



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

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 2, 2005

Area Corps employees prepare to aid Katrina's victims

Several employees at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, are preparing to travel to areas of Mississippi ravaged by Hurricane Katrina.

The staffers – engineers and inspectors whose focus will be housing and roofing – will deploy with members of sister districts in Baltimore and Norfolk, Va.

Twelve members from New York District were placed on alert yesterday and are scheduled to leave early next week, but could leave sooner. They must wait until officials with the Federal Emergency Management Agency determine the best locations for the Corps workers to begin their mission.

Following hurricanes and other natural disasters, Corps Housing Planning and Response Teams travel to the affected area after first responders, but stay much longer to ensure basic housing needs are met for disaster victims. Their mission may include roof repair to ensure shelter or placing a trailer in a victim's yard for housing until their damaged home can be repaired. If infrastructure is so badly damaged that even trailers cannot be placed in an area, the team will supervise complete construction of a trailer city – roads, sanitary sewers, water, electrical power and furnished mobile homes.

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2 / 2 / 2 Area Corps employees prepare to support Katrina recovery effort

One New York District employee has already deployed as part of a regional Logistics Planning and Response team, working to ensure supplies of water and ice reach the affected areas. Another employee has “deployed in place” creating specialized, detailed maps for recovery agencies using the Geographic Information System. Other District employees are aiding the recovery effort from their offices by performing essential deployment support services and sharing information about previous recovery efforts that could be useful in this rebuilding.

For information about Corps activities following Hurricane Katrina, visit <http://www.mvd.usace.army.mil> or <http://www.usace.army.mil>.

Information about helping victims of the disaster is available at <http://www.fema.gov>.