years. There is no formal application to complete; submissions should include narratives, figures, illustrations, and photos to help further explain the efforts. The evaluation process may include a site visit.

Submit application packages to TianG@mwrdd.org or mail to:
Guanglong Tian
Monitoring & Research Department
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
6001 W. Pershing Road
Cicero, IL 60804

Awards will be presented at the MWRD's fifth Sustainability Summit to be held at the Stickney Water Reclamation Plant on October 23. For more information about the biosolids program, awards or Sustainability Summit, contact (312) 751-6633.

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Recovering Resources, Transforming Water

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.