



**US Army Corps
of Engineers
Fort Worth District**

News Release

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Corps of Engineers lends support in aftermath of Hurricane Rita

FORT WORTH, Texas – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in support of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is providing disaster response assistance to citizens of Texas affected by Hurricane Rita. Although FEMA has only assigned the ice and water mission to the Corps of Engineers at the present time, the Corps can also provide power, debris removal, temporary housing and roofing and logistical support when needed. The priority of the Corps is to support efforts to save lives and find people, sustain lives, and help set conditions for recovery.

The Corps' Fort Worth District today is shipping hundreds of truckloads of ice and water to south Texas. According to Bob Woodards, Southwestern Division Regional Director of Logistics, the three-phase process is working.

The supply process begins in Fort Worth where a three-day supply of ice and water, approximately 300 truckloads of each, is typically maintained at the Fort Worth Federal Center depot, he said.

“When notified of the need for ice and water, phase two is initiated and the ice and bottled water are trucked to a forward staging center, in this case, Houston, and the final stage is to provide a one-day supply of each at distribution points in the affected area,” Woodards said.

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Corps support to Rita

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In another effort, under the direction of the Corps' Southwestern Division Commander, Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Dorko, a forward command cell, led by the Fort Worth District Commander, Col. John Minahan, has been established in the Beaumont area today. Col. Minahan and his seven member cell, consisting of specialists in the areas of engineering, real estate, and environmental remediation, are making damage assessments and evaluating what assistance is needed.

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Contractors interested in temporary power, ice or water delivery missions should visit

<http://www.swf.usace.army.mil/pubdata/hurricane/index.asp>

Additional information may be obtained by visiting the Fort Worth District website at

www.swf.usace.army.mil