



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Philadelphia District

# News Release

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— FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE —

## **Army Corps to impose temporary lane and weight restrictions on old St. Georges Bridge**

PHILADELPHIA (May 23, 2008): The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers today announced that beginning Tuesday, May 27, both outside lanes across the old St. Georges Bridge (U.S. Route 13) will be closed, limiting traffic to one lane in each direction. Also, traffic will be restricted to vehicles weighing less than 15 tons.

Lane restrictions will remain in place as an extra safety measure until repairs can be made to the bridge's substructure and bearings, tentatively by the end of the calendar year. Repairs under the outside lanes will be done first. Once those are complete, the weight restriction will be lifted, the outside lanes will be reopened, and the inside lanes will be closed instead. After all repairs are completed, the bridge will be fully reopened.

During a recent inspection, the Corps identified concrete surface cracks and rebar corrosion in numerous bridge piers, along with numerous highly corroded and failing bearings under the bridge deck. None of this represents an immediate danger to the public; the overall bridge structure remains sound. However, these deteriorated conditions have reduced the margin of safety. Lane and weight restrictions address this problem by limiting the load on the bridge, thus allowing time for the Corps to institute daily monitoring, conduct further analysis, and make the appropriate repairs to safely return the bridge to full operation.