

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wood River Levee

The Wood River Levee is an urban levee located in the Mississippi River flood plain in Madison County, Ill. Failure of this levee would produce tremendous economic loss and create an enormous environmental disaster as it protects more than 20,000 people in 5 towns, 12,700 acres of bottomland, and a high concentration of industry, including petrochemical and munitions production.

The levee was authorized to a height equal to 54 feet on the St. Louis gage. The levee did not perform satisfactorily during the flood of 1993. Sand boils developed along the levee, indicative of significant underseepage problems, which increases risk of failure.

As of Fiscal Year 2013, more than \$25,000,000 has been invested in the Wood River Levee project by the federal government.

Rehabilitation deficiency correction work on the Wood River Levee includes:

- Rehabilitation work at 38 gravity drains, 16 closure structures and 7 pump stations
- Replacing 163 of 170 existing relief wells
- Installing 154 new relief wells
- Constructing 3 new pump stations
- 815 linear feet of new seepage berms
- 6,845 linear feet of slurry trench cutoff wall

Current Activities

- Completing design of 2 slurry trench cutoff walls
 - ◆ Upper Wood River
 - ◆ Lower Wood River
- Completing construction on 17 new relief wells

Future work on Wood River Levee will address design deficiencies in underseepage controls, including:

- 815 linear feet of seepage berm
- 1,010 linear feet of land-side clay fill
- 94 new relief wells



Above: Heavy industry protected by the levee. Below: Construction work on the Wood River Levee.



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