



Media Release

**US Army Corps
of Engineers
Kansas City District**

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New Tuttle Creek Dam Sirens to be tested

MANHATTAN, Kan. – Testing of the sirens for the Tuttle Creek Dam Failure Warning System will continue here on Monday, October 4th during routine tornado siren testing. The routine tornado warning tests are started between 10:20 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. the first Monday of each month. In addition to the tornado warning tone, the six new sirens will broadcast a series of voice messages and audio tones at full volume sound levels. Only the six new sirens will broadcast the voice messages and multiple siren tones. These tests will verify that the new sirens are working properly. Residents should not take any action as a result of these tests. The Tuttle Creek Dam Failure Warning System is expected to be fully operational no-later-than October 20th.

The Kansas City District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers constructed the six siren towers at Sojourner Truth Park, the City of Manhattan Water Treatment Facility, Northeast Community Park, Eisenhower Baseball Complex, the intersection of Casement and Barnes roads, and Tuttle Creek Outlet Park.

The Dam Failure Warning System is designed to alert the community immediately downstream of Tuttle Creek Dam of the need to evacuate in the event of a potential dam failure caused by an earthquake.

All testing of the warning system is being coordinated with local emergency management and law enforcement officials.

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Although the chances of an earthquake of this magnitude occurring near Manhattan are very small, the warning system will help protect the local community while the Corps of Engineers modifies Tuttle Creek Dam so that it meets current dam safety standards for earthquake effects. This construction on the dam will begin in 2005.

For more information about the Tuttle Creek Dam Failure Warning System, see the Corps Web site at <http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/projects/tcdam/index.htm> or call Eric Cramer (816) 983-3487.