

The Old Cedar Avenue Bridge project is underway!

The Old Cedar Avenue Parking lot and both trailheads from this lot (Bluff Trail and Hogback Ridge Trail) will be closed to the public starting on Monday, August 10 and are tentatively scheduled to re-open on Friday, October 16, 2015.

Work continues on the bridge and extensive repair work to the trails by Refuge staff was initiated in July. No public access will be allowed in the work zone for safety reasons due to heavy equipment and open trenches in the construction zone.



“We realize this is very inconvenient for visitors, but repairs are needed to the water control structures to manage water levels for wetland habitat. Summer is the time we have both the staff and the weather to make those repairs,” said Tim Bodeen, Refuge Manager.

Trail work will continue throughout the summer and into the fall. Trail use during that time will be subject to interruptions until the project is completed.

The final trail project will result in packed gravel accessible routes to a new boardwalk and wildlife viewing platform on Long Meadow Lake as well as a loop trail that travels to an overlook and an accessible fishing pier on Cedar Pond.

The Old Cedar Avenue project is scheduled to be complete by the fall of 2016. The project includes rehabilitating the historic bridge, creating a multi-use trail across the bridge, restroom facilities, improved trails, and landscaping with native plants.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working in partnership with the City of Bloomington on the bridge and infrastructure portion of the project, in addition to implementing their own plan to improve wildlife habitat, visitor accessibility, and wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities.

For more information on the city of Bloomington's construction activities, click here: <https://www.bloomingtonmn.gov/old-cedar-avenue-bridge-over-long-meadow-lake>