



**New York State
Parks, Recreation and
Historic Preservation**

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Contact:

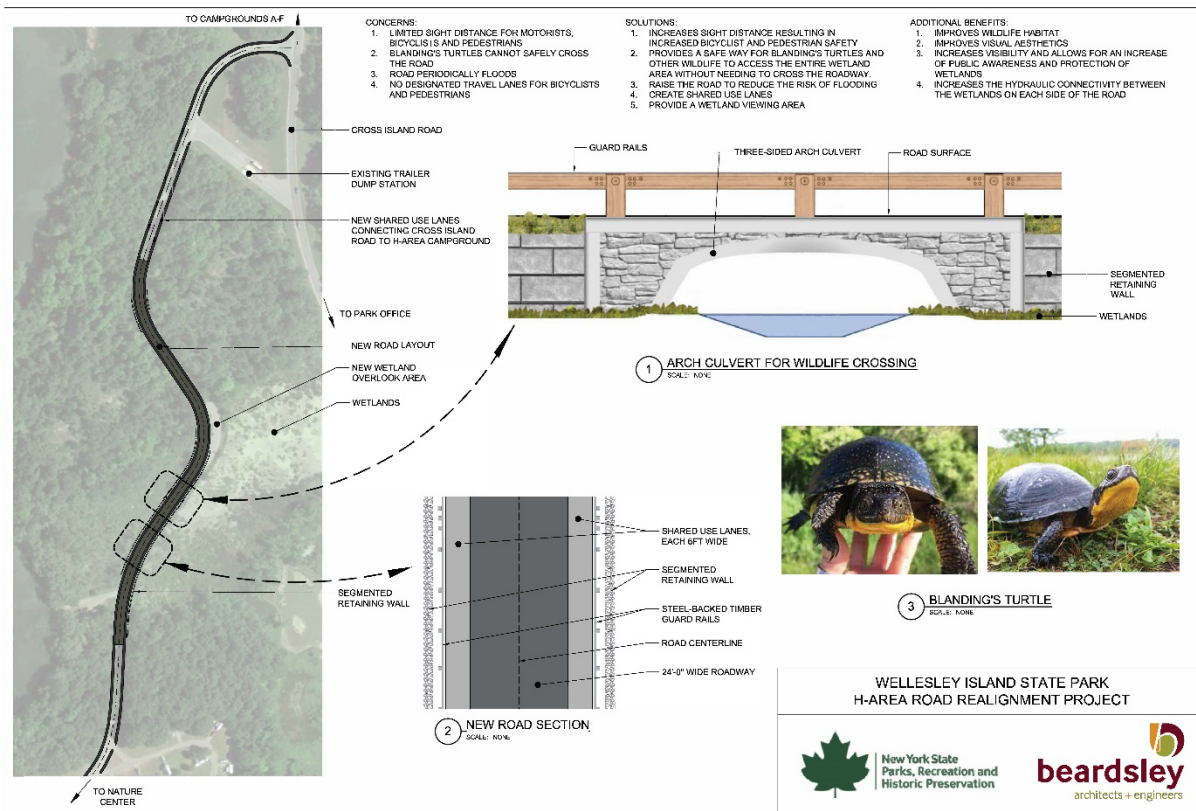
Wellesley Island State Park
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WELLESLEY ISLAND STATE PARK H-AREA ROAD REALIGNMENT PROJECT

On Monday, September 25th the Minna Anthony Common Nature Center in Wellesley Island State Park will close for a few weeks to complete much needed repairs and upgrades to the H-Area section of Nature Center Road. This winding section of roadway was known to have limited sight distances, periodic flooding, and lack of safe crossing for wildlife. Improvements will provide solutions to these long-standing concerns as well as provide additional benefits.

A new road section with improved layout will be installed that incorporates an arch culvert for wildlife crossing. Solutions include raising the road to reduce the risk of flooding and increasing sight distances resulting in increased bicyclist and pedestrian safety. A three-sided arch culvert will provide a safe way for the endangered Blanding's turtles and other wildlife to access the entire wetland area without needing to cross the roadway. The project will also create shared use lanes for pedestrians and bicyclists that connect Cross Island Road to the H-Area campground and provide a new wetland overlook area for park patrons. New York State Parks is coordinating with Beardsley Architecture + Engineering firm of Syracuse, NY on design and construction.

During the closure, Nature Center staff will continue to offer public programming at other locations within Wellesley Island State Park as well as other State Parks within the Thousand Islands region. The Nature Center's website (macnaturecenter.com) and Facebook page (facebook.com/macnaturecenter) will have up-to-date information about programs and construction progress.



Upcoming improvements to roadway safety, wildlife crossing, and visitor amenities along the H-Area section of Nature Center Road in Wellesley Island State Park.

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