

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
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WASHINGTON, DC 20314-1000

CECG

Regulation No.
ER 840-1-1

1 November 2019

**USE AND DISPLAY OF FLAGS BY
THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

1. Purpose. This regulation specifies the procedures to be followed for the use and display of all flags, including the distinguishing flag, the major subordinate command flag, and the Corps of Engineers' flag.
2. Applicability. This regulation is applicable to Headquarters, United States Army Corps of Engineer, Forward Operating Agency and Engineer vessels.
3. References.
 - a. AR 840-10. 15 June 2017. Flag, Guidons, Streamers, Tabards and Automobile and Aircraft Plates
 - b. https://armypubs.army.mil/epubs/DR_pibs/DR_a/pdf/web/ARM17950_R840_10_ADMIN_FINAL.pdf.
4. Records Management (record keeping) requirements. Records management requirements for all record number associated forms and reports required by this regulation are included in the Army's Records Retention Schedule- Army (RRS-A). Detailed information for all record numbers, forms, and reports associated with this regulation are located in the RRS-A at <https://arims.army.mil/arims/default.aspx>
5. Authorized flags. Corps of Engineers offices are authorized to fly only the flag of the United States and other flags listed herein. Flags not identified in this regulation and flags that have been locally modified in appearance are not authorized. Unauthorized and modified flags that are now in use must be retired.
6. U.S. Army flag. In accordance with AR 840-10, Table 5-1, "Flags authorized for Army echelons and organizations," this flag is authorized only for the Office of the Chief of Engineers and HQ, USACE. It is described in paragraph 4-1b of AR 840-10.
7. U.S. Army Field flag. In accordance with AR 840-10, Table 5-1, "Flags authorized for Army echelons and organizations," this flag is authorized only for US Army Corps of Engineers divisions, districts, laboratories and separate offices. It is described in paragraph 4-2b of AR 840-10.
8. Chief of Engineers' flag. This is a distinguishing flag that recognizes the position of the Chief of Engineers. It is authorized for indoor display and ceremonies only.
 - a. Authorization is governed by paragraph 3-30 of AR 840-10.

b. This flag is scarlet, with the branch insignia for the Corps of Engineers in white, detailed black with red windows, and white fringe on three sides. The size is 3 foot hoist by 4 foot fly.

9. Distinguishing Flags for Organizations.

a. As a Direct Reporting Unit (DRU), the Corps of Engineers is entitled to several heraldic items, including a shoulder sleeve insignia, a distinctive unit insignia, and a distinguishing flag.

b. The distinguishing flag of HQ, USACE in accordance with paragraph 5-8 of AR 840-10, is scarlet, trimmed on three sides with white fringe. The shoulder sleeve insignia (SSI) for the Corps of Engineers is 15 inches high and is centered on the flag.

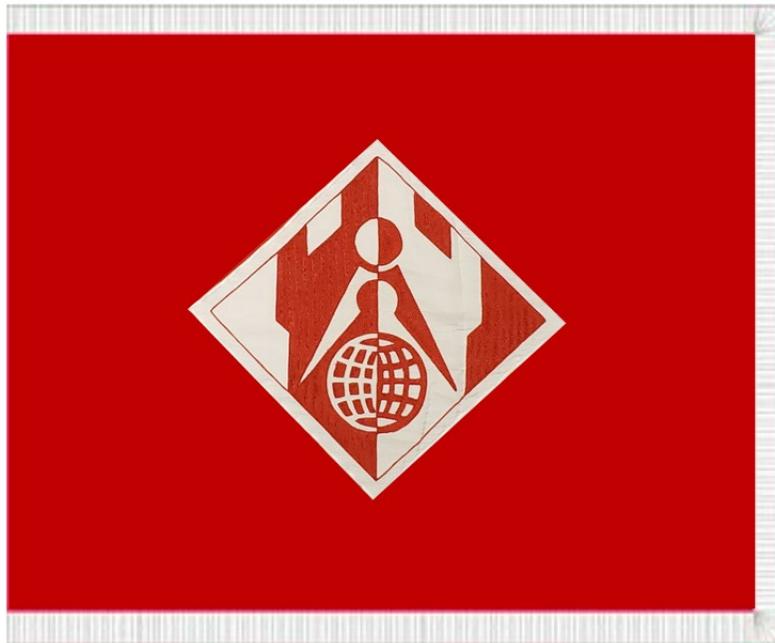


Figure 1. The distinguishing flag of the Corps of Engineers.

