

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE OF GEORGIA

SAMPLE RETENTION & DISPOSAL

During the execution of geotechnical studies for bridges, soil surveys, retaining walls, and other ancillary structures, there are seven primary types of samples collected. The sample types include:

- ◆ Split spoon samples collected in conjunction with soil test borings
- ◆ Bag samples for GDOT series 810.2 laboratory testing
- ◆ Bulk samples for laboratory soil support testing
- ◆ Undisturbed soil samples (Shelby tubes)
- ◆ Rock cores
- ◆ Soil & water samples for laboratory corrosion series testing
- ◆ Small “grab” samples associated with soft/wet/muck areas of surface soil along a project alignment for laboratory testing

Sample collection, transport and storage should be in strict accordance with industry standards, including applicable ASTM and GDOT Sampling & Testing Manuals, Vols. I & II requirements, and the guidelines included other sections of this manual.

If laboratory testing is required, much of the sample collected will be expended during the course of testing. For the remaining sample and other samples not consumed in laboratory testing, the following guidelines are offered for sample retention:

- ◆ All samples should be retained until issuance of the final report and the GDOT and/or design engineer have had a reasonable length of time to review the report (say 3 weeks).
- ◆ After the review and comment period associated with the final report, all soil and water samples can be disposed of.
- ◆ All rock core samples should be properly stored until construction is complete. The exception is that construction sometimes does not start within a reasonable period of time. Therefore, the maximum length of time a consultant is expected to store rock core samples is three years after issuance of the final report.