



FORSYTHCOUNTY
Department of Communications

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BIG CREEK GREENWAY TO RE-OPEN

FORSYTHCOUNTY, Georgia – The section of the Big Creek Greenway from McFarland Parkway to Union Hill Road that has been closed is scheduled to re-open for use by 5 p.m. on Friday, May 27. On the boardwalk portion of this section of the trail, a number of decking joists beneath the boardwalk had broken. Boards in this section were replaced and enhanced, using larger and stronger boards designed to provide increased durability.

Factors the county believes contributed to the need for these repairs include damage from repeated flooding and equipment that may have exceeded the structure's load capacity. Evidence has shown that the public is accessing the Greenway with unauthorized vehicles, including ATVs, from a variety of points along the trail.

It is very important that the rules of the Big Creek Greenway are adhered to, for the safety of all who utilize the trail. Unauthorized vehicles, off-road vehicles and golf carts are not permitted on the Greenway. The only vehicles authorized to be on the Greenway are those Forsyth County government service vehicles and specialized emergency response vehicles that have been evaluated and pre-approved for such use, and wheelchairs for the handicapped.

The county is taking measures to try to prevent such activity from happening in the future. New signage has been installed along the trail. Existing bollards (posts which restrict traffic) along the trail were enhanced and additional ones added in areas where people may be circumventing the current ones and accessing the boardwalk with unauthorized vehicles.

The work was performed by Reliant Construction and county staff. The total cost for replacing and enhancing the boardwalk in this section and the other related work was approximately \$50,000. Funding for this work came from the \$100 million Parks, Recreation and Green Space Bond.

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