



INFORMATION RELEASE

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NR 15-259
July 30, 2015

IMPROVEMENTS TO HIGHWAY 27 WILL REQUIRE LANE CLOSURE IN HEMPSTEAD COUNTY

LITTLE ROCK (7-30) – Improvements to Highway 27 will require lane closures in Hempstead County, according to Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) officials.

Crews will seal Highway 27 with Bituminous Surface Treatment (liquid asphalt and pea gravel). The work will extend from the Howard County line near Nashville, to the Pike County Line toward Murfreesboro. The work will reduce traffic to one lane within the work zone. Traffic will be controlled using warning signs, flaggers and a pilot vehicle.

The closure will occur **Monday, August 10th through Thursday, August 13th** between 7:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., weather permitting.

Bituminous surface treatment is a proven method of sealing cracks and providing a durable wearing surface utilizing local materials at an economical cost. Although loose material is swept from the roadway after the treatment is placed, it usually takes from four to eight days from the time the material is placed until the pea gravel is fully bonded to the roadway. The time varies with the length of the section being surfaced and weather conditions. Therefore reduced speeds are recommended for 2 weeks following the work.

In the past, this treatment has been primarily used on low traffic volume roads. However, due to the fiscal uncertainty and the absence of an Overlay Program, this low cost method is being used in higher traffic areas. This is unavoidable due to the lack of funding versus the need to preserve pavement.

Drivers should exercise caution when approaching and traveling through all highway work zones. Additional travel information can be found at IDriveArkansas.com or ArkansasHighways.com. You can also follow us on [Twitter @AHTD](https://twitter.com/AHTD).

