

TVA CONSTRUCTION UPDATE 9-7-2014

Soon you will be seeing highway construction activity at the intersection of Hwy 444 and the entrance and exit ramps for Hwy 321. As always, please obey all construction warning and speed limit signs. Flagmen will be on site to help direct traffic so please be careful. Some of the work will require partial closure of Hwy 444.

TVA has nearly completed the earthen berm adjacent to the Tellico Dam Recreation Area, and by mid-September you will see the removal of the Hesco sand baskets that were installed in that area in December 2009. During this work and the final grading and seeding; the access road to the beach and picnic areas will be closed through late October. At the same time TVA will remove over 300 feet of the sand baskets and concrete barriers under the bridge along the entrance ramp to westbound Hwy 321. This work will be done during non-peak traffic times. The next 500 feet of baskets and barriers on that ramp will be removed eventually, but that work has not been scheduled. Removal of these barriers will restore the view of Fort Loudoun Lake that we enjoyed before the TVA Dam Safety Project began.

Beginning in late September the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) will begin work to raise the elevation of the road intersection mentioned above (watch for a TDOT announcement in the newspaper and on their website). The raised roadway is part of the TVA Dam Safety Project. The roadway will be on top of the barrier system berm in the area of the intersection, which is why the sand basket removal described above can be done. This design also restores the view of Tellico Lake in the area of the intersection. All of the road work will take place at night, from 7 PM to 4 AM. One lane at a time will be closed for the work to proceed. This construction is planned to be completed in about a week. During that time, the entrance road to the Recreation Area will be closed each day from early morning to mid-afternoon. The boat ramp will be accessible for a short period in the afternoon until 7 PM when work resumes on the intersection.

Construction of the concrete flood barrier on top of the Tellico Dam has begun. Wall construction should be completed up to the concrete part of the dam by the end of this year. The wall will have a decorative leaf pattern formed into the concrete and will be painted the same color as the recently completed wall at Saddle Dam 3 (near the twin silos). [See pictures following.](#) The hiking trail on top of Tellico Dam should reopen early next year.

Construction at Saddle Dam 2 is complete and TVA expects to reopen the hiking trail there by the end of September. The gravel lay-down area at Saddle Dam 3 will be used

again for temporary storage of removed barriers, so be alert for truck traffic in that area again.



