



**USE OF CLEAN EARTHEN AND ROCK MATERIALS,  
RECOVERED CLEAN CONCRETE, AND/OR CURED ASPHALT  
AS A STRUCTURAL FILL MATERIAL**

**Authority:** Rules for Solid Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4

**DEFINITIONS**

**Aggregate:** Mineral materials such as sand or stone.

**Clean Concrete:** Concrete that is free of added paints, insulators, reinforcing materials, sealers, or any other material, which would have a potential for contaminating groundwater.

**Clean Earthen and Rock Materials:** Soil and rock materials that have not been exposed to, or mixed with, solid waste, petroleum products, or chemical contaminants. These materials include excess soil/rock from excavations as well as left-over mined materials such as dimension stone fines, dimension stone spalls, etc.

**Cured Asphalt:** Recovered asphaltic concrete that is in a solid state at ambient environmental temperatures.

**Dimension Stone Fines:** Small stone particles usually resulting from sawing, grinding, or polishing dimension stone with abrasive grit and water or other mechanical method. The process producing the dimension stone fines must be water based and not include the use of oils or chemicals.

**Dimension Stone Spalls:** Dimension Stone portions including slabs, blocks, and pieces removed from monolithic commercial dimension stone products during processing by cutting, breaking, or chipping. May also include dimension stone rejected during processing due to cracking, staining, or other defects. The process producing the dimension stone spalls must be water based and must not include the use of oils or chemicals.

**Engineered Plan:** A plan for the construction, development, and management of a facility prepared by a professional engineer registered to practice in Georgia.

**Inert Waste Landfill:** Means a disposal facility accepting only wastes that will not be likely to cause production of leachate of environmental concern. Such wastes are limited to earth and earth-like products, concrete, cured asphalt, rock bricks, yard trimmings, stumps, limbs, and leaves.

**Recovered Materials:** Means those materials which have a known use, reuse, or recycling potential; can be feasibly used, reused or recycled; and have been diverted or removed from the solid waste stream for sale, use, reuse, or recycling, whether or not requiring subsequent separation and processing.

**Structural Fill:** The material used to build up a piece of land or embankment, such as earth, gravel, or other materials capable of equivalent performance regarding engineering specifications.

## GUIDANCE

**Structural fill** materials composed of **clean earthen and rock materials, recovered clean concrete, and/or cured asphalt** may be excluded from regulation as **inert waste** disposal under the Rules for Solid Waste Management, when they are used to build up a piece of land or an embankment and when they meet the **following requirements**:

To be considered a **recovered material**, there must be a need for **aggregate** in a construction project and it must be appropriate for such **aggregate** to be composed of, or created from, **clean earthen and rock materials, recovered clean concrete, and/or cured asphalt**.

Once the need for the **aggregate** has been demonstrated, the use of the **recovered material** to be used as **aggregate** must be included in an **engineered plan** with specific construction criteria. The criteria must include the size requirement for the **aggregate** and minimum compaction requirements for the construction of the **structural fill**.

The **engineered plan** must be approved in writing by the local government prior to using the **recovered materials** to construct a **structural fill**.

Any construction utilizing **recovered materials** as **structural fill** material must be managed by a professional engineer registered to practice in Georgia to assure that the approved use has been followed.

If the guidance is not followed, the placement of recovered **clean earthen and rock materials, recovered clean concrete, and/or cured asphalt** will be considered disposal of inert waste and must comply with all the requirements for disposal of **inert waste** as set forth in the Rules for Solid Waste Management. The guidance does not relieve the users of any obligation or responsibility for complying with the provisions of any other laws or regulations of any Federal, local, or additional State authority. Also, this guidance does not impact the 1993 Memorandum of Agreement between the Georgia Department of Transportation and Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division concerning common fill material.



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Date

**Replaces and supersedes: 2010 Guidance for USE OF RECOVERED CLEAN CONCRETE AND/OR CURED ASPHALT AS A STRUCTURAL FILL MATERIAL**