

**North Carolina Department of Transportation
Bridge Replacement Plan for
Ocracoke Island, NC**

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is scheduled to replace seven bridges on North Carolina Highway 12 beginning January 2, 2008. NCDOT has provided the following information:

- NC 12 from the ferry docks (Hatteras Ferry) at the northern end of the island will be closed to most vehicular traffic beginning January 2, 2008 through March 15, 2008. During this time, limited access to 4-wheel drive vehicles ONLY, will be available to those vehicles willing to drive on the beach side of NC 12 at low tide.
- Beginning March 15, 2008, NC 12 will reopen, even though the bridges will not be completed by that time. Traffic will be limited to one lane and/or stop/go with flagmen directing traffic, while they complete the job. It is anticipated that May 15, 2008 will be the completion date.
- During the 75-day closure, the North Carolina Ferry Division will have a ferry on stand-by on Ocracoke that can take emergencies to Hatteras Island. The Cape Hatteras National Park Service has emergency equipment available to travel on the beach in case of an emergency during this time.
- Otherwise, residents and visitors alike will have to travel to/from Ocracoke via the Swan Quarter or Cedar Island Ferries which take approximately 2 hour and 40 minutes travel time.

It is essential that visitors planning to travel to Ocracoke during this time plan their trips very carefully. A website will soon be established that will provide additional information on this situation: www.ocracokebridges.com .

Additional information about the Swan Quarter and Cedar Island ferries is available at: www.ncferry.org or by calling the following toll-free numbers:

Swan Quarter Ferry Terminal – 800-773-1094

Cedar Island Ferry Terminal – 800-856-0345

Ocracoke Ferry Terminal – 800-345-1665

Visitors please also note: Many Ocracoke Island businesses (accommodations, places to eat and shop, etc.) will alter their normal operating hours/days/dates during this time. It is a good idea for you to call ahead and check with them prior to your arrival on Ocracoke.

*Thank you for your patience during this time.
We trust that your visit to Ocracoke will be enjoyable,
in spite of this inconvenience!
The Number One Beach in America
is a great place to visit, just be sure to plan ahead!*