



Locations include:
Bushkill Creek Bridge at approximately mile post 1.2;
Toms Creek Bridge at approximately mile post 4.7;
Adams Creek Bridge at approximately mile post 14.2;
and Conashaugh Creek Culvert at approximately mile post 16.5.

Bridge Repairs Planned for US Route 209 in National Recreation Area

By Kathleen Sandt

BUSHKILL, PA: The National Park Service will be undertaking some much-needed repairs to aging-infrastructure along US Route 209 over the next year. Bridge and culvert repair work on US Route 209 within Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is anticipated to start in April 2021. The multi-phased project will improve safety for motorists along this important and heavily traveled roadway.

Planned work includes structure rehabilitation, preventative bridge maintenance, scour protection of structures, roadway pavement maintenance, and guardrail installation at 4 bridge/culvert sites along the route. Specific timelines for each of the project components have not yet been announced. Updated information and timelines will be posted to the park's website at www.nps.gov/dewa and on the park's Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/DelWaterGapNPS when they are available.

This project will be completed in phases and not all locations will be under construction simultaneously. Motorists can expect minor delays due to heavy equipment maneuvering in the work zone and single-lane closures with flaggers during work on Route 209. We will make every effort to minimize delays while also ensuring the safety of the traveling public and those doing the work. Temporary area closures will also be in effect during some phases of the project. Depending on favorable weather conditions, work should be completed in April of 2022.

According to Chiara Palazzolo, NPS Project Manager, bridges in the park are reviewed by the Federal Highway Administration every 2 years. "Of the more than 150 miles of roads within the recreation area, Route 209 is by far the most heavily travelled. These repairs are needed to remediate the normal wear and tear expected on a highly used roadway and because of natural processes like erosion from the streams over which they pass. The increase in rainfall and storm intensity over the last 3-5 years has added to the wear and tear that we normally see."

Work on the Adams Creek bridge will involve a 2-week nighttime closure of Route 209 to construct a retaining wall. During this phase of construction, a portion of Route 209 will be closed from 9 pm to 7 am and a detour will be implemented during those hours. The detour route to and from the Milford area will include Route 739 and Milford Road; Raymondskill Road will remain open but will not be marked as part of the official detour. Work on the Conashaugh culvert will involve a full closure of the south entrance of Zimmermann Road from US Route 209, but the north entrance to Zimmermann Road will remain open.

This project is administered by Federal Highway Administration (FHA) in cooperation with the Park and funded with Federal Lands to Parks (FLP) funds. The work will be done under contract by Central Southern Construction CO. Inc., from Jacksonville, Florida.

For more information on Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, call (570) 426-2452; visit our website at www.nps.gov/dewa; or follow us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/DelWaterGapNPS.

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