



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

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Communities urged to apply for MWRD stormwater assistance

Applications due February 23, 2018

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) is inviting local government entities to apply for assistance in addressing stormwater management.

Government entities, including municipalities, townships, and county agencies, have until Feb. 23, 2018 to apply for funding, engineering, or other MWRD assistance in addressing local flooding through the MWRD's Phase II Stormwater Management Program.

Stormwater management Phase II projects involve working with local communities and agencies to address local drainage problems. The project types under Phase II include the installation of green and gray infrastructure, localized detention, upsizing critical storm sewers and culverts, pump stations and establishing drainage ways.

"We are seeking partners to address stormwater in our communities and working directly on the local level we have a better grasp on the projects that can really make a difference in the quality of life for our residents," said MWRD President Mariyana Spyropoulos. "If your community has a potential project in mind, we want to hear from you."

In addition to protecting the water environment for Chicago and 128 suburban communities over an area of 883 square miles, the MWRD also serves as the regional authority for stormwater management in Cook County. The MWRD protects the safety of residents and minimizes flooding damages by coordinating, planning, implementing, financing, and operating regional stormwater management projects and develops and enforces reasonable rules with respect to watershed development.

Every local Cook County governmental agency will be mailed an invitation letter and program application, including eligibility requirements and application instructions. The MWRD will prioritize the submitted projects based on MWRD's current budgetary allocation for the program as well as other factors, such as the project's intended stormwater benefits towards protecting structures from flooding.



Homes in Des Plaines have been rocked by flooding in recent years. The MWRD is offering assistance to Cook County communities to help spur new projects to manage stormwater.

To better leverage these partnerships and create a more widespread impact in the fight against flooding, the Phase II Stormwater Management Program is reliant on cost sharing between MWRD and potential partners. Therefore, the MWRD requests that local governmental agencies determine their level of financial support toward a potential flood control project and include that information on the application.

"We want to make these projects available to all corners of Cook County so we can build more resilient communities throughout our service area," said MWRD Vice President Barbara McGowan. "By addressing stormwater today, we are better equipped to prepare for tomorrow's storm."

For more information, visit www.mwrdd.org/irj/portal/anonymous/FloodControl. The completed application form and associated support documentation should be submitted to Marcella V. Landis, Acting Director of Engineering, 100 E. Erie St., Chicago, IL 60611. Please contact Cedric Robertson at (312) 751-3257 for additional information.

Recovering Resources, Transforming Water

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