



# News Release

## US Army Corps of Engineers®

Mississippi Valley Division/  
Mississippi River Commission  
cemvd-pa@mvd02.usace.army.mil

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**Contact:** Public Affairs Office  
**Phone:** 601-634-5760

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## Corps' Mississippi Valley Division to host Mississippi River Partnering Conference

VICKSBURG, Miss., June 21, 2004 -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, will host a Mississippi River Partnering Conference in Memphis, Tenn., June 28-29, 2004.

The conference is open to representatives from all levels of government, organizations or associations, stakeholders and concerned citizens having an interest in the river. Participants will address the needs, priorities and opportunities related to water resources in the Mississippi River Valley. A primary conference objective is to improve efforts to transform the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to better meet the water resources needs of the nation.

The conference will coincide with the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration for the Mississippi River Commission.

The conference will include presentations by Maj. Gen. Carl Strock, the Corps' Director of Civil Works, and Mr. Bill Leary, Associate Director for Natural Resources for the White House Council on Environmental Quality, among others.

## 2-2-2-2 PARTNERING

The following breakout sessions are also planned:

**Building Effective Partnerships** - this session will identify and prioritize challenges that Mississippi River partners can work on together.

**Common Planning Guidelines for a Living Working Watershed** - participants in this session will review and gather comments on the Midwest Natural Resources Group watershed guidelines being developed by the Corps, as well as discuss watershed principles and policies in light of civil works guidance.

**Making the Most of USACE Transformation** - the desired outcome of this session is to improve the understanding of Corps' transformation among Mississippi River partners and well as to gather input from partners regarding USACE and MVD transformation efforts.

For more information on the conference, you may call Mrs. Esther Banks, 601-634-5823. You may also visit our website at <http://www.mvd.usace.army.mil>.

A tentative media interview opportunity with senior Corps of Engineer officials and other partners is scheduled for 5 p.m., June 28, 2004, in the main conference room. Local media desiring to take part in this opportunity should contact the Memphis District Corps of Engineers Public Affairs Office at (901) 544-4109 or 0749.