



# News Release

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## **Army Corps of Engineers prepares for Hurricane Isabel**

**Baltimore** - In preparation for Hurricane Isabel, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, activated its Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on Thurs., Sept. 18. From the EOC, Corps officials will closely monitor the hurricane's path and conditions within the Baltimore District's geographical boundaries -- the Susquehanna and Potomac River basins and the Chesapeake Bay north of the Maryland/Virginia border.

During the next 48 hours, Baltimore District headquarters and field offices will be placed on heightened alert and instructed to be prepared to carry out Corps of Engineers' mandated emergency response missions and those missions received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other agencies.

In addition, one of the Corps of Engineers' Rapid Response Vehicles manned by a Baltimore District team of trained technicians is ready to respond within the next 36 to 48 hours to emergency situations in the Richmond-Norfolk, Va., area. This 36-foot long mobile unit possesses all the latest communications technology to include global positioning system equipment, satellite communications, drafting and mapping software, laptop computers, cellular phones, radios and digital cameras.

Baltimore District operates 14 flood control reservoirs in the Susquehanna River basin and two in the Potomac River basin. In addition to these projects, the Corps has constructed approximately 45 local flood protection levees within the two river basins since the 1930s. Earlier this year, the Corps completed the Wyoming Valley Levee Raising Project in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and the Scranton Levee Project (Albright Avenue portion) in Scranton, Pa.

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