

# PRESSALERT

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**For Immediate Release:**

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## GEORGIA DOT BEGINS MOWING THE ROADSIDES OF HIGHWAY 53 IN PICKENS COUNTY

**WHAT** A Georgia DOT's maintenance crew is set to work next week on mowing the roadsides of State Route (SR) 53 in Pickens County. Work will proceed daily between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., weather permitting.

The Georgia DOT maintains more than 750,000 acres of highway right-of-way. That amounts to a lot of grass to mow, brush and weeds to control, and land to maintain. Some of this roadside land is located in the medians of divided highways and the interiors of interchanges. GDOT has developed a responsive roadside management program that benefits many. Some of the major benefits of this program include fewer accidents by GDOT mowers on dangerous slopes; reduced mowing saves money for tax payers and GDOT; pleasing roadside appearance; less erosion of roadsides; and restricts growth of unwanted vegetation. GDOT spends approximately \$44 million annually on mowing and litter pickup. It is done for safety, vegetation control, improved drainage, and aesthetic reasons.

**WHEN:** Monday, July 13 through Thursday, July 16, 2015 from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

**WHERE** SR 53 in Pickens County

*DriveAlert ArriveAlive* calls attention to an alarming increase in roadway fatalities across Georgia, many resulting from preventable crashes and distracted driving. *DriveAlert ArriveAlive* implores motorists to buckle up; stay off the phone and no texting; and drive alert. Visit [www.dot.ga.gov/DS/SafetyOperation/DAAA](http://www.dot.ga.gov/DS/SafetyOperation/DAAA). #ArriveAliveGA For more information about Georgia DOT, visit [www.dot.ga.gov](http://www.dot.ga.gov). You also may follow us on ([www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT-Northwest](https://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT-Northwest)) and *Twitter* (<https://twitter.com/GDOTNW>).

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