



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

Corps Bytes

For Release: September 2008 Contact Public Affairs: 917-790-8007

Web address: <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil>

News Releases: <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/news/newrels.htm>

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers *Corps Bytes* is a monthly news release that highlights what the U.S. Army Corps' New York District is doing in *your* backyard.

September Highlights:

- **U.S. Military Academy Opens Doors to New State-of-the-Art Library**
- **Worlds Largest Backhoe Dredge Deepens the Navigation Channels and Port**
- **The Corps Protects Wildlife; Opens Space at David's Island**
- **Loaned Out Hopper Dredge Keeps Channel Safe**

U.S. Military Academy Opens Doors to New State-of-the-Art Library-The New York District is giving a face lift to the nation's oldest continuously occupied military post. The Corps recently completed construction on the new Jefferson Hall Library and Learning Center at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. The ribbon cutting ceremony for the nearly \$61 million dollar project will be Sept. 24 at the Military Academy. The library is just one of many renovation and construction projects that the Corps is heading at the academy. Others include the renovation of historic housing and the Michie Football Stadium, the relocation of West Point Preparatory from Fort Monmouth, N.J., and the conversion of the old library to a new science building. (Contact: LaDonna Davis, 917-790-8107)

Worlds Largest Backhoe Dredge Deepens the Navigation Channels and Port-New York District has been involved in an important navigation channel deepening project for the Port of New York and New Jersey. The District has contracted with Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company which owns and operates the Dredge New York to conduct dredging operations in the Newark Bay channel. The Harbor is a major shipping port and center of commerce with key channels needing to be dredged to meet the growing demands of the nation's third largest container port. (Contact: Vince Elias, 917-790-8204).

The Corps Protects Wildlife; Opens Space at Davids Island - Davids Island has been turned into open space, increasing the possibilities of how it can be used by the public. The Corps demolished and removed dilapidated buildings from what was the former Fort Slocum, located off of the Long Island Sound while retaining some structures because of their historical significance. Being environmental stewards, prior to performing work the Corps moved an Osprey birds nest out of harms way. The bird habitat was unharmed and it's estimated that there is an additional 10 new fledglings to the flock. (Contact: JoAnne Castagna 917- 790-8219).

Click link for a photo of the Osprey Nest <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/harbor/bytes/graphics/sep08/osprey.jpg>

Loaned Out Hopper Dredge Keeps Channel Safe-The Dredge McFarland, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' only oceangoing hopper dredge assigned to the east coast, is dredging southern Staten Island and the Sandy Hook, N.J. area. The McFarland is helping to maintain a 35 foot depth channel in the area to keep oceangoing tanker traffic moving smoothly by dropping a vacuum-like tube to the bottom of the channel and sucking up tons of mud, dirt, silt and whatever else is down there. In one trip, the McFarland removes about 15,000 dump trucks of dredge material. (Contact: Chris Gardner at 917-790-8108) Army Today - Dredge McFarland Clip

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GIRwHRspLUQ>