Introduction

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers is dedicated to emergency preparedness and rapid reaction to major emergencies throughout the United States. In this regard, the Corps stands ready to respond when an emergency exceeds the capacity of local resources and capabilities.

This brochure is a general outline of programs and services. More complete information can be obtained by writing directly to the appropriate district office.

J. K. BRATTON,
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding
Overview

Natural disaster emergencies are an unavoidable aspect of life. Therefore, in order to effectively cope with these unpredictable disastrous events, an emergency organization must be developed to insure preparedness and the capability to respond efficiently and effectively during a disaster. This is primarily a state and local responsibility. However, in instances when the nature of the disaster exceeds the capabilities of state and local interests, Federal help is available.

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers can provide the needed additional assistance in the event of a life-threatening flood or coastal storm disaster. In addition, the Corps is capable of providing an emergency supply of drinking water to areas which are stricken by drought or have a contaminated water supply. The Corps is divided into eleven (11) divisions which are subdivided into a total of thirty-six (36) districts nationwide. The decentralized nature of the Corps insures quick response and assistance to any area in the event of a disaster.

- Inspections of Federal and non-Federal flood control works.
- Assist state and local officials in flood emergency preparedness seminars.
- Assist state and local authorities in performing emergency work to protect life and property prior to predicted flooding.
- Supply flood fight materials in the event that state and local supplies become exhausted during flood emergencies.
- Furnish technical advice and assistance to state and local officials during an emergency.
- Hiring of equipment and operators for flood fight operations.
- Removal of log or debris jams that are blocking stream flow.
- Augment state and local efforts in fighting floods caused by ice jams.
- Repair and rehabilitation of flood control works damaged or threatened by flood.
- Provide emergency drinking water to areas with either contaminated drinking water or suffering drought.

Disaster Preparedness

State and local governments are responsible for flood emergency preparedness, including training and stockpiling of flood fight supplies. The role of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers is to supplement the maximum efforts of the state during a flood emergency. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers participates in disaster preparedness through planning, training, stockpiling flood fight supplies, maintaining an organization capable of responding quickly to all disasters, and by inspection of completed flood control projects.

- When requested by state and local officials, the Corps will participate in flood emergency seminars or exercises.
- Flood fight supplies including sandbags, pumps and other materials are located throughout each district and are available to complement state and local authorities during a flood emergency.
- Inspection of flood control works constructed or repaired by the Corps of Engineers and advise local officials of maintenance required.
- When requested, the Corps will inspect non-Federal flood control works.

How to Obtain Help

Contact your local public officials. They will then contact the Corps of Engineers.
**Advance Measures Prior to Predicted Flooding**

Advance measures consist of those activities performed prior to flooding or flood fight to protect against loss of life and damage to improved property from flooding. There must be an immediate threat of flooding present before advance measures can be considered. The threat must be of a nature that if action is not taken immediately, damages will be incurred.

**Criteria for Corps of Engineers Assistance**

- There must be a reliable prediction of flooding based on existing conditions.
- Requested work must be technically feasible and economically justified.
- There must be sufficient time before the flood to complete the work.
- Maximum efforts by local interests and state resources must be expended before Corps assistance can be provided.

**Type of Assistance Provided by the Corps**

- Strengthening of Federal and non-Federal flood control works.
- Construction of temporary levees to protect life and improved property (removal of these structures is a local responsibility).
- Channel clearance and dredging of Federal projects to restore original design capacity.
- Relieve threat of flooding from possible dam failures by dewatering the impoundment, controlled breaching or strengthening of the structure.

**How to Obtain Help**

Contact your local political representatives so they can inform the state governor's office. The governor's office will in turn request the Corps to provide the necessary assistance. Requests for assistance must be made by the governor of the state. For Indian tribal lands, the Bureau of Indian Affairs will normally request assistance.

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**Emergency Operations**

In time of flood or coastal storm, emergency operations will be undertaken by the Corps of Engineers to supplement local efforts in the following general categories: disaster assistance, disaster fighting, and disaster recovery or rehabilitation. Emergency measures are of a temporary nature designed to meet the imminent threat of flood and to preserve existing protective works. In addition, no authority exists under PL 84-99 to reimburse locals for costs of their own emergency activities.

**Criteria for Corps of Engineers Assistance**

- Corps policy requires local interests to furnish the following items of cooperation and assurances prior to the undertaking of any work: (a) provide without cost to the United States all land, easements, and rights-of-way necessary; (b) hold and save the United States free from damages due to the authorized work, exclusive of damages due to negligence of the United States or its contractor; and (c) operate and maintain the emergency work, if feasible or remove temporary work constructed by the Corps.

**Type of Assistance Provided by the Corps**

- Assisting in rescue operations.
- Furnishing technical advice and assistance.
- Furnishing flood fighting materials, such as sandbags, polyethylene sheeting, lumber, pumps, or rock to stabilize eroding levees. Issuance of supplies and equipment to non-Federal interests is authorized only in actual emergencies. Government supplies are furnished only if local resources are exhausted or will be exhausted. Consumed supplies will be replaced in kind or paid for by local interests. All unused stock shall be returned.
- Removal of log, ice, or other debris jams that are blocking stream flow and causing or likely to cause flooding to improved property or to endanger life.

