



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

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Field Day To Highlight Water Quality Research



BLOOMINGTON, IL — The Fulton County Farm Bureau, together with the Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB), Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, and the University of Illinois College of Agricultural Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) will host a field day Wednesday, June 13 to showcase research being conducted by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) on water quality and nutrient loss reduction.

“We’re extremely excited to host this field day,” said William Carlberg, president, Fulton County Farm Bureau. “This project began as part of a grant from the Illinois Farm Bureau to highlight nutrient loss reduction research and practices and grew thanks to research funds from the Illinois Nutrient Research and Education Council. Today, it’s a full-fledged, mutually beneficial partnership with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District that we’re happy to continue.”

The field day, which will be held at 15779 County Road 5, Cuba, Ill., will cover topics including:

- Woodchip bioreactor installation;
- Drainage water management and runoff reuse;
- Vegetative buffer strips;
- Cover crop interseeding; and
- Soil health.

“Our work with the Fulton County Farm Bureau and area farmers will prove to be a beneficial partnership, one that will be extremely important in supporting our effort to gather and disseminate research to the agricultural community,” said

Mariyana Spyropoulos, MWRD Board of Commissioners President. “Water quality is not just the responsibility of area farmers or municipalities; it’s a burden we all need to shoulder and projects like this one help to ensure we’re working together and using resources to do just that.”

The field day will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at 1 p.m.; lunch will be provided at no cost. The event is free, but attendees are asked to register through the Fulton County Farm Bureau by calling 309-547-3011 or emailing fultonfb@att.net.

“It’s a pleasure to continue working with a group like the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago,” said Lauren Lurkins, director, Natural and Environmental Resources, Illinois Farm Bureau. “They’ve been involved in the fight to reduce nutrient losses and improve water quality from the very beginning, and their willingness to continue funding research and working with farmers and the Illinois Farm Bureau proves how committed they are – how committed we all are – to preserving our natural resources for the generations to come.”

About the Illinois Farm Bureau

The Illinois Farm Bureau is a member of the American Farm Bureau Federation, a national organization of farmers and ranchers. Founded in 1916, IFB is a non-profit, membership organization directed by farmers who join through their county farm bureau. The Illinois Farm Bureau has a total membership of 396,000 and a voting membership of more than 79,000. IFB represents three out of four Illinois farmers.

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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.