



# NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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## Corps of Engineers to provide Addicks and Barker Dam Safety Program update

**HOUSTON** – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District, will hold a public meeting Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2010, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Wolfe Elementary School, 502 Addicks Howell Road, Houston, Texas, 77079, in order to update area residents and business owners about the Addicks and Barker Dam Safety Program. This is a continued communication initiative following the Addicks and Barker Dam Safety Program public outreach in February 2010.

“The primary objective of the Dam Safety Program is to maintain public safety by ensuring that dams we own and operate are safe and that risks to the public are minimized,” said Col. Christopher W. Sallese, Galveston District commander. “We feel it is important to keep those who live and work around Addicks and Barker dams and reservoirs informed.”

The Corps has implemented interim risk reduction measures to reduce risks and increase safety of the dams, which will be presented at the meeting. In addition to the interim solutions, information regarding a Dam Safety Modification Study will be provided. The study, which is scheduled for completion in 2011, will take a comprehensive look at concerns associated with the dams.

“First and foremost, these dams are not in imminent danger of failing,” Sallese said. “Addicks and Barker are dry reservoirs about 90 percent of the time, and they undergo daily, weekly, and annual inspections and monitoring. The fact that they protect and are a part of the nation’s fourth largest metropolitan area makes the consequences in the event of a dam failure unacceptable.”

The update will begin at 7 p.m. and Corps representatives will be available to answer questions immediately following the presentation.

“Addicks and Barker dams, which were constructed in the 1940s to protect downtown Houston from flooding in response to devastating floods that hit Houston earlier in the century, have been protecting the Houston metropolitan area for more than 60 years,” said Sallese. “And the Corps of Engineers is working with our local Flood Control and Emergency Management partners to ensure that they continue to do so.”

For additional information about the Addicks and Barker Dam Safety Program, please visit [www.addicksandbarker.info](http://www.addicksandbarker.info); e-mail [addicksandbarker@usace.army.mil](mailto:addicksandbarker@usace.army.mil) or call 1-800-841-7786. For more information about the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District, visit [www.swg.usace.army.mil](http://www.swg.usace.army.mil) or find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GalvestonDistrict](http://www.facebook.com/GalvestonDistrict).

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