**How to Obtain Help**

Contact your local officials. They will contact the proper person at the state level and if required the state will contact the Corps of Engineers.
The Alaska District Headquarters, Anchorage, Alaska, is included in the North Pacific Division.

The State of Hawaii and Islands in the Pacific are included in Honolulu District, Pacific Ocean Division, with Headquarters at Honolulu, Hawaii.

Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands are included in Jacksonville District, South Atlantic Division.
Repair of Flood Control Projects Damaged by Floods

The Corps of Engineers is authorized to investigate and perform emergency repairs to all flood control works, and Federally authorized and constructed hurricane and shore protection projects, when these projects are damaged by flood or unusual coastal storm.

Criteria for Corps of Engineers Assistance

- Repair will be undertaken for unusual flood events where significant damages have occurred. The repair will be designed to provide the same degree of protection provided by the original structure. Minor damages are the responsibility of local operation and maintenance.
- No funds will be expended for rehabilitation if non-Federal interests are delinquent in meeting their maintenance commitments. This policy does not preclude furnishing flood fight assistance in an emergency.
- Structures built for channel alignment, navigation, recreation, fish and wildlife, land reclamation, drainage, or to prevent against land erosion which are not designed and constructed to have appreciable and dependable efforts in preventing inundation by irregular and unusual rises in water level, are not classed as flood control works, and are ineligible for PL 84-99 rehabilitation.
- Any flood control works previously constructed, modified, or repaired with financial assistance from U.S. Department of Agriculture will not be repaired by the Corps of Engineers.
- No authority exists under PL 84-99 to reimburse locals for costs of their own emergency repairs.
- Local interests must submit a request for rehabilitation for damaged works within 30 days of the flood or storm event.
- Corps policy requires local interests to furnish following items in cooperation and assurances prior to the undertaking of any work: (a) provide without cost to the U.S. all lands, easements, and rights-of-way necessary; (b) hold and save the U.S. free from damages due to the work, exclusive of damages due to negligence of the U.S. or its contractor; and (c) maintain and operate, in a manner satisfactory to the Chief of Engineers, the entire project after completion.

How to Obtain Help

Contact your nearest Corps of Engineers office directly. A list of Corps District and Division offices is included in this pamphlet.
### Contaminated Water Assistance

The Corps of Engineers is authorized to provide clean drinking water to communities with contaminated water supplies which are causing or likely to cause a substantial threat to the public health and welfare of the inhabitants. Contamination may have resulted from deliberate, accidental or natural events including flooding.

#### Criteria for Corps of Engineers Assistance

- A responsible Corps official must determine that the locality is confronted with a contaminated source of drinking water.
- State and local governments must make full use of their own resources, including National Guard capabilities before the Corps can provide assistance.
- Corps assistance is normally limited to 30 days. Under unusual circumstances, however, assistance may be extended.

#### Type of Assistance Provided by Corps

- Provide water tank trucks to haul water from a safe source to point established for local distribution.
- Procurement and distribution of bottled water.
- Laying of temporary above ground water lines from a safe source to point established for local distribution.
- Installation of temporary filtration.
- Provide mobile military purification units.

### Drought Assistance

The Corps of Engineers has the authority to construct wells and to transport water to farmers, ranchers, and political subdivisions within areas determined to be drought distressed. Assistance may be provided when the Secretary of the Army determines that a substantial threat to the health and welfare of the inhabitants of the area including threat of damage or loss of property exists.

#### Criteria for Corps of Engineers Assistance

- Corps assistance will only be considered when non-Federal interests have exhausted reasonable means for securing necessary water supplies (other than the lack of financial resources) including assistance from other Federal agencies.
- Federally owned equipment must be utilized to the maximum extent possible.
- Costs of well construction must be repaid by the applicant.
- Transportation of water is provided by the Corps; however, cost of purchasing the water is a local responsibility.
- Local assurance of cooperation as delineated previously in the pamphlet, must be provided prior to the start of any Corps work.

#### Type of Assistance Provided by Corps

- Transportation of water by vehicles, small diameter pipelines or other means for human and livestock consumption.
- Construction of wells (cost reimbursable).

### How to Obtain Help

**Contaminated Water Assistance**

Contact your local political representatives so they can inform the state governor’s office. The governor’s office will in turn request the Corps to provide the necessary assistance. Request for assistance must be made by the governor of the state. For Indian tribal lands, the Bureau of Indian Affairs will normally request assistance.

