



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
New Orleans District

News Release

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Corps Safety Precautions for Visitors to Construction Sites

NEW ORLEANS – The New Orleans District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, reminds potential visitors of safety precautions at Corps of Engineers construction sites.

To protect site visitors from harm, New Orleans District Commander Col. Richard Wagenaar cautions all visitors to arrange for an official escort before entering Corps project areas. “Construction sites are by nature hazardous places,” Wagenaar said. “So we need to ensure our visitors aren’t hurt when they visit us. It would be very easy for them to fall or otherwise hurt themselves if they aren’t careful.”

Another concern is that should a visitor enter the site unescorted and damage is later found, the visitor may be found liable for damaging federal government property. “No one wants to be held responsible for something they didn’t do,” Wagenaar added, “so the best way to protect against that possibility is not to enter the property unescorted.”

To schedule an individual or group tour of any Corps construction site, visitors must call the District Public Affairs Office at 504-862-2201 at least 24 hours in advance.

District Public Affairs Officer Kathy Gibbs gave some tips to ensure the safety and comfort of site visitors. “Everyone must wear long pants and closed-toe shoes because these sites are muddy and there are many areas where sure footing is vital to your safety,” Gibbs said. “We’ll provide hardhats and safety vests for our visitors to wear when visiting our sites.”

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