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C&O Canal National Historical Park News Release

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C&O Canal Intermittent Towpath Closures from Mile Marker 88.1 - 89.3

Downsville, MD - The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park (C&O) will be conducting geotechnical testing between McMahon's Mill (MM 81.1) and Lock 42 (MM 89.2) beginning January 9th, 2017. Visitors using this section of the towpath should expect intermittent closures and delays during this work.

Geotechnical testing gathers information to assist design planning for an upcoming towpath rehabilitation project. The final project, once completed, will improve towpath surfaces, restore historic retaining walls, and make this 0.9 mile area less susceptible to periodic high water events.

Due to the narrow width of the towpath in this area, it will not be safe for visitors to pass while work is in progress. Visitors should expect the closures between the hours of 7am - 4pm, Monday thru Friday. When the towpath is closed, visitors will be directed to follow the posted detour route. Closures and delays will continue through the week of January 16th, 2017.

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ABOUT THE C&O Canal: The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park preserves and interprets the historical, natural and recreational resources of the C&O Canal. Over 5,000,000 visitors a year enjoy the opportunities for recreation and understanding that the Park has to offer. For more information, visit the Park's website at <u>www.nps.gov/choh</u>.