

US Army Corps of Engineers



STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

PAINTING LEVEE SYSTEM CONCRETE STRUCTURES

08 January 2020

Requirements for painting concrete structures (floodwalls, gatewells, pump stations, closure vaults, etc.).

- 1. Absolutely no paint is allowed on measurement devices (crack monitors, survey monuments, etc.)
- 2. If both sides of a floodwall monolith are to be painted, the top of the monolith must be sealed to prevent moisture from entering the concrete and becoming trapped between the painted surfaces. The sealant must be acrylic, meeting the requirements of Unified Facilities Guide Specifications Division 07 Thermal and Moisture Protection Section 07_19_00 Water Repellents, and applied in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
- 3. Maintenance of painted surfaces is required, either by the Sponsor or another entity through a formal agreement with the Sponsor, to prevent or address curling or flaking paint so inspections are not hindered.
- 4. Painting floodwalls with existing monolith identifiers must not result in more than 4 consecutive non-identified monoliths in a row.

Recommendations to increase public awareness of the levee system.

- 5. Flood risk awareness should be incorporated into the mural design and painted in high-traffic areas well within the public view. Beneficial information should include:
 - a) Clear lines indicating the level of major flood events with related information such as the date, elevation, and return frequency of the event.
 - b) A map of the levee system, preferably with details such as: the location of road closures; pump stations; major flood evacuation routes; and, easily identifiable landmarks.

Other recommendations.

- 6. Use a quality latex paint (meeting the requirements of Unified Facilities Guide Specifications Division 09 Finishes Section 09 90 00 Paints and Coatings) having a flat finish over an exterior primer applied in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. The flat texture is particularly recommended where a driver's vision may be impaired by the glare of a glossier paint.
- 7. Use lighting to discourage graffitists.
- 8. Use a specialty low VOC, non-stick, anti-graffiti paint that promotes the removal of the graffiti without damaging the mural.