



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

# News Release

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## **Corps of Engineers in St. Louis moving lock closure dates ahead, fielding flood fight experts**

The Mississippi River, which has approached or exceeded historic levels in Iowa, is continuing to send a growing swell of water southward. The St. Louis District is continuing to send flood fight experts into the field to work with local levee districts and other government agencies. The District is also continuing to coordinate with adjacent districts and other Federal agencies.

Locks 24 and 25 at Clarksville and Winfield, Mo., respectively, previously announced to be closed Sunday and Monday, are now slated to close a day earlier: Saturday, June 14 at Clarksville and Sunday, June 15 at Winfield. Corps navigation experts say that while specific river levels can drive timing of the decision to close locks, the navigation industry has been doing a superb job of coordinating departures of commercial tows in river pools above the two locks. When the need to stay open to pass tows ends, closure procedures will start immediately. Corps personnel have already started sand bagging offices and maintenance spaces at the locks. The Kaskaskia Lock at that river's confluence with the Mississippi will now be closed, Sunday, June 15.

Today's rainfalls on the Missouri River Basin are also holding attention to projected river levels, where the National Weather Service predicts that the level will drop a couple feet over the next couple days before coming back up two feet.

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. Along sections of the Mississippi River north of St. Louis, where impacts of tributaries are becoming an additive vice compensating for each other, some stages are predicted to approach record numbers from 1993 north of St. Louis and the Illinois River.

The District is continuing to deploy flood fight teams to levee districts north of St. Louis. Area engineers are now shifting their focus southward to help regions south of the city to prepare to fend off high waters as the move down the Mississippi River past St. Louis.

To date during the current high water event, the St. Louis District has issued 305,500 sand bags and 105 rolls of sheet plastic to local emergency operations offices to be ready to be used in flood fighting efforts.

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## St. Louis COE Flood Fight/2-2-2

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

The Corps in St. Louis also continues to urge 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. Although the rising rivers are also attracting a lot of attention, they are treacherous in their current and predicted states. Do not wade, swim or boat in them

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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 in the Rock Island District are closed or are scheduled for closure:

- Thursday, June 12:
  - Lock 16** (Illinois City, Ill. – River Mile 457.2)
  - Lock 17** (New Boston, Ill. – River Mile 437.1)
  - Lock 18** (Gladstone, Ill. – River Mile 410.5)
  - Lock 20** (Canton, Mo. – River Mile 343.2)
  
- Friday June 13:
  - Lock 13** (Fulton, Ill. – River Mile 522.5)
  - Lock 14** Auxiliary Lock (Pleasant Valley, Iowa – River Mile 493.3)
  - Lock 21** (Quincy, Ill. – River Mile 324.9)
  - Lock 22** (Saverton, Mo. – River Mile 301.2)
  
- Saturday 14:
  - Lock 12** (Bellevue, Ill. – River Mile 556.7)
  - Lock 14** (Pleasant Valley, Iowa – River Mile 493.3)
  - Lock 15** (Rock Island, Ill. – River Mile 483)
  - Lock 19** (Keokuk, Iowa – River Mile 364.2)