

2014 Moran Family Public Works Tour & Working Classroom

We are excited to offer the 4th tour in our series, “Chicagoland Public Infrastructure”.

Date – Monday Dec 22nd

We need a solid headcount by Thanksgiving. All individuals must be pre-registered for the tour per MWRD requirements.

Pre Read (required) – There are some excellent books and articles to prepare for this tour:

Chicago Public Works – A History - <http://www.amazon.com/Chicago-Public-Works-A-History/dp/B000BUN55G>

The Chicago River – A Natural and Unnatural History - <http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=11044>

7:00 AM - Breakfast & Shakedown – Meet at Ann Sathers in Andersonville for breakfast, itinerary and map disbursement, and equipment shakedown. Equipment should include sturdy pair of shoes, weather appropriate clothing, map, compass, and an open mind.

9:00 AM – 10:30AM Stop 1 –Tour Lockport Powerhouse – Lockport, Illinois



The southern terminus of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) is the Lockport Powerhouse. The powerhouse generates electricity from the outflow of the canal. It also regulates the water level in the entire canal system. This is a site hosted tour and it last 1.5 hours.

11:00 AM Stop 2 - SEPA (Sidestream Elevated Pool Aeration) Station #5 – Lemont, Illinois



There is no official tour at this site, however Tony will lead us through the key elements of the SEPA and its importance to the MWRD system. This SEPA station is located at the confluence of the Cal-Sag channel and the Sanitary and Ship Canal. Enter near St James Church on Archer Ave and Route 83.

SEPA stations are become popular Chicago destinations for wedding photos due to their beauty. There are a total of 5 SEPA stations in the system. The other 4 will be toured on boat this summer (time and location TBD).

11:30 AM – 1:00PM Stop 3 – Tour Mainstream Pumping Station – Hodgkins, Illinois



We last toured this facility in 1981 shortly after the building completion. This pumping plant is home of the BSMPs (Big Sewage Moving Pumps). This is a site hosted tour lasting 1.5 hours. We will travel 300 feet underground to the world's largest underground pump gallery.

1:15 PM – Lunch William Tell Restaurant
6701 Joliet Rd
Countryside IL

We'll get our energy back up with a robust lunch at the Willy Tell.

2:00 PM -4:30PM Stop 4 – Tour Stickney Water Reclamation Plant – Cicero, Illinois



Chicago has the largest capacity water filtration plant in the world, so it is only fitting that the largest wastewater treatment plant in the world also resides in the Chicagoland area. For this stop of the tour we will travel to beautiful downtown Stickney, IL to tour the Stickney works, a 1.44 Million Gallon per day behemoth. The guided tour is 2.5 hours in length, please plan you questions accordingly.

6:00 PM – Dinner – Bob Chinn's Crab House – Wheeling, Illinois

We will wrap up the tour with dinner at Bob Chinn's Crab House. Bart will present a slide show of significant milestones in the development of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District. For anyone with a birthday on this day, we will celebrate your birthday at Bobby Chinn's. I took the liberty of ordering a German chocolate birthday cake since I know it's a favorite of everyone.

Exam – If you are interested in earning high school, college, or continuing education credits you must complete the final exam at the end of the tour.

If you have any questions about this unique learning experience please contact the tour division of our continuing education department at tours@moranmail.net