

September 5, 2017

**Media Contacts:**

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## **Ellicott City interceptor sewer siphon project to begin**

ELLICOTT CITY, MD – A Howard County and American Rivers construction project to replace the 12-inch diameter Bonnie Branch interceptor sewer is expected to begin on or about today, September 5. The interceptor sewer is a larger diameter sewer that receives sewage from the eight-inch diameter collector sewers in the area and conveys the sewage to progressively larger diameter interceptor sewers down to the treatment plant.

The portion of the Bonnie Branch interceptor being replaced is the siphon, also known as a pipeline, under the Patapsco River from the intersection of Ilchester Road and Bonnie Branch Road in Ellicott City on the west bank, to the opposite side of the river where it connects to the Patapsco interceptor sewer in Baltimore County. The project involves American Rivers' realignment of the Patapsco interceptor and demolition of Bloede Dam, and Howard County's replacement of the Bonnie Branch interceptor siphon under Capital Project S-6282. Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed by March 2019.

The northbound lane of Ilchester Road at Bonnie Branch Road will close to thru traffic intermittently during construction hours, Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. On occasion, northbound traffic will shift to the southbound lane at the site. Flagging operations will be in place to direct traffic as needed. Signs will be posted at the project site to advise motorists of the construction.

In addition, the Grist Mill Trail bridge in the Avalon area of Patapsco Valley State Park will be closed to pedestrians during the project.

This project will require the use of underground explosives. Small, controlled detonations will be used to fracture rock encountered in the sanitary sewer trench during excavation. All planned detonations will be posted and monitored per Code of Maryland Regulations and Howard County regulations. Homeowners within the impacted areas will be notified in advance by the contractor of planned detonations.

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## **Ellicott City interceptor sewer siphon project to begin** *(continued)*

The project is being funded in its entirety by American Rivers, a river conservation organization. For more information about American Rivers, visit its website at [www.americanrivers.org](http://www.americanrivers.org).

For questions or concerns about Capital Project S-6282, contact Lisa Brightwell, Public Works Customer Service, at 410-313-3440 or email [publicworks@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:publicworks@howardcountymd.gov).

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