

**Lock and Dam No. 1** lies on the Mississippi River midway between Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn. Access is along the West River Road near Minnehaha Park.



### Lock & Dam No. 1

5000 W. River Parkway  
 Minneapolis, MN 55401-2528  
 Phone: (651) 290-5919

### U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

180 Fifth St. E., Ste. 700  
 St. Paul, MN 55101-1678  
[www.mvp.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil)

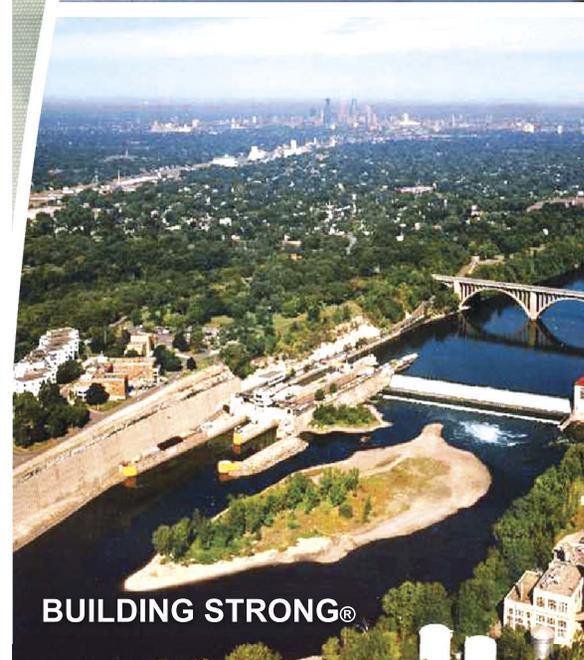
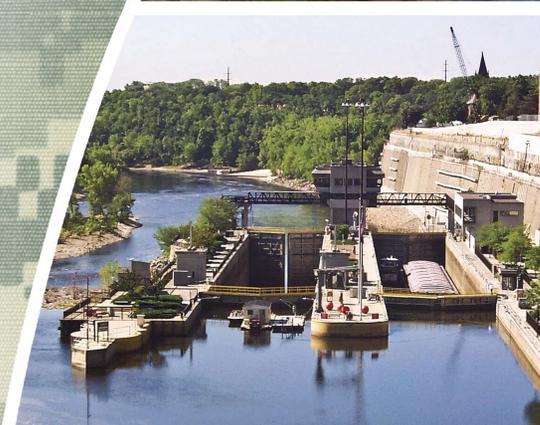
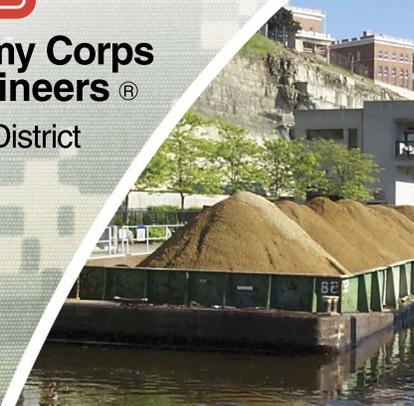
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[www.CorpsLakes.us](http://www.CorpsLakes.us)

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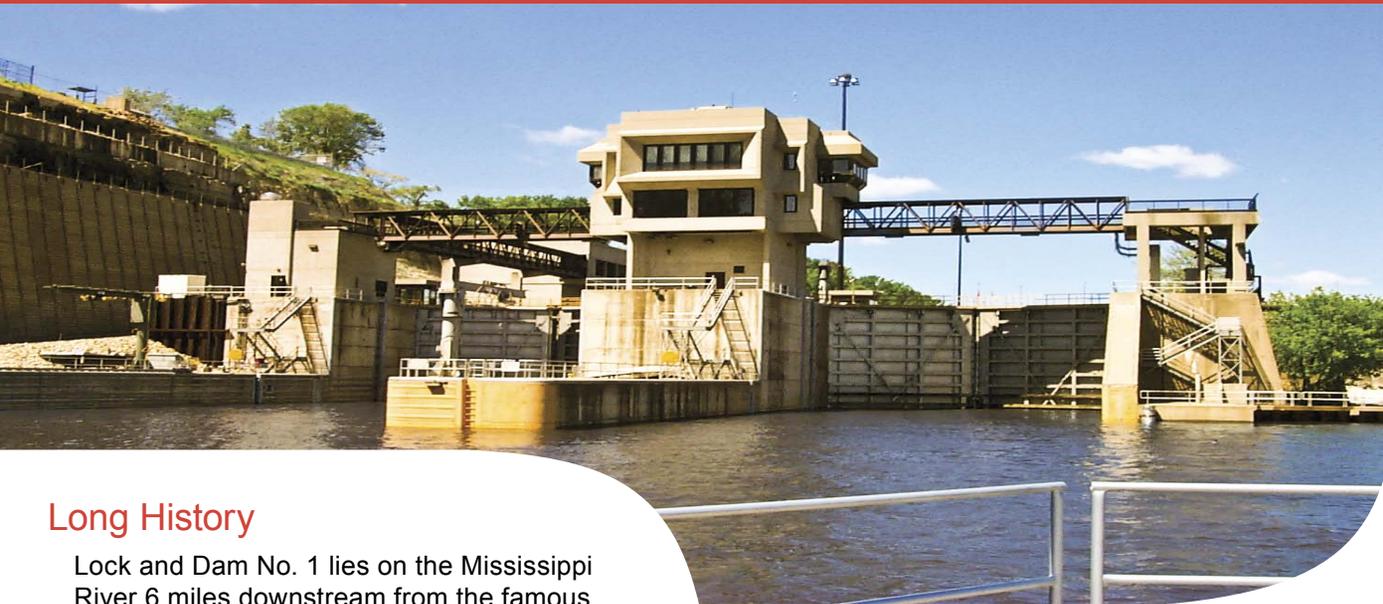
### US Army Corps of Engineers®

