

Reservoir Expansion Beginning Soon

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Construction of the second phase of the town's West Fork Eno Reservoir will begin later this month.

The project will begin with the town lowering the water level in the reservoir approximately four feet, so the project contractor can renovate the reservoir's dam and spillway. While this work is being done, the N.C. Department of Transportation will rebuild a nearby section of Efland-Cedar Grove Road. NCDOT had already planned to straighten a curve in the road, which also needed to be raised for the reservoir expansion, so the two projects are being done at the same time. NCDOT will detour traffic around its worksite from April 2 until work is completed.

Once the dam, spillway and NCDOT work are complete, the town's contractor will begin clearing land around the reservoir by building access roads and removing timber from the area to be submerged. Once the NCDOT project is complete, Carr Store Road also will be raised and will receive a new bridge to accommodate the higher water level.

The entire reservoir will be raised about 10 feet, which will provide adequate water supply for the town's future growth. All of the land affected by the project is already owned by the town. The expansion project should be completed in late 2018 or early 2019.

The West Fork Eno Reservoir, planned as a two-phase project in the 1990s, began construction in 1998. The first phase was completed in 2000.