10. Major subordinate command flag. On 13 November 1980, the Chief of Engineers designated the Engineer Divisions as the only major subordinate commands of the Corps of Engineers. Only Engineer Division offices are authorized to display subordinate command flags.

a. This flag is scarlet with a 10-inch vertical white stripe centered and running from top to bottom. The SSI of the DRU, 15 inches high, is centered on the white vertical stripe. The size is 3 foot hoist by 4 foot fly. The flag has a 2 ½ inch wide rayon yellow fringe on three sides.

b. Each Engineer Division is authorized one flag. It is authorized for indoor display and ceremonies only.



Figure 2. The major subordinate command flag of Engineer Divisions.

11. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers distinguishing flag.

a. By endorsement dated 20 May 1981, the Director, U.S. Army Institute of Heraldry, authorized a distinguishing flag for use by the Corps of Engineers. Prior to that time, Corps of Engineers activities, which are staffed largely by civilians and generally located outside of military installations, had no distinctive flags specified in Army Regulations with which their personnel could identify. This flag fills a heraldic void inherent in that situation. It is authorized for use by divisions, districts, laboratories, and separate offices not authorized flags in their own right by AR 840-10 or this regulation.

b. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers distinguishing flag is a scarlet nylon flag, without fringe, on which is centered the branch insignia for the Corps of Engineers in white, detailed black, with scarlet windows and doors. It should not be confused with the fringed distinguishing flag of the Chief of Engineers, described in paragraph 7 above, which is authorized only for the office of the Chief of Engineers.

c. The use of distinguishing flags for Army Engineers dates back at least to 1862, when General Order 102 of the Army of the Potomac authorized an Engineer flag for each Division. This flag consisted of a white disc on a field that was the same color as the flag of the Division to which the Engineers belonged.

d. The tradition of a scarlet Engineer flag with castle dates back to 1866. In that year, General Order 93, HQ, Department of War, specified the colors and design for the flag of the Engineer Battalion. This flag was to be scarlet with the castle in the center, "US" above and "Engineers" below the castle, all in silver, with a white fringe. This appears to have been the first use of the scarlet flag with castle for any Engineer flag.

e. Outdoor use of the US Army Corps of Engineers distinguishing flag by area offices, visitor centers, and other activities of Engineer Districts may be authorized by District Engineers.

f. The flags are authorized in the following sizes:

- (1) 6 foot hoist by 8 foot fly
- (2) 4 foot hoist by 6 foot fly
- (3) 2 foot hoist by 3 foot fly



Figure 3. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers distinguishing flag.

12. Flagstaffs and Flagstaff Heads (Finials).

a. Flagstaffs for positional colors, distinguishing flags, and organizational colors are 9 feet, 6 inches or 8 feet. The flagstaff for all flags in a display will be the same length.

b. Flagstaffs for general officers flags are 8 feet.

c. The flagstaff head (finial) is the decorative ornament at the top of a flagstaff. This does not restrict the display of a State flag from a staff bearing a State device when national and other State flags are displayed from adjacent flagstaffs; however, the Army does not provide such devices.

d. Spearhead (the spearhead is the only device used with Army flags).

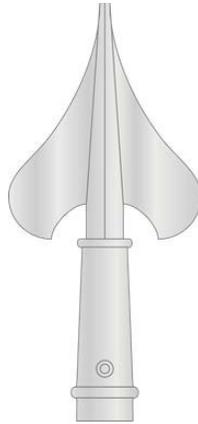


Figure 4. Finial (spearhead).

