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MUSE-BISHOP ROAD IN CECIL TOWNSHIP TO CLOSE ON APRIL 25

Muse-Bishop Road near PA Route 50 in Cecil Township, Washington County will be closed on April 25 for approximately six months so that a concrete arch tunnel can be replaced. Vehicles on Muse-Bishop Road pass through this tunnel, which supports the Montour Trail 40 feet above.

The concrete arch tunnel was built in 1913 by the Montour Railroad and has been deemed unsafe by the Public Utility Commission (PUC) for Muse-Bishop Road vehicle traffic. Both Muse-Bishop Road and the Montour Trail will be closed during construction. A detour route will be posted for Muse-Bishop Road.

Unfortunately, no safe detour for Montour Trail users to cross Muse-Bishop Road is available. Trail users are encouraged to use other sections of the Montour Trail's 39 available miles until construction is complete.

The general contractor, Carmen Paliotta, is to demolish the existing concrete arch tunnel and construct a new 190-foot steel girder bridge in the same location. The construction of the new bridge, which was designed by Mackin Engineering, is to be completed by late October.

The Montour Trail is one of Western PA's most heavily used recreational resources, with 39 miles of active trail in use in Allegheny and Washington Counties. When complete, it will extend from Coraopolis to Clairton. It is part of the Great Allegheny Passage network of trails that will connect the Pittsburgh area to Washington, D.C. Additional information about the Montour Trail can be found at www.montourtrail.org or (412) 257-3011.

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