

Construction News Bi-Weekly Project Update
May 15, 2017 – May 28, 2017



Rehabilitation of Bridge No. 00163A, I-95 over West River and State Route 745 in the Towns of West Haven and New Haven

INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER: Interstate Impacts/Local Road Impacts/Potential Vibration/Noise Construction Activities/Site Progress Photos/Work Zone Safety Tips

INTERSTATE IMPACTS:

- None

SEA STREET IMPACTS:

- Installation of new driveway at CT DOT Maintenance Facility

LOCAL ROAD IMPACTS:

- I-95 Median Roadway and Electrical Work.
- Pouring Concrete for the Substructures of New Bridge No. 163 over the West River
- Removal of Portions of the Temporary Work Trestle for Bridge No. 163
- Begin work on Mitigation Area off Compost Road
- Demolition of Existing Bridge No. 163 Substructure

POTENTIAL VIBRATION/NOISE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES:

- Daytime activities that may create vibrations and/or noise are scheduled to occur throughout the period from Monday, May 15, 2017 to Saturday, May 28, 2017.

Rainy days and flooding

Spring rain brings slippery road conditions and flooding. According to the Federal Highway Administration, rain was a culprit of 46 percent of all weather-related crashes from 2005 to 2014, and wet pavement in general accounted for 73 percent.

What makes rain and wet pavement so dangerous? For one, slippery roads reduce your car's handling and increase the distance it takes to stop (up to 4 times normal stopping distance). Big puddles can also cut down on tire traction and could lead to hydroplaning.

Winter road wear and tear

In many states, winter wreaks havoc on the roads. Snow plows, salt, sand, and the aftermath of ice can all leave roads a bit battered. Once snow melts away, expect to drive over new potholes.

Animal activity

Animals are incredibly active during the spring. Some are emerging from hibernation, and others are entering mating season. This could mean that more animals are crossing streets and roaming around. Many animals, especially deer, are most active at dawn or dusk.

More bicycles on the road

Spring also brings cyclists out of hibernation. Driving alongside cyclists can make traffic maneuvers, from turning right to parallel parking, more dangerous.

- **Check your lights:** Since spring rain hinders driving visibility, make sure all your lights work, including headlights, taillights, backup lights, turn signals, parking lights, and brake lights.
- **Replace your wiper blades:** Worn-out wiper blades may not be up to the task of clearing water away from your windshield. Check your wiper blades and replace them if necessary (usually once a year).
- **Check your tire pressure:** Harsh winter weather can deflate your tires. Make sure you have enough air in them once spring rolls around. (As a bonus, proper tire pressure can also help you increase your mpg.)
- **Slow down and drive carefully:** The first few rainy days of spring can produce exceptionally slippery roads due to oil and other leaked fluids mixing with rainwater, so slow down and increase your stopping distance when it's raining.
- **Keep your eyes peeled for bad road conditions:** Remember that harsh winter weather breeds potholes and other driving obstacles.
- **Watch out for animals:** This is especially important during the early morning and evening when animals are most active.



Driving Tapertube Piles at Br. 163 Abutment 1

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The Connecticut Department of Transportation is working to inform local residents of current and upcoming construction activities through bulletins such as this. For additional information on this Project and other Projects, please visit the Connecticut Department of Transportation Project website: (www.i95westriver.com). Please feel free to contact jean.streeto@ct.gov any questions, concerns or to add your contact information to our distribution list.