



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cuyahoga Valley
National Park

15610 Vaughn Road
Brecksville OH 44141

www.nps.gov/cuva
www.dayinthevalley.com

Cuyahoga Valley National Park News Release

For Immediate Release – Monday, December 14, 2009

Mary Pat Doorley, (440) 546-5995, (440) 343-7355 (cell), or mary_pat_doorley@nps.gov

Bridges Closed on Old Carriage Trail

Brecksville, Ohio – The National Park Service has closed the three bridges on the Old Carriage Trail in Sagamore Hills beginning Monday, December 14, 2009, for an indefinite period of time. The Old Carriage Trail will remain open except for bridge access. Engineers with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have determined the three bridges to be unsafe for pedestrian traffic due to accelerated deterioration on structural portions of the bridges. A more detailed engineering analysis will occur in January to determine the course of action to either repair or replace the bridges.

Old Carriage Trail, located on the eastern side of the Cuyahoga Valley between State Route 82 and Highland Road, is known for the beautiful steel box truss bridges. The bridges--Rocky Run (150' long), Twin Oaks (150'), and Hemlock (166')--were built in 1989 by a contractor with National Park Service funding for the amount of \$319,400. During routine maintenance in 2003, the structural steel of bridges had more than an acceptable amount of rust. Cleaning occurred, and routine maintenance and inspections increased. In 2008, the park requested a review by FHWA, and they recommended closing the bridges to maintenance vehicles. This November, FHWA made a second inspection of the bridges. Inspectors observed accelerated deterioration of bridge members, resulting in their recommendation to close the bridges to pedestrian traffic.

For more information, contact Project Manager Rob Bobel at (440) 546-5972.

The National Park Service has contacted a representative of the Greenwood Village Community Association, Inc., to discuss possible detour options. For up-to-date information visit www.nps.gov/cuva/park_closures.htm.

CVNP encompasses 33,000 acres along the Cuyahoga River between Cleveland and Akron. Managed by the National Park Service, CVNP combines cultural, historical, recreational, and natural activities in one setting. For more information about the park, visit www.nps.gov/cuva/ or www.dayinthevalley.com/ or call (330) 657-2752 or (800) 445-9667.

-NPS-