

NEWS RELEASE: Dec. 16, 2010

Greene County temporarily closes McDaniel Lake Bridge

The Greene County Highway Department has temporarily closed the McDaniel Lake Bridge to traffic, due to safety concerns.

The Highway Department and the Missouri Department of Transportation conducted a regular biannual bridge inspection Wednesday, which led to concerns over the bridge's integrity. A more detailed engineering analysis is underway, but as a precaution, the bridge has been closed. For the present, motorists need to use alternate routes around McDaniel Lake.

"Our inspection found some issues with the bridge that caused us concern," said Duffy Mooney, Assistant Administrator for the Greene County Highway Department. "We need to investigate these issues further."

Greene County Presiding Commissioner Dave Coonrod emphasized the need to put safety ahead of convenience.

"As a matter of public safety, it's prudent and advisable that we temporarily close this bridge," said Coonrod. "We apologize for the inconvenience, but when it comes to life safety issues, you can't be too careful."

The bridge, located on Farm Road 76 between Farm Road 145 and Farm Road 151, was constructed in 1929, at the same time the McDaniel Lake dam was constructed. The concrete bridge spans McDaniel Lake, a distance of 403 feet. The bridge is a popular spot for anglers and sightseers, and while the bridge is closed to traffic, it remains open to pedestrians.

For more information, contact Duffy Mooney, Greene County Highway Department Assistant Administrator, at 417-831-3591, or Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer, at 417-829-6019 or 417-224-5510.

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