

2004 Mississippi River Partnering Conference  
“The Greatest Living and Working Watershed”

**Conference Sessions**

**General Sessions:** The first general session on the morning of the 28<sup>th</sup> will include a panel discussion and two presentations that will set the stage for the breakout sessions in the afternoon. A panel representing a cross section of federal agencies and non-governmental organizations will explain the missions of their respective organizations and describe their water resources related interests. The first general session will also include presentations on the draft planning guidelines for a living working watershed and on Corps of Engineers transformation. At the final general session on the 29<sup>th</sup> small groups will report out on their discussions during the breakout sessions and a key note speaker will address the future of America’s water resources.

**Breakout Session No 1: “Building Effective Partnerships”.** The foundation of effective partnerships is the mutual understanding of the common and diverse interests of partners. This breakout session will build on the morning’s panel discussion. Participants will map the water resources related interests of the organizations described in the panel discussions and compare the results with the interests of their own organization.

**Breakout Session No 2: “Develop Common Planning Guidelines for a Living Working Watershed”.** The draft guidelines were developed by a partnership of several federal agencies and are intended to serve as a framework for future water resources management. Participants in this session will have the opportunity to review and comment on the guidelines.

**Breakout Session No. 3: “Making the most of USACE Transformation”.** Participants in this session will have the opportunity to build an understanding of the current efforts to transform the Corps of Engineers and to identify how their organization can make the most of its relationship with the Corps of the future.