13. Order of precedence for indoor display.

a. HQ USACE:

- (1) United States flag.
- (2) U.S. Army flag.
- (3) Distinguishing flag of the US Army Corps of Engineers.
- (4) Distinguishing flag of the Chief of Engineers.
- (5) General officer's flag (if two or more, in order of rank).

b. Engineer Divisions:

- (1) United States flag.
- (2) U.S. Army Field flag.
- (3) Major Subordinate Command flag.
- (4) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' distinguishing flag.
- (5) General officer's flag (if two or more, in order of rank).

c. Other FOA:

- (1) United States flag.
- (2) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' distinguishing flag.

(3) Individual flag, if commander is a general officer.

14. Indoor display from staffs.

a. When the flags are grouped and displayed from staffs radiating from a central point (Figure 3), the flag of the United States will be at the center and at the highest point. The identifying numbers 1 through 5 in the drawing refer to the flags listed in paragraphs 10a and 10b.



Figure 5. United States flag displayed in center of line.

b. When the flags are displayed from staffs set in a line, the United States flag will be on the right, i.e., on the left of an observer facing the display. Other authorized flags will be placed on the left of the United States flag in the declining order of precedence.

c. The flag of the United States may be placed at the center of the line provided that it is displayed on a higher level (Figure 4). In this case the order of sequence will be the same as a group radiating from a central point.



Figure 6. Flags displayed in group with staffs radiating.

15. Ceremonies involving the participation of the Assistant Secretary of the Army/Civil Works (ASA/CW). Corps of Engineers headquarters and field offices responsible for organizing ceremonies marking openings, anniversaries, or other civil works special occasions at which ASA/CW will be present and actively participating in the event shall notify the office of the ASA/CW that the event would be appropriate for display of the positional color of the ASA/CW. Such notification will be to the Office of the Executive to the ASA/CW, Washington, DC 20310, telephone 202-697-9809, and will provide sufficient time for delivery of the positional color to the office prior to the ceremony. When the ASA/CW positional color is displayed the proper order of precedence is for the flag to be displayed after the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers distinguishing flag and above the individual flags of general officers.

16. Safety flags. In accordance with the rules and safety standards established by each Division Engineer, the Army Safety and Occupational Health (SOH) Star Strong flag denoting outstanding safety performance may be flown at any project site or office of the Corps of Engineers under the Division Engineer's jurisdiction. The flag for that purpose will be obtained thru the HQ, USACE Safety Office. The safety flag will not be flown from the same staff as the American ensign and will not be included in an official ceremonial display with the flags listed above. Units obtain the Army SOH Star Strong flag by completing all Corps of Engineer Safety and Occupational Health Management Systems (CE-SOHMS) Stage 3 criteria and have been recognized as an Army SOH Star site. Successfully completing Stage 3 criteria and Army SOH Star site recognition, validates the unit has fully integrated safety into the culture of the organization and all personnel have taken ownership of CE-SOHMS. The Commander's program is now a

Command program. All personnel are able to clearly articulate the Commander's strategic safety goals and objectives and their roles in achieving them. The unit has then achieved a sustained program performance with continuing improvements.

17. Flags for vessels.

a. Vessels belonging to the Corps of Engineers, when in commission and manned, will carry the American ensign and the Corps of Engineers distinguishing flag at all times between 0800 hours and sunset, unless the particular work on which a vessel is engaged renders the display of flags impracticable.

b. The term "vessel," as used in this regulation, applies only to (1) self-propelled ships and boats, except small work launches, (2) craft without propulsion having mechanical installations that require the continuous quartering of the crew on board, and (3) floating plant used as the headquarters of a construction or survey party in the field when not in tow.

c. Flags on vessels will be flown at locations described below. Under no circumstances will the engineer flag or any other flag or pennant be flown on the same staff as the American ensign.

Table 1
Flag Placement Procedure with Available Vessel Equipment

VESSEL EQUIPPED WITH	AMERICAN ENSIGN	ENGINEER FLAG
Bow staff only	not flown	bow staff
Bow & stern staffs only	stern staff	bow staff
Bow staff & mast only	mast (at the gaff)	bow staff
Bow & stern staffs & mast(s)	stern staff or main mast (at the gaff)	bow staff
One mast (no staffs)	mast (at the gaff)	on halyard, on port side & below ensign
More than one mast (no staffs)	main mast (at the gaff)	on halyard, subordinate mast

d. Each vessel belonging to the Corps of Engineers will be furnished American ensigns and Engineer flags. Two sizes of each flag will be furnished, the larger for use in fair weather and the smaller for use in stormy weather. The sizes will be as listed below. I

Table 2
Flag Placement by Weather

Type of Craft	Fair Weather		Stormy Weather	
	American Ensign	Engineer Flag	American Flag	Engineer Flag

Table 3

Vessels

Longer than 150'	5'x9.5'	6'x8'	3.52'x6.61'	4'x6'
85' to 150' long	5'x9.5'	4'x6'	3.52'x6.69'	2'x3'
shorter than 85'	2.37'x4.5'	2'x3'	2.37'x4.5'	2'x3'

Launches

e. In addition to the above flags, Division and District Engineers may authorize the flying of a pennant to denote the presence of the Division Engineer or District Engineer aboard a vessel. Only one such pennant may be flown aboard a vessel at any given time. The pennant will not be flown from the same staff as the national ensign and will be removed when the officer leaves the vessel. The authorized dimensions of pennants for District and Division Engineers are 29-inch hoist, 45-inch fly, and two-inch heading. Design of these pennants is as follows:

(1) Division Engineer pennant: vertical red, white, and blue sections, with the red section next to the mast or staff and the white section in the middle. The red section is nine inches wide. The middle white section is 15 inches wide and contains an Engineer castle centered vertically and horizontally. The blue section is 19 inches wide.

(2) District Engineer pennant: the Engineer castle in red centered vertically on a white field, with the center of the castle located 14.5 inches horizontally from the heading.

(3) The Engineer castle on both pennants will have a 12-inch overall horizontal dimension and 7.37-inch overall vertical dimension.

(4) Colors: the red will be Old Glory red (#70180) and the blue will be National Flag blue (#70077).

f. A boat flag indicating the presence of a general officer may be flown instead of a District Engineer or Division Engineer pennant. Only one boat flag, representing the senior general officer on board, may be flown at any given time. The boat flag should be flown from the mast, staff, or other location normally used for the pennants of District and Division Engineers. Boat flags for general officers are described in AR 840-10.

g. Safety flags may be flown on any vessel of the Corps of Engineers as determined by the Division Engineer with jurisdiction over the vessel. The flag for that purpose is described in paragraph 15 above. The safety flag will not be flown from the same staff as the American ensign.

18. Supply of flags and related items.

a. All authorized flags, streamer sets and streamer set attachments, and silver bands, for use on land are available through the normal supply system from the U.S. Army Support Activity, Philadelphia. Questions regarding supply should be directed to Commander, U.S. Army Troop Support Command, U.S. Army Support Activity,

Philadelphia (Attn: STRAP-SE), P.O. Box 13460, Philadelphia, PA 19101-3460 or at the following website: www.heraldry.army.mil.

Local procurement is not authorized.

b. American ensigns, "castle" flags for vessels, and pennants for District and Division Engineers will be procured from U.S. Army Engineer District Philadelphia, ATTN: CENAP-CT, 100 Penn Square East, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

19. Inquiries. Questions regarding the use and display of flags should be directed to the USACE Command Sergeant Major at 202-761-0833.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



KIRK E. GIBBS
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
Chief of Staff