



For Immediate Release:

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SHOULDER REPAIR BEGINS ON HIGHWAY 53 IN PICKENS

JASPER, Ga. – A Georgia DOT crew begins today its work on repairing the shoulders of State Route (SR) 53 in Pickens County. Work will proceed daily Tuesday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., weather permitting.

DOT maintains over 4929 miles of road shoulders in Northwest Georgia. Shoulder rebuilding maintenance operations often consist of reshaping continuous sections of road shoulder using a grader or a truck-mounted material conveyor to restore the shoulder to its original condition. This same activity is used for shoulder restoration following resurfacing projects. Safety is a top priority for Georgia DOT.

Highways with well-maintained shoulders have lower accident rates, as they provide space to make evasive maneuvers, accommodate driver error and add a recovery area to regain control of a vehicle. Shoulders also provide structural support to the roadway pavement and help discharge water further from the travel lanes, reducing the undermining of the base and subgrade of the highway.

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. #ArriveAliveGA For information on the Department of Transportation, visit <http://www.dot.ga.gov>. You also may like us on (www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT-Northwest) and Follow us on *Twitter* (<https://twitter.com/GDOTNW>).

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