



National Park Service
U.S. Department of Interior

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal
National Historical Park

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C&O Canal National Historical Park News Release

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Maintaining the flow

\$6.7 Million in improvements coming to watered sections of the historic Chesapeake and Ohio Canal

Potomac, Md. - A \$6.7 million construction project will soon be underway to improve several locks, waste weirs, bridges and other water control structures within one of the most popular segments of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park (C&O Canal). These improvements will help the park's historic structures withstand impacts from Potomac River floods and make the features easier to maintain.

Construction is anticipated to begin on or about December 4, 2017 and extend until spring 2019 (weather dependent). Project work will focus on eight different areas between Little Falls and Swains Lock (Milepost 5-17). The exact timeframe for work will be determined soon. Please check out the C&O Canal website and social media for details.

To provide safe access to the work areas during the construction process, the canal will be drained in these areas at various times throughout the project. Draining operations began November 26, 2017. Precautions will be taken by the park to protect wildlife within the canal during these operations.

This project consists of work in the vicinity of the following areas of the C&O Canal: Swains Lock, Great Falls Tavern, Olmsted Island, Carderock, Rock Run Culvert, and Lock #7. During construction, visitors will be directed to follow easily navigable detours around the work areas.

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ABOUT THE C&O Canal: Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park preserves and interprets the historical, natural and recreational resources of the C&O Canal. Over 5,000,000 visitors a year enjoy the opportunities for recreation and understanding that the Park has to offer. For more information, visit the Park's website at www.nps.gov/choh.

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