



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

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MWRD seeks applicants for Sustainable Landscaping and Biosolids User awards

Applications due September 7, 2018

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) is accepting applications from Cook County individuals, organizations and businesses for its 2018 Sustainable Landscaping and Biosolids User Awards until September 7.

The awards recognize the activities and innovations from entities such as park districts, villages, schools, golf courses, and athletic clubs in two separate categories: Sustainable Landscaping and Biosolids User. Exceptional Quality biosolids and biosolids compost are a product of the MWRD's water treatment process that are used as soil amendments and sustainable alternative to other materials.

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 of 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

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

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

Activities completed after January 1, 2013 are eligible for an award, and an individual or organization is eligible once every five years. Submittals should include figures, illustrations, narrative, and photos to help further explain the efforts. The evaluation process may include a site visit.

Applications are available on www.mwrdd.org.

Submit application packages by September 7, 2018 to TianG@mwrdd.org or mail to:

Guanglong Tian
Biosolids Utilization and Soil Science
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 sixth Sustainability Summit later this year. For more information about the biosolids program, awards or Sustainability Summit, contact (312) 751-6633.

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.