



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

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Women's History celebration marks the contributions of skilled and diverse workforce at MWRD

They are in the labs, in the tunnels, on the construction sites, behind the computer, patrolling the plants and working each day to ensure water is clean for 10 million people throughout Cook County. It's these women who are instrumental in the critical work of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD). The diverse and strong contributions of women at the MWRD were recently on display as officials paused to salute several female employees who strengthen the agency through their wide-ranging skills and talents.

As part of Women's History Month, the MWRD held its annual celebration to honor several key staff members who have risen through the ranks to protect the region's water environment through various capacities. Among the honorees were Police Sgt. Colleen Condon, Treatment Plant Operator III Sandra Matual, Fireman-Oiler Charmion Soto and Project Management Office Manager Sharon Wright from the Information Technology department. Each spoke to the audience in the MWRD Boardroom about their work and life experiences, while thanking the many family members, friends, teachers and coworkers and colleagues who helped them establish their careers. The event also featured remarks from Kristen McQueary, writer, columnist and member of the Chicago Tribune Editorial Board; Liz Radford, organizer of the Chicago Women's March; and MWRD President Mariyana Spyropoulos.

"Women's History Month is honored worldwide as a celebration of the contributions of women in history, and it

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Speakers and honorees at the MWRD's annual Women's History Month celebration, included (from L to R): Fireman-Oiler Charmion Soto, Chicago Women's March organizer Liz Radford, Project Management Office Manager Sharon Wright, President Mariyana Spyropoulos, Chicago Tribune columnist Kristen McQueary, Treatment Plant Operator Sandra Matual and Police Sgt. Colleen Condon.

is fitting that we honor this occasion with a tribute to the hardworking women throughout the MWRD," said President Spyropoulos. "I thank the ladies we honored for their commitment to protecting our region's water quality through the various important tasks they perform each day. We are also particularly grateful to Kristen McQueary and Liz Radford whose impressive stories serve as shining examples of how Chicago area women are paving the way as influential leaders for all of society."

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.