DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
441 G STREET NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

MAY 2 2005

CECW-CO

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDERS, MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMANDS AND DISTRICT COMMANDS, CHIEFS, CONSTRUCTIONS-OPERATIONS DIVISIONS

SUBJECT: Take Pride in America Program Relaunch

1. Take Pride in America (TPIA) is a multi-agency program that was rekindled in 2003 to encourage volunteerism and recognize outstanding volunteers (enclosure). Under the direction of the Department of Interior, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and other Federal and State agencies participate in the program. Field offices are welcome to participate in TPIA to the extent that it enhances our volunteer program. More information is available at www.takepride.gov and soon on the NRM Gateway.

2. The TPIA program ties in well with the Corps Volunteer Clearinghouse that serves as the Corps nationwide link between volunteers and locations that can use their assistance. Contact the Volunteer Clearinghouse at 1 (800) 865-8337 or at www.lrn.usace.army.mil/volunteer to help recruit volunteers for your individual efforts.

3. My point of contact for the TPIA program is Ms. Carolyn Bauer, Nashville District, who is also the POC for the Volunteer Clearinghouse. She will keep the districts and divisions up-to-date with periodic emails that provide information about deadlines for TPIA award nominations and other significant events. You may contact Ms. Bauer at (615) 736-5116 for further information.

4. The Corps was heavily involved with Take Pride in America when it first started years ago and I encourage you to use this program once again to recognize your volunteers.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Encl

DON T. RILEY
Major General, USA
Director of Civil Works

Take Pride in America Awards

1. **Individual Awards** – are based upon cumulative hours of service including the Presidential Award with 4,000 hours of volunteer service.

2. **Special Program Awards** - Take Pride works closely with its partners to present awards for special categories of volunteer efforts. For example, Take Pride in America Garden Awards are presented in cooperation with America the Beautiful Fund.

3. **National Awards** - are open to individuals, groups and businesses whose volunteer efforts exemplify the mission of Take Pride. These are efforts that occur during the period from 1 June and 31 May and are presented the following September in Washington, D.C.

Nominations are being accepted for the annual 2005 National Take Pride in America Awards through an on-line application that can be found at www.takepride.gov/awards/default.cfm. Projects that began and/or were completed between 1 June 2004 and 5 June 2005 will be considered for the National Award if the nomination is received by 15 June 2005 .

Take Pride in America Events

Make your volunteer event into a Take Pride in America event by registering and following the guidelines on the website www.takepride.gov/volunteer/event_criteria.cfm. The event will be added to the TPIA calendar and included with the volunteer information on that state.