



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Natchez Trace Parkway

Natchez Trace Parkway
2680 Natchez Trace Parkway
Tupelo, MS 38804

800-305-7417 phone
662-680-4033 fax

Natchez Trace Parkway News Release

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Contact: Chief of Maintenance Barry Boyd

Phone number: (662) 680-4020

NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY TO CLOSE 8-MILE SECTION SOUTH OF RIDGELAND, MS (Milepost 92.9 to 101.1)

The National Park Service will be closing an 8-mile section of the Natchez Trace Parkway to vehicular traffic on March 14, 2012, due to a major safety hazard that has developed near milepost 94.8 between Ridgeland, MS, and Clinton, MS. Engineers have identified the potential for collapse of the roadway due to instability in the embankment. Over the past year, several emergency repairs were completed; however, the section has continued to deteriorate to the point where it is unsafe for vehicular traffic.

Detour:

The closure will be in effect between I-55 and US 49. Additional travel time should be less than 10 minutes.

- Southbound traffic will exit the Parkway at I-55 South (MP 101.1), to I-220, to US 49 North, where traffic may reenter the Parkway.
- Northbound traffic will exit the Parkway at US 49 South (MP 92.9), to I-220 North, to I-55 North, where traffic may reenter the Parkway.

Duration:

The National Park Service is working with the Federal Highway Administration to make repairs to the roadway section. The duration of the closure could exceed one year.

Bicycle Traffic:

Bicycle traffic will not be affected by the closure. Engineers believe that a portion of one lane can safely remain open for bicycle traffic. This is subject to change dependent on future assessments of the road condition.