



**DPW  
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**County Executive Steven R. Schuh**

Heritage Complex  
2662 Riva Road, MS 7409  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**Christopher J. Phipps, P.E.**  
**Department of Public Works**

September 20, 2018

Shiple's Choice Dam Rehabilitation  
Contract Number: Q543001

Dear Anne Arundel County Resident:

This is to advise you that Anne Arundel County is preparing to construct the above-referenced dam removal project. The County has authorized its construction contractor, Paydirt LLC, to upgrade the culvert under West Benfield Road and remove the Shiple's Choice Dam, which has been deemed unsafe by the Maryland Department of the Environment. This facility is a County maintained facility. Within the next few weeks, Paydirt will begin the necessary stakeouts and preparation for construction along West Benfield Road.

Phase 1 work requires West Benfield Road to be closed for approximately 6 months, beginning in early October 2018. Both lanes along this road will be closed between Pixie Drive and Severnside Drive. A variable message sign will be erected 2 weeks before the road closure begins and will display the exact start date of the closure.

Phase 1 construction includes the removal of the existing 66" culvert under West Benfield Road, between Pixie and Severnside Drive. A 7' x 10' concrete box culvert will be installed in its place. Prior to the culvert work, pipes will be installed to divert Bear Branch around the work area. Phase 1 work will also include the relocation of water, sewer, and gas lines. The stream channel upstream and downstream of the culvert will be lined with rock. All Phase 1 work along West Benfield Road should be completed by May 2019.

Phase 2 construction will commence in the summer 2019, after Phase 1 is completed. Phase 2 includes the removal of the Shiple's Choice Dam and restoration of Bear Branch after dam removal. The majority of the earth fill from the dam will be placed along the hillside just east of the dam, downslope from the Oak Stump Drive cul-de-sac. Phase 2 work should be completed by late fall 2019.

Oak Stump Drive will remain open during Phase 2 construction, but construction equipment will use this road to access the dam site.

We are asking for your cooperation with Anne Arundel County and Paydirt personnel, who will work near your property as needed to access the facilities. All field crews will have proper identification and be properly supervised.

If you should have questions or concerns, you may phone the Project Manager, Larry Mathena, at 410-222-7908 or email at [pwmath00@aacounty.org](mailto:pwmath00@aacounty.org).

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erik A. Michelsen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Erik Michelsen, Administrator  
Watershed Protection and Restoration Program  
Department of Public Works