**Drought Assistance**

A written request directly to the district or division commander with Civil Works responsibility for the affected area.
Corps of Engineers
Divisions and Districts

CHIEF OF ENGINEERS
Cleveland Puskarik Bldg.
20 North Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20319

U.S. ARMY ENGR DIV. LOWER MISS. VALLEY
5050 Kautz Street
Vicksburg, Miss. 39180

U.S. Army Engr. Div. MEMPHIS
644 Clifford Drive, Federal Building
Memphis, Tenn. 38103

U.S. Army Engr. Div. NEW ORLEANS
615 Elysian Fields, New Orleans, LA 70117

U.S. Army Engr. Div. ST. LOUIS
250 Tucker Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63101

U.S. Army Engr. Div. VICKSBURG
U.S. Post Office & Courthouse
Vicksburg, Miss. 39180

U.S. Army Engr. Div. MISSOURI RIVER
1506 West Center Road
Omaha, Ne. 68103

U.S. Army Engr. Div. KANSAS CITY
601 E 12th Street
Kansas City, Mo. 64106

U.S. Army Engr. Div. OMAHA
215 North 17th Street
Omaha, Ne. 68102

U.S. Army Engr. Div. NEW ENGLAND
424 Trapelo Road
Waltham, Ma. 02154

U.S. Army Engr. Div. NORTH ATLANTIC
90 Church Street
New York, N.Y. 10007

U.S. Army Engr. Div. BALTIMORE
31 Hopkins Place
Baltimore, Md. 21203

U.S. Army Engr. Div. NEW YORK
26 Federal Plaza
New York, N.Y. 10227

U.S. Army Engr. Div. NORFOLK
601 Front Street
Norfolk, Va. 23510

U.S. Army Engr. Div. PHILADELPHIA
U.S. Customs House
2nd & Chestnut Streets
Philadelphia, Pa. 19106

U.S. Army Engr. Div. NORTH CENTRAL
594 S. Dearborn Street
Chicago, Ill. 60605

U.S. Army Engr. Div. BUFFALO
1777 Niagara Street
Buffalo, N.Y. 14215

U.S. Army Engr. Div. CHICAGO
251 S. Dearborn Street
Chicago, Ill. 60604

U.S. Army Engr. Div. DETROIT
Patricia V. McNamara Building
477 Michigan Avenue
Detroit, Mich. 48226

U.S. Army Engr. Div. ROCK ISLAND
Lock Tower Building
Rock Island, Ill. 61201

U.S. Army Engr. Div. ST. PAUL
1130 Leslie & Custom House
St. Paul, Minn. 55101

U.S. Army Engr. Div. NORTH PACIFIC
230 N.W. 8th Avenue
Portland, Or. 97209

U.S. Army Engr. Div. ALASKA
Air Mbr., Bldg. 71-700
Emerson Air Force Base, Ak 99501

U.S. Army Engr. Div. PORTLAND
Multnomah Bldg.
319 S.W. Pine
Portland, Or. 97208

U.S. Army Engr. Div. SEATTLE
4775 East Margins Way South
Seattle, Wa. 98108

U.S. Army Engr. Div. WALLA WALLA
Rldg. 300, City County Airport
Walla Walla, Wa. 99362

U.S. Army Engr. Div. OHIO RIVER
300 Main Street
Cincinnati, Oh. 45201

U.S. Army Engr. Div. HUNTINGTON
302 9th Street
Huntington, W. Va. 25701

U.S. Army Engr. Div. LOUISVILLE
600 Federal Plaza
Louisville, Ky. 40201

U.S. Army Engr. Div. NASHVILLE
Federal Bldg., U.S. Courthouse
Nashville, Tn. 37202

U.S. Army Engr. Div. PITTSBURGH
Federal Bldg.
1000 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15222

U.S. Army Engr. Div. PACIFIC OCEAN
Bldg. 239
848 F St.
Shafter, Ca. 93665

U.S. Army Engr. Div. SOUTH ATLANTIC
1911 F St.
334 Meeting Street
Charleston, Sc. 29402

U.S. Army Engr. Div. JACKSONVILLE
400 West Main Street
Jacksonville, Fl. 32202

U.S. Army Engr. Div. MOBILE
109 St. Joseph Street
Mobile, Al. 36602

U.S. Army Engr. Div. SAVANNAH
200 E. Saint Julian Street
Savannah, Ga. 31401

U.S. Army Engr. Div. WILMINGTON
303 Federal Bldg.
Wilmington, N.C. 28401

U.S. Army Engr. Div. SOUTH PACIFIC
639 Sansome Street
San Francisco, Ca. 94111

U.S. Army Engr. Div. LOS ANGELES
500 North Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, Ca. 90059

U.S. Army Engr. Div. SACRAMENTO
650 Capitol Mall
Sacramento, Ca. 95814

U.S. Army Engr. Div. SAN FRANCISCO
511 Main Street
San Francisco, Ca. 94105

U.S. Army Engr. Div. SOUTHWESTERN
Main Tower Building
1200 Main Street
Dallas, Tx. 75202

U.S. Army Engr. Div. ALBUQUERQUE
517 12th Avenue
Albuquerque, N.M. 87103

U.S. Army Engr. Div. FORT WORTH
1010 Taylor Street
Ft. Worth, Tx. 76102

U.S. Army Engr. Div. GALVESTON
110 Eastex Farms
400 Eastex Fwy.
Galveston, Tx. 77549

U.S. Army Engr. Div. LITTLE ROCK
700 W. Capitol
Little Rock, Ar. 72203

U.S. Army Engr. Div. TULSA
224 South Boulder
Tulsa, Ok. 74120