

Pete Cady's Core Sampler



Materials (I bought the first 4 items from a plumbing supply store for \$92. Home Depot doesn't have these except for the pipe.)

- 4' x 1 1/2" type M copper pipe
- 1 1/2" coupling that goes from sweated fitting to threaded fitting
- steel drive cap that threads into coupling
- 1 1/2" diameter steel hanger straps
- wood for handles (I used 3/4 x 1 1/2 x 12" oak)
- bolt to use as pin to hold handle in place
- dowel or pipe with disc on end for removing core from pipe
- plug for hole in drive cap
- bolts to hold handles to straps

Construction

1. Thread drive cap onto coupling. Teflon tape helps prevent galvanic action between steel and copper. Coupling will slide onto pipe.
2. Sharpen one end of pipe with file or grinder.
3. Using a drill or drill press, drill center holes through the straps and pipe (about 4" from unsharpened end of pipe). For ease of use, holes in steel should be loose for the pin, and the holes in the pipe should be snug.
4. Drill holes so that there are two bolt holes for each handle.
5. Cut and shape pieces of wood for handles, and bolt to straps.
6. Improvise a plug for hole in drive cap.
7. Size a wooden disc for the inside diameter of the pipe and attach it to the end of a 4'+ stick, pipe, rod, or dowel.

Opening air holes when driving the sampler (use a masonry or sledge hammer) is important. Closing them when removing the sampler from the ground is also important. The pin acts to close the pipe holes.