



George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
James River Ranger District
810A Madison Avenue
Covington VA 24426
540-962-2214
 Release: 10-058

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ROADS AND TRAIL TEMPORARILY CLOSE DURING IMPROVEMENTS

Covington, Va. –The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, received Recovery Act funds to install new culverts on Tri-County Road (FSR 271) and Dolly Anne Road (FSR 125), both located in Alleghany County, and replace decking and handrails on the Evans Tract Swinging Bridge, part of Beards Mountain Trail in Bath County. The Forest Service is also trimming overhanging brush on White Oak Flats Road (FSR 337) in Alleghany County. These roads or portions of these roads will close while work is conducted.

Forest Road or Trail Name	#	Approx Date to Close	Approx Date to Reopen	Road Portion Closed
White Oaks Flat	337	6/23/10	09/20/10	All
Tri-County Road	271	7/21/10	10/10/10	All
Dolly Anne	125	8/30/10	10/15/10	Forest Rd 1250 to State 606 (Airport)
Beards Mountain	459	9/20/10	10/30/10	Walton Tract Swinging Bridge

Forest Service employees are trimming the brush on White Oaks Flat Road. K.A.Sizemore and Sons Excavating of Covington is installing the culverts on Tri-County Road, Randy Hostetter Excavating, L.L.C. of Lexington is installing the culvert on Dolly Ann Road, and Tri County Inc. of Fairfax is repairing the swinging bridge at Walton Tract on Beards Mountain Trail.

The new culverts will minimize erosion and flooding during a storm event. These new culverts feature a bottomless arch design allowing easier passage of fish and other amphibians under the roadbed.

“Bottomless culvert arches allow fish and amphibians to pass under the road using a natural stream bottom, free from obstruction,” explained Ranger Pat Sheridan. Water flows faster through traditional

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culverts, eroding the entrance and limiting the free passage of fish. During periods of low water caused by natural summer fluctuations or drought, bottomless arch culverts will ensure fish can move through the stream more freely increasing their access to deeper, cooler water and food. “By installing these culverts, the Forest Service is able to enhance the fish habitat and road access for visitors to the national forest.” Trimming brush and repairing the swinging bridge is critical to the safety of visitors enjoying the national forest.

For current status, please call the James River District Office at 540-962-2214 or the Warms Springs District office at 540-839-2521.

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