



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

News Release

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Heavy Precipitation holding U.S. Army Corps of Engineers focus in St. Louis

Heavy rains pounded the upper Midwestern states today and more is in the National Weather Service's predictions. Today's rain events are causing high water forecasts on the Mississippi River above St. Louis.

The National Weather Service is calling for an additional 2-4 inches on the Upper Mississippi and Missouri basins in the next three days before tapering off to a more normal pattern.

As a consequence of these events, Lock 24's closure, which is at Clarksville, has been moved a day earlier to Sunday, June 15. Likewise, Lock 25's closure has moved up to Monday, June 16.

The National Weather Service has revised crest predictions upward at Locks 24 and 25 and Corps officials add that those numbers could climb if the region receives more precipitation.

In addition, the Kaskaskia Lock which controls access to the 36 navigable miles of the Kaskaskia River, which runs into the Mississippi River south of St. Louis will be closing on June 13.

The predicted rain falls are also drawing attention to projected Missouri River levels in coming days. Currently, the Missouri is at a relatively lower stage, helping to reduce Mississippi River flows southward to and past St. Louis.

The St. Louis District Emergency Operations Center remains open to continue to monitor the situation and to be better prepared to take action if that becomes necessary. In sections of the Mississippi north of St. Louis, where impacts of tributaries are becoming additive vice compensating for each other, some stages are predicted to approach record numbers from 1993. In addition, the District is ready to deploy flood fight engineers into the field to support levee districts if they are requested.

To date during the current high water event, the St. Louis District has issued 67,500 sand bags and 32 rolls of sheet plastic to local emergency operations offices to be ready to be used in flood fighting efforts.

The National Weather Service, US Geological Service and Army Corps of Engineers are cooperating to capture field observations during these events to better refine and calibrate predictive computer models for the future.

The Corps in St. Louis also urges people who live or travel near the rivers to continue to monitor water levels and in particular, not to drive into water covered roads. They should turn back and take longer routes if necessary. There are no short cuts to safety.

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Note to editors: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Districts are organized along watershed boundaries. Additional information for areas on the Mississippi River upstream of Lock and Dam 22 and, on the Illinois River, upstream of LaGrange Lock and Dam can contact the Rock Island District Public Affairs Office at 309-794-5274.

Based on current river predictions, the following locks are scheduled for closure:

- June 12: **Lock 16** (Illinois City, Ill. – River Mile 457.2), **Lock 17** (New Boston, Ill. – River Mile 437.1), and **Lock 18** (Gladstone, Ill. – River Mile 410.5)
- June 13: **Lock 20** (Canton, Mo. – River Mile 343.2)
- June 14: **Lock 19** (Keokuk, Iowa – River Mile 364.2), **Lock 21** (Quincy, Ill. – River Mile 324.9), and **Lock 22** (Saverton, Mo. – River Mile 301.2)