



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
St. Paul District

Information Paper

Levee Safety Program (Iowa)



Contact

Eric Wittine, P.E.
District Levee Safety Program Manager
(651) 290-5590, eric.a.wittine@usace.army.mil

Location/Description

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Levee Safety Program was created in 2006 to assess the integrity and viability of levees and to make sure that levee systems do not present unacceptable risks to the public, property and environment.

Background

The basic objectives of the Levee Safety Program are to develop balanced and informed assessments of levees within the program; evaluate, prioritize and justify levee safety decisions; and recommend improvements to public safety associated with levee systems. The Corps created the National Levee Database, inventoried all levees in the program and improved inspection procedures. The Corps is developing a method to manage its levee systems and is reviewing and revising current levee-related policies and procedures.

The Levee Safety Program is composed of more than 14,000 miles of levees and includes: systems operated and maintained by the Corps; federally authorized systems locally operated and maintained and covered under the Corps Inspection of Completed Works programs; and locally constructed, operated and maintained systems in accordance with Public Law 84-99.

Status

The Corps, in collaboration with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is developing a strategy for communication of our ongoing activities and identification of the benefits, risks, and flood risk management measures on levee systems in our portfolio. The Corps is completing screening level assessments to understand the risks associated with each levee system which will be utilized to inform the communication effort.

The cities of Guttenberg and Decorah have made significant progress on improvements to their levee systems. The levee systems are currently eligible for post flood rehabilitation assistance.

Levee Systems in Corps Portfolio

Inspection of Completed Works Program

Federally authorized systems, locally operated and maintained:

- Guttenberg
- Decorah