



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
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News Release

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— FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE —

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to intermittently close the Chesapeake City Bridge during testing

PHILADELPHIA (Sept. 22, 2005)---On Sept. 27, during the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' test of the Chesapeake City Bridge, there will be intermittent road closures while data are collected. Closures will begin late in the morning and end around noon with each closure lasting about 10 minutes.

During biennial inspections of the bridge, part of the Corps' bridge standard operations and maintenance procedures, cracks in the floor beam connection angles in the arch have been discovered. This condition presents no immediate danger to the public. The Corps and its consultant Pennoni Associates, Inc. are working to determine the cause and implement a solution.

Testing will consist of driving a truck across the bridge to determine deflection of the main span under load. This information will contribute to an ongoing study to evaluate and model the span to analyze the causes of cracking in the floor beam angles in the arch.

The temporary road closures are necessary to ensure the safety of test personnel and to obtain accurate results.

The Corps of Engineers is coordinating with the Maryland State Highway Administration to minimize disruption for Maryland Route 213 travelers crossing the bridge over the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal.

The approximately 4,300-foot-long, two-lane Chesapeake City Bridge was opened in 1949. It is one of four high level bridges spanning the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal owned, operated and maintained by the Corps. The others are Reedy Point Bridge (opened 1968), St. Georges Bridge (opened 1942) and Summit Bridge (opened 1960).