



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Media Advisory

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For immediate release
November 29, 2017

MWRD, Senator Dick Durbin, Congressman Mike Quigley, US Army Corps of Engineers, USEPA, IEPA, other officials to celebrate completion of McCook Reservoir Stage 1

- WHO:** MWRD, Senator Dick Durbin, Congressman Mike Quigley, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and other officials
- WHAT:** Celebration of the completion of McCook Reservoir Stage 1; this reservoir adds another 3.5 billion gallons of storage capacity that will protect residents of Chicago and 36 suburban communities from flooding and prevent pollution from entering local waterways.
- WHERE:** Parking will be available at the Lawndale Avenue Solids Management Area, 7601 LaGrange Road, Willow Springs, IL. Please see map.
- WHEN:** Monday, December 4 at 10 a.m. *Please allow 20 minutes to park and take a quick bus ride to the ribbon cutting location.
- MEDIA:** Please arrive by 9:30 a.m. to secure space on a designated media platform.

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will celebrate the completion of the 3.5-billion-gallon section of the McCook Reservoir, part of the MWRD’s Tunnel and Reservoir Plan (TARP).

McCook Reservoir Stage I can hold 3.5 billion gallons and is estimated to provide \$114 million per year in flood reduction benefits to 3.1 million people in Chicago and 36 other communities. When McCook Reservoir Stage II is completed, the reservoir will have a total storage capacity of 10 billion gallons and deliver an estimated total of \$143 million per year in flood reduction benefits.

Also known as the “Deep Tunnel,” TARP is one of the country’s largest public works project for pollution and flood control. TARP covers a 375-mile area that includes Chicago and 51 suburbs that rely on a combined collection system. The 109-mile tunnel system, which can capture 2.3 billion gal-

Directions

Parking
Please park at our Lawndale Avenue Solids Management Area (LASMA) Visitors' Center (7601 La Grange Rd., Willow Springs) to board a shuttle to the ceremony which overlooks the McCook Reservoir. Please allow 10 - 15 minutes before the event for the shuttle ride to the reservoir. **Please wear sturdy footwear.**

DIRECTIONS TO RIBBON CUTTING

From LaGrange Road (N)
After passing I-55, move into the right lane, slow down, and look for the MWRD police car for guidance. Turn right and then go straight for about a city block, making 3 lefts at the arrow signs eventually passing under La Grange Rd. Turn right to head east on Canal Bank Road to the LASMA Visitors' Center which will be on your left. ★

From LaGrange Road (S)
After passing the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, move into the right lane, slow down and look for the MWRD police car for guidance. Exit right and proceed through the gate to head east on Canal Bank Road to the LASMA Visitors' Center which will be on your left. ★

lons of water 150 to 300 feet below ground, was completed in 2006. The tunnel system was followed by the completion of the 350-million-gallon Majewski Reservoir in 1998 and the 7.9-billion-gallon Thornton Composite Reservoir in 2015.

Recovering Resources, Transforming Water

Established in 1889, the MWRD (www.mwr.org) is an award winning, special purpose government agency responsible for used water treatment and stormwater management in Cook County, Illinois.