

Duncan-Falls/Philo Bridge closure scheduled for repairs

The Muskingum County Engineer's Office continues to inspect and make repairs to the Duncan Falls-Philo bridge to keep it open and safe until a replacement can be built. In late September-early October, a series of detailed inspections, known as fracture critical, were completed. Based on these inspections the bridge load rating was reduced to 15 tons. We have also been working on designing repairs and ordering materials to make some critical repairs.

The repairs required involve three sections of the bridge, two on the main span and one on the swing span. These repairs are needed immediately. We are anticipating the repairs to begin in early November and last until the beginning of January 2016. The bridge will be closed during the repairs. There will be three concrete pours as part of this repair and we are planning the timing so these will be curing over holiday periods to keep the project on schedule and limit the number of days the school must detour bus routes. Concrete gains strength as it cures, but temperature is a critical factor in curing time. This makes the repair timeframe very weather dependent. There will be periods of time where we are not on site working while curing occurs.

Other sections will likely need repairs in the future as the bridge continues to deteriorate. We know this is an inconvenience to the community, schools and businesses. Please have patience and understand the safety of the traveling public is our top concern.

Feel free to share this information and encourage others to sign up for the Philo-Duncan Falls Bridge Stakeholder list by emailing pr.mceo@rrohio.com.

Again, thank you for your patience and participation in this critical piece of infrastructure.

Doug Davis
County Engineer

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