



C&D DEBRIS SC
REUSE ■ RECYCLE ■ RETHINK

BUILD A SUCCESSFUL JOB SITE C&D DEBRIS RECYCLING PLAN

The sustainable management of construction and demolition (C&D) debris at a job site has both environmental and economic benefits for builders/contractors. Reuse, repurposing and recycling can result in the recovery of a considerable amount of material. In turn, these responsible practices allow builders/contractors to reduce waste and conserve resources as well as lower disposal costs, eliminate expenses for new material, earn revenue from the sale of recovered material and be more competitive on job bids.

Here are 10 easy steps on how to build a successful and profitable C&D debris recycling plan. The list is not all inclusive, but a beginning.

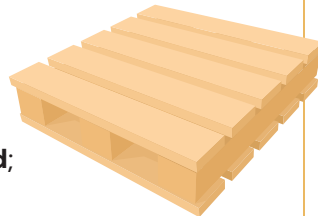
1 Keep it simple.

The plan does not need to be lengthy or complicated to work.

2 Identify material that can be recycled.

When taking inventory, consider:

- **Material that is valuable and/or easy to recover in large quantities;**
- **Amount of material expected;** and
- **Possible contamination by hazardous material** (e.g., asbestos, lead).



3 Select a diversion method.

With an estimate of the amount and type of material that can be recovered, decide how to collect and deliver it to recycling service providers. Builders/contractors can:

- **Collect and self-haul recovered material to a recycling and/or solid waste processing facility;**
- **Hire a salvage company to recover job-site material that is reusable;** or
- **Hire a recycling service provider.**

4 Find a recycler.

If hiring a recycler, the ultimate goal is to identify a vendor that can deliver the desired services in an efficient, cost-effective manner. When meeting with potential vendors, discuss:



- **Type, quality and amount of material that can be accepted;**
- **How the material should be stored** (i.e., separated or mixed);
 - Source separation typically improves the recycling rate and increases the value of the material by keeping it clean – providing more revenue to the builder/contractor.
- **Commingling material** reduces the number of containers needed and saves space – but usually results in lower recycling rate than source-separation programs.
- **Type, size and number of containers needed;**
- **Container placement;** and
- **Cost for all services.**



Continued on back

5 Do a cost-benefit analysis.

Calculate the cost for traditional disposal. Take the following into account:

- **Labor;**
- **Transportation** (e.g., gasoline, mileage); and
- **Tipping fees.**

Compare these expenses with the costs for recycling. Always include:

- **Revenue earned on selling the material or savings on future projects resulting from reusing the material;** and
- **Environmental benefits – companies often become more attractive to clients because of their environmental stewardship** (e.g., conserving resources, saving energy).

6 Finalize the pick-up plan.

Make sure the following items are in place with the recycler. The plan must have:

- **A schