



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
St. Louis District

# News Release

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## **Corps of Engineers watching area lakes and rivers**

**St. Louis, Mo.** – The series of rain events that has intermittently deluged St. Louis and rivers north and west of the Bi-State region are being watched carefully by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in St. Louis.

In a meeting to discuss impacts Monday morning, Corps Water Control manager Joan Stemler noted that the Kaskaskia River in Illinois has been especially heavily impacted by rain over the weekend. As a result, flows into both Shelbyville and Carlyle lakes have been much higher than controlled outflows. Both lakes are considerably higher than their target elevations for this time of the year and impacts are starting to occur on recreation and camp ground areas at the two lakes.

Lake Shelbyville was more than 13 feet above what is known as the seasonal guide curve Monday morning, while Carlyle stood about six feet above the seasonal guide curve there.

Heavy flows on the Kaskaskia are impacting farmers along the river, as the swollen river is flooding fields at a critical growing time.

All three of the region's major rivers – the Missouri, Illinois and Mississippi are at various levels above flood stage at this time. Based on National Weather Service projections, crests are predicted to occur over coming days at elevations of five to eight feet above flood stage. Corps Officials indicate that with current flows and predicted rain falls, they may have to suspend operations at Lock 24 at Clarksville, Mo. The U.S. Coast Guard also imposes more stringent requirements for river traffic transiting the St. Louis Harbor under predetermined conditions.

While projected flooding is characterized as “moderate” in Weather Service forecasts, the Corps urges people who live and work in or travel through flood prone areas to exercise caution and to remain mindful of possible rapid changes. Of utmost importance, people should avoid driving on flooded roads, which often are deeper than they may appear.

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**Note to editors: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Districts are organized along watershed boundaries. Information about joining Districts who are also experiencing high water can be found contacting the following offices:**

- For areas on the Missouri River, call the Kansas City District at: 816-426-6320
- For areas on the Mississippi River, upstream of Lock and Dam 22 and, on the Illinois River, upstream of LaGrange Lock and Dam, call the Rock Island District PAO at: 309-794-5729