
Media Advisory

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Columbia Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Hoppe and Others to Cut Ribbon

New Federal Laboratory Facility to be Dedicated on Wednesday in Columbia

Top officials from the U.S. Geological Survey will be in Columbia on Wednesday for a ribbon-cutting and building dedication ceremony at the USGS Columbia Environmental Research Center (CERC). The event will highlight the official opening of a new, state-of-the-art science laboratory and office facility at 4200 New Haven Road in Columbia <<http://www.cerc.usgs.gov/>>.

The 23,800 square foot laboratory building and related construction projects at the CERC biological research facility have invested nearly \$12 million into the economy of Columbia and the surrounding area. Approximately 30 local and area contractors were involved and the projects provided employment for more than 200 individuals. Funding for the construction effort was provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 and by the USGS. Estimates show that the new facility will result in an overall savings of \$200,000 in annual maintenance costs.

WHAT: Ribbon-cutting and building dedication ceremony for new laboratory and office facility in Columbia

WHO: Columbia Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Hoppe, USGS Director Marcia McNutt, USGS Midwest Area Director Leon Carl, Congressional office representatives, and others

WHEN: Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012 at 9 a.m.

WHERE: USGS Columbia Environmental Research Center, 4200 New Haven Road in Columbia

DIRECTIONS: From Interstate-70, take Missouri Highway 63 South; turn left (east) on AC/Grindstone Prkwy/New Haven Road. The USGS Columbia Environmental Research Center is approximately ½ mile east of Highway 63.

The research program at CERC is recognized for its expertise in aquatic environmental toxicology and chemistry, endangered species, invasive species and large river ecology. CERC conducts research in nearly every state in the U.S. as well as a number of territories and foreign countries. Through these connections and partnerships, CERC plays a critical role in defining U.S. aquatic environmental issues and brings national and international recognition to Columbia.

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