



Corps Bytes

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

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The Corps of Engineers Leads, Feeds and Apple Seeds is a monthly news release that highlights what the U.S. Army Corps' New York District is doing in *your* backyard.

March Highlights:

- **Corps dredges Jones Inlet, shores up beach, ensures safe navigation and smooth sailing for vessels, and creates nesting area for bird species.**
- **Corps enhances habitat by using clean dredged sand and till materials from Port Jersey Dredging.**
- **New York State drinking water protected under Corps funded program.**
- **A clean sweep of Manville, N.J.**
- **Corps of Engineers nearing completion of Jefferson Hall at West Point.**
- **Granite rock being blasted apart to make sure navigation channels are deep enough to accommodate today's jumbo container ships.**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the nation's premier engineering and construction organization involved in infrastructure projects, soil remediation, military construction projects, storm damage reduction, beach nourishment, dredging, and keeping the harbor free from obstructions to navigation.

Leads: From dredging to military construction, this is the section that provides story ideas concerning projects being managed by the U.S. Corps of Engineers, New York District.

Corps dredges Jones Inlet, shores up beach, ensures safe navigation and smooth sailing for vessels, and creates nesting area for bird species. The \$7.6 million dredging project is being conducted by the Corps at Jones Inlet in Nassau County and is funded by the State of New York. The project includes dredging the inlet for safe navigation, reducing beach erosion, providing storm protection, and placing clean sand on beaches at Point Lookout just in time for birds to begin their spring nesting season, and for beach goers pitching their umbrellas during the summer. To learn more about this project, contact Vince Elias at 917-790-8007. [Click link for a photo of the dredging Jones Inlet project.](#)

<http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/harbor/bytes/graphics/jan08/jones.jpg>

Corps enhances habitat by using clean dredged sand and till materials from Port Jersey Dredging. Over 3.37 million cubic yards of clean dredged material from the Corps' Port Jersey deepening project is being used beneficially at a variety of aquatic and upland sites. Approximately 935,000 cubic yards of suitable sand and till material will be used to create a habitat enhancement area in an obsolete navigation channel south of the Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor, N.J., which was formerly the Military Ocean Terminal, Bayonne. To learn more about this project, contact Vince Elias at 917-790-8007.

New York State drinking water protected under Corps funded program. Dairy farms in Delaware County, NY are experiencing increased phosphorous levels in their land's soil as a result of the feed their animals are consuming. This contamination can run off into the region's watersheds that provide drinking water to 9 million New York State residents. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, is funding a program that is educating farmers about methods they can use to help reduce phosphorous levels. This program not only protects the state's drinking water, but also saves the farms money. To learn more about this project, contact JoAnne Castagna 917-790-8219. [Click link for a photo of the New York State drinking water protected under Corps funded program.](#)
<http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/harbor/bytes/graphics/mar08/water.jpg>

A clean sweep in Manville, N.J. A highly developed residential and commercial area in Manville, N.J. has been undergoing a major remediation project where contaminated soils are removed. The former site of a wood treatment plant, the area now consists of a shopping mall and homes. Known as the Federal Superfund Creosote Superfund Site, the plant left behind a toxic legacy. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, has been overseeing the project since 2000. January 2008, marked the project's conclusion, with approximately 450,000 tons of contaminated soil having been removed. Removal of the contaminated soil and backfill of clean material protects public health and allow safe continued use of these areas. To learn more about this project, contact Mary Stavina at 917-790-8106.

Corps of Engineers nearing completion of Jefferson Hall at West Point. In March 2008, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, will achieve another milestone in its construction mission by opening the doors to a state-of-the-art learning center at the United States Military Academy. The \$60 million Jefferson Hall Learning Center will provide cadets with modern computer equipment, wireless access and other tools that will improve their ability to learn and grow. To learn more about this project, 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>

Feeds: Curious about the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers history? Or maybe gee whiz facts are your cup of tea? Either way, you'll find them in the feeds section.

Army Corps Lights the Way: Back in 1868 Congress approved a measure to rebuild a lighthouse at Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. The original structure was ineffective as a navigational aid in an area where shifting sand bars proved to be an underwater menace and nearby ocean storms and sea swells proved to be treacherous. Built to warn ships away from Diamond Shoals, the most hazardous part of the region, often labeled the “Graveyard of the Atlantic” is a scary place where merging warm and cold currents, as well as shifting underwater shoals converge with disastrous results. The original 112 ft. lighthouse was often too dim to be seen before ships foundered upon the treacherous shallows, resulting in hundreds of ships sinking off the Hatteras coast, including the U.S.S. Monitor, famous ironclad of the American Civil War. Under the direction of Brevet Brigadier General J. H. Simpson, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers designed and built a new Cape Hatteras lighthouse in just two years at a cost of \$167,000. When completed, it was the tallest lighthouse in the world standing at a height of 184 ft. Its location on North Carolina’s legendary Outer Banks has made the structure one of the most recognized lighthouses in America. [Click link for a photo of how the Army Corps Lights the Way.](http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/harbor/bytes/graphics/mar08/light.jpg)

Apple Seeds: This is the section where planting the seeds of hard work and determination yield positive results for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Granite rock being blasted apart to make sure navigation channels are deep enough to accommodate today’s jumbo container ships. The Corps’ New York District is involved in a major dredging project to deepen the main navigation arteries leading to the container terminals in the Port of New York and New Jersey. The channel deepening project ensures navigation channels provide a safe and more efficient transportation network for mammoth container ships to reach their destination at the three major container terminals. Plans are to begin blasting this summer off of Constable Hook to just off of St. George, Staten Island. The contract is part of the harbor navigation channel project which is under the direction of the Army Corps and cost-shared with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. To learn more about this project, contact Vince Elias at 917-790-8007. [Click link for a photo.](http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/harbor/bytes/graphics/mar08/granite.jpg)