

# CITY OF DETROIT

## News Release

Water and Sewerage Department

*Dave Bing, Mayor*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **DWSD AND COMMUNITIES TO “CELEBRATE THE ESSENTIAL” DURING DRINKING WATER MONTH**

**Drinking Water Month** spotlights the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department’s (DWSD) role in providing high quality drinking water to about four million people in southeast Michigan. The theme of DWSD’s 26<sup>th</sup> annual Drinking Water Month, celebrated during May, is “**Water. Celebrate the Essential.**”

While the American Water Works Association (AWWA) celebrates National Drinking Water Week from May 1-7, Detroit holds a month-long drinking water observance to accommodate the schedules of area schools for facility tours. The additional time provides DWSD with a greater opportunity to raise public awareness of the processes that allow water to be readily available in the home and workplace.

“Water. Celebrate the Essential” underscores the importance of municipal water systems across the nation in providing Americans with a safe, reliable water supply that offers:

- **Public health protection**
- **Fire protection**
- **Support for the economy**
- **Quality of life**

[more]

Adults and children (ages 12 and older, especially) are invited to learn more about drinking water at special activities, including:

- **Tours of the Water Works Park Treatment Plant**, located at 10100 E. Jefferson Avenue in Detroit. Water Works Park is the flagship of DWSD's five water treatment plants. Tours last about 45 minutes and students each receive selected items and educational materials. This year, 13 groups are already scheduled to tour the plant during May. *Because of security concerns, tours are only available to school groups, professional and other organizations.* Tours are given to students in fifth grade and older.
- Members of **DWSD's Speakers Bureau** are available to address school groups, and professional organizations. Presentations are tailored to the needs of the groups addressed, and can include a range of information from unusual facts about drinking water, to specifics about careers in the drinking water industry.
- Requests for tours and speakers are now being accepted. **Reservations are required.** To schedule a tour or speaking engagement, or for additional information, call DWSD's Public Affairs Division at (313) 964-9570, or (313) 964-9287.
- Visit DWSD's website, [www.dwsd.org](http://www.dwsd.org). Click on **Customer Info**, then click on **SnoopAsaurus** for educational information and fun activities specially designed for our younger customers. Click on **History** to learn the fascinating story of drinking water in Detroit and the Detroit metropolitan area.

You can also use [www.dwsd.org](http://www.dwsd.org) to link to the AWWA's Drinking Water Week site. The site provides a wealth of valuable information about drinking water in a format that's non-technical, and easy to understand.

DWSD supplies high-quality drinking water to 4.3 million people who live and work in Detroit and 126 other communities in southeast Michigan. The Department provides wastewater services to three million people who live and work in Detroit and 76 other southeast Michigan communities.

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