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COE Annual Notice to Birds Point Floodway Residents

MARCH 16TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

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*Submitted by
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Memphis, Tennessee - March 13, 2013 - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Memphis District, today mailed a notice to individuals who reside in, operate and/or do business in the Birds Point New Madrid Floodway in Missouri, that it may be operated during a high water event. The notice serves as a reminder to these individuals that they may experience flooding if the floodway is activated.

This notice, which will be sent annually, reminds those individuals that the U.S. Government may flood the area within the floodway to reduce pressure on the regional flood risk reduction system. It also reminds them that it is their responsibility to minimize environmental contamination during floodway operation.

In case of high water they must take measures to prevent uncontained spills of pesticides in accordance with Missouri state law. Property owners who store or permit storage of hazardous materials, hazardous waste, or naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM) on their property must take appropriate precautions to prevent release of such materials and waste. Water or gas wells within the floodway must also be sealed and capped to prevent any contamination from floodwaters, and propane or fuel tanks should be secured or removed prior to

floodway operation.

Public notice will be given through local officials and the news media in the event that floodway operation becomes necessary. Any pre-operation notice will be given as early as possible to allow time for evacuation of people and livestock, and for removal of personal belongings.

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