

Work begins on I-43 bridge rehabilitation project

Written by MARK JAEGER

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Orange barrels will be part of the Ozaukee County landscape for the next year, as the Wisconsin Department of Transportation has begun a \$9.8 million bridge rehabilitation project on I-43 from Sauk Road to the Sheboygan County line.

Work began Monday, July 15, and is expected to continue until November. Construction will shut down for the winter, and then resume next spring.

According to the DOT, the bridge repair and painting work will continue through 2014.

Lunda Construction is the contractor.

The project will focus on four bridges over I-43 this year — at Sauk Road and Northwoods Road in the Town of Saukville, and Highway B and Highway 32/Highway H on the north side of Port Washington.

The bridges will be closed to through traffic during construction, with the exception of the Highway 32 bridge, which will be staged in halves to allow for two-way traffic.

A DOT spokesperson said the construction should not hamper out-of-town visitors coming to Port Washington for Saturday's Fish Day festivities. If weather cooperates, work on the Highway 32 bridge is expected to start next week.

The bridge projects will include full deck replacements at Sauk Road and Highway 32. Pavement overlays are planned at the Northwoods Road and Highway B bridges.

To accommodate the deck work, a series of short-term overnight bridge closures are scheduled throughout the summer.

Additional work this year will include inside and outside shoulder repaving along northbound and southbound I-43, which will require overnight lane closures this month and in early September to accommodate removal of the bridge decks.

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