



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New York District

Corps Bytes

For Release: October 2007

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Corps of Engineers Leads, Feeds and Apple Seeds

The Corps Bytes is a monthly release that highlights what the Army Corps' New York District is doing in *your* backyard. This is the first distribution of Corps Bytes and if you elect not to receive future Corps Bytes please let us know so we can remove you from distribution. Simply reply to this e-mail with "please remove me from this list," in your subject line. On the other hand, if you know of others who would have an interest in receiving this, please let us know.

October Highlights

- **Floatables. Picking up around the towns – the drift collectors.**
- **It sees all, knows all - Survey Vessel Moritz.**
- **Keeping costs down for bananas, sneakers, and hair mousse – by dredging!**
- **Out-of-box real estate program houses crowded military family.**
- **Crossing the finish line at toxic waste site.**
- **Redefining higher learning.**

Leads:

October is the month that the Army Corps' Big Apple District begins new projects that have been funded for the new fiscal year. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the nation's premier building organization involved in soil remediation, military construction projects, beach nourishment, dredging, and keeping the harbor free from obstructions to navigation.

Floatables. Picking up around the towns. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Drift Collection Vessel *Hayward* begins another patrol in New York Harbor, ready to catch potentially damaging debris in its side skimmer. The *Hayward* is one of three debris collection boats the Corps operates in the harbor to keep channels clear for commercial ships and other vessels. For more information on the debris collection program or to arrange for a demonstration of the boats and their crews in action, please contact Sue Hopkins at 917-790-8007.

Click link for a photo of the Drift Collection Vessel *Hayward* on patrol
<http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/harbor/bytes/graphics/oct07/Hayward.jpg>

It sees all, knows all. It “sees” things that others can’t. No, it’s not clairvoyant – but you might think so because the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Survey Vessel *Moritz* finds things only an inch in diameter through the sometimes murky waters of New York Harbor. The *Moritz* routinely uses advanced, multi-beam sonar to locate submerged objects and measure the parameters of vital shipping channels throughout the Port of New York and New Jersey. Two additional systems – a multi-track system that drops from outboard racks and a single transducer located between the catamaran’s hulls – help ensure the most accurate pictures of the harbor’s depths. For more information about the *Moritz* and the Corps’ survey program in the New York area, or to arrange a demonstration, contact Sue Hopkins at 917-790-8007.

Click link for a photo of the *Moritz* underway

<http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/harbor/bytes/graphics/oct07/moritz.jpg>

Keeping costs down for bananas, sneakers and hair mousse. It covers the length of Staten Island, and is the Army Corps’ next extensive dredging endeavor. The New York Harbor is a beehive of activity, being the nation’s third largest shipping port and center of commerce, where key navigation channels are being dredged to accommodate huge container ships laden with products which otherwise would be transported over land by trucks. Find out about the Army Corps and Port Authority project to deepen the channels and about beneficial use of dredged material. Contact: Rebecca Callahan at 917-790-8306 / Vince Elias at 917-790-8007.

Click link for a photo showing dredging activity in New York Harbor

<http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/harbor/bytes/graphics/oct07/dredging.jpg>

Out-of-box real estate program houses crowded military family. A military couple was living in Denmark in a tight two-bedroom townhouse crowded with four newly adopted teenage sisters. Not thinking life could get any more challenging, the Army called the husband to duty in Afghanistan. Alone, his wife and children headed to Fort Drum, N.Y., and were in urgent need of housing. The family, along with hundreds of others, was housed through an innovative lease program created by the Army Corps. Contact JoAnne Castagna at 917-790-8219.

Click link for a photo of one of the homes in the Army’s leasing program at Fort Drum, N.Y.

<http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/harbor/bytes/graphics/oct07/re.jpg>

Crossing the finish line at toxic waste site. Following 20 years of work and \$190 million, the Army Corps achieved a milestone when it removed the very last load of uranium- and lead-tainted soil last month at a former plant in Colonie, N.Y. The mammoth project required major work that began in 1984, when radioactive metal dust was detected.

Contact Vince Elias at 917-790-8007.

Click link for a photo of this former toxic waste site

<http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/harbor/bytes/graphics/oct07/toxic.jpg>

Feeds:

George Washington appoints New York's first Chief Engineer. New York District traces its roots to the Revolutionary War. In 1776, at George Washington's directive, Rufus Putnam was appointed Chief Engineer in charge of the defenses of New York. Putnam's first task was to salvage something from the incomplete and poorly situated fortifications built around the highlands of West Point in 1775 by Bernard Romans, a Dutch engineer. We recognize Putnam as our first District Engineer.

Apple Seeds:

Redefining higher learning. Going to the library used to be one of the most demanding chores known to man. From finding what you wanted, to tracking it down on a shelf, to actually checking it out and remembering to bring it back on time, a trip to the library could be well...exhausting. Fortunately for the cadets at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, going to the library is about to get a whole lot easier, because next spring they will be opening the doors to a sparkling new state-of-the-art learning center, courtesy of the Army Corps' New York District. Contact Ken Wells at 917-790-8007.

Click link for a photo of the Jefferson Hall learning Center at West Point
<http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/harbor/bytes/graphics/oct07/Library.jpg>