Rehabilitation of Bridge 3-249

Fleetwood Pond Rd over Fleetwood Pond

(DelDOT Contract T202407902)

Setting the Scene:

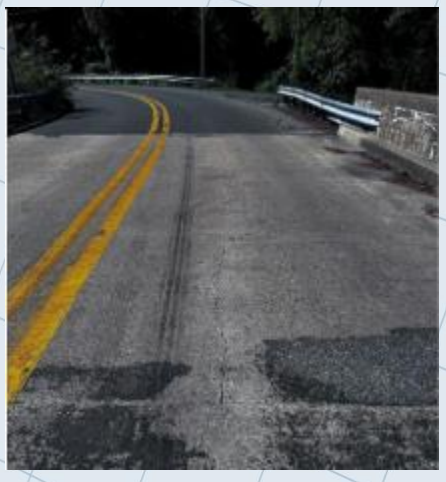
Bridge 3-249 is owned and maintained by DelDOT and lies east of Seaford, spanning the Fleetwood Pond Spillway. The existing structure consists of three adjoining box culverts with a concrete slab on top.

BR 3-249, constructed in 1967, is 32 feet long and carries both directions of Fleetwood Pond Road. This bridge carries an annual average of 566 vehicles per day, 17 percent of which are trucks.

Location of Bridge 3-249

Why is the bridge being worked on?

This bridge is safe, and the planned rehabilitation will keep this bridge in good working order for years to come. DelDOT inspects bridges every two years. During the last inspection in 2025, the inspectors noted evidence of minor-to-moderate concrete deterioration. The concrete deck is showing signs of wear. There are cracks running the length of the bridge that allows water, debris, winter salt treatments, etc. to enter the concrete and deteriorate the concrete deck. DelDOT frequently selects bridges like this for sealing the deck to repair the cracks and extend the life of the deck. The culvert walls, the bridge rails and the wingwalls all exhibit signs of minor to moderate concrete deterioration that requires remediation. The bridge was rated as "Fair" condition. A "Fair" condition rating is defined by Federal standard as "all primary structural elements are sound but may have minor section loss, cracking, spalling, or scour." These repairs will reestablish the bridge within the "Good" condition rating.



Surface deck cracking running the length of the deck (longitudinal cracking)

Detail of 1/4 inch crack on the deck surface

See reverse side for additional information

How do we stop the concrete from deteriorating?

DelDOT plans different remedies for different locations of the bridge. The concrete deck surfaces will be coated with an epoxy resin that will seal the cracks and waterproof the concrete. Cleaning and new concrete will repair some spots on the wingwalls where concrete has deteriorated. Crack sealing inside the culverts will address water intrusion that is causing rust stains to appear along the interior walls. Similarly, chemical cleaning of the exterior surfaces will remove efflorescence, which appears as white staining on some spots. Epoxy crack sealant applied to the exterior surfaces will limit how much water and corrosive materials can get into the structure. The exterior surfaces will be painted to add an additional layer of protection.

Rust staining on interior walls of the culvert is a sign that water and other fluids are getting into the structure.

Efflorescence, showing as white leaching down the side of exterior wall, is a sign of minor chemical reaction in the concrete.

How will this impact my travel along Fleetwood Pond Road and when is this taking place?

This project will require a complete road closure at the bridge site due to the nature of the work. Because of the nature of the work, DelDOT takes into account air temperature, weather conditions, placement of work equipment for the contractor crews, and scheduling for the crew availability. The work, and the road closure, is anticipated to take 4 weeks. We anticipate work to begin late summer of 2026.

Temporary detour routes will be put in place at the start of the work. Northbound motorists will turn right onto Baker Mill Rd, then turn left onto Asbury Rd, then turn left onto Old Furnace Rd, and arrive back at Fleetwood Pond Rd. Southbound motorists will use Old Furnace Rd, then turn right onto Asbury Rd, then turn right onto Baker Mill Rd, and arrive back at Fleetwood Pond Rd.

Who can I contact with more questions, and how?

Any questions, comments or concerns should be directed to DelDOT Community Relations at 302-760-2080 or you may contact us by e-mail at dotpublic@delaware.gov. Please include the project name or contract number when contacting us to expedite our response to any inquiry.