



US Army Corps
of Engineers
New Orleans District

Media Advisory

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Phony Corps 1-800 number, e-mails, just a phishing scam

Offer of \$1,500 vouchers a ploy to harvest social security numbers

Phone and Internet users are reporting receiving e-mails and text messages stating that the Army Corps of Engineers is giving out \$1,500 vouchers and directing recipients to a 1-800 telephone number to get their 'money.'

The Corps IS NOT offering ANY TYPE of vouchers through a 1-800 number. The Corps is concerned that once an unsuspecting person calls this 1-800 number trying to get a voucher, the scammers on the other end ask for the callers' social security number.

This is a 'phishing' ruse using the Corps name and the promise of free money to attempt to steal callers' social security numbers.

The Corps advises recipients of these emails/text messages to ignore these messages and to report phishing attempts to either the Louisiana Attorney General's Consumer Protection Hotline at **1-800-351-4889** or the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). The FTC advises that you send the actual email or text message to them at <mailto:uce@ftc.gov>. If you believe you've been scammed, you can file your complaint at www.ftc.gov, and then visit the FTC's Identity Theft Web site (www.ftc.gov/idtheft) to learn how to minimize your risk of damage from identity theft.