

## Protecting Our Water Environment

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# NEWS

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 27, 2008

### Taxpayers Get Relief with Water District Abatement

CHICAGO — Amid other economic anxiety, taxpayers can once again count on the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District for a bit of financial respite. The Board of Commissioners just voted to reduce the levy of taxes for the District's Bond and interest Fund by \$7 million. The sources for funds of this abatement are excess investment earnings held in the Corporate Fund, the Construction Fund and nine Bond and Interest Funds.

The District continues to receive triple "A" bond ratings, recently received several Government Finance Officers Awards for Excellence, and has abated more than 200 million dollars to the taxpayers over the past seventeen years.

Just before the vote of approval by the Board, President Terrence J. O'Brien said, "It is prudent to send the money back to the taxpayers. The average homeowner can use some relief these days."

The District is the 119 year old autonomous government agency responsible for storm water and wastewater management for an 883 square mile area, including Chicago and 124 suburban municipalities. Its service population is the combined equivalent of ten million residents and industrial users.

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