St. Paul District



**BUILDING STRONG®**

Lock & Dam No. 1 - Minneapolis

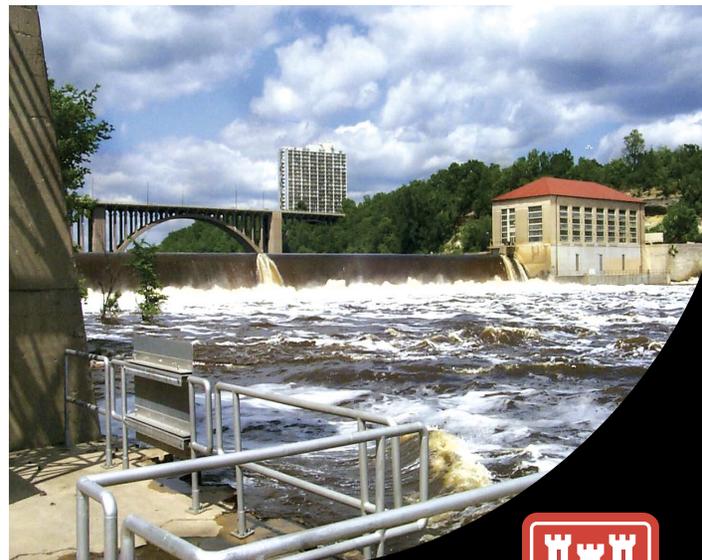


## Long History

Lock and Dam No. 1 lies on the Mississippi River 6 miles downstream from the famous St. Anthony Falls and 2 miles upstream of Ft. Snelling. Congress originally authorized the project in 1899 to improve navigation on the river between Minneapolis and St. Paul by providing a 4-1/2 foot channel depth. The project included two locks and dams, the present Lock and Dam No. 1 and another one upstream, completed in 1906. By 1907, Congress authorized the 6-foot channel on the Upper Mississippi River. In 1908, Congress authorized increasing the height of the dam at Lock and Dam No. 1 to allow hydro electrical power generation. When the present lock and dam went into operation in 1917, the Corps completely abandoned the upstream lock and dam. By 1930, Congress realized the need for a deeper channel and authorized the present 9-foot channel. When completed in 1932, the second lock at Lock and Dam No. 1 provided 9 feet of channel depth up to St. Anthony Falls. By the early 1980s, Lock and Dam No. 1 reached the end of its 50-year design life and underwent a major rehabilitation program to carry on another 50 years into the future.

## Balancing Interests

In addition to commercial navigation, the Upper Mississippi River provides a valuable environmental resource and a source of recreational opportunities. The Corps of Engineers partners with other agencies to protect and to enhance Mississippi resources for generations to come. Each year, people enjoy recreational boating and visiting the locks. At Lock and Dam No. 1, visitors can browse the extensive visitor promenade which provides exhibits and spectacular views of the lock and dam facilities.



## Power Generation

Under a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission agreement, Brookfield Power Company operates the dam and power house.

## Lock and Dam No. 1

Is one of 29 locks and dams that provides a water stairway of travel for barge tows from Minneapolis to the Gulf of Mexico. Each year more than 2 million tons of cargo pass through the lock. The main commodity is sand and gravel. Also, each year more than 6,000 recreational craft utilize the lock.

