



US Army Corps
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New Orleans District

News Release

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Removing trees along N.O. lakefront levee

NEW ORLEANS—To protect the Lake Pontchartrain levee from hurricane surges, the Corps will remove trees on the public right of way in New Orleans from Bayou St. John near Beauregard Avenue to West End Boulevard.

Most of the 40 trees in the 2.5-mile stretch are oaks and on the protected (land) side of the lakefront levee. Removals will begin next week and continue over several weeks.

“This is regrettable, and these trees are beautiful. But we must protect the hurricane levee,” said Michael Stout, a Corps senior project manager.

“These trees must be removed to make way for raising the levee to the authorized elevation in the months ahead,” Stout said.

Trees will be cut at 4½ feet so storm winds cannot blow them over. After hurricane season, the stumps and roots will be removed and the holes packed with clay as part of the levee-raising work. Delayed removal will avoid weakening the levee during a hurricane.

Storm winds can topple and uproot trees, which in turn removes grass and soil. This accelerates seepage, promotes erosion and weakens stability. The levee is most vulnerable in this sense on the protected side.

The trees will be removed by Three Fold Consultants LLC of New Orleans under a \$66,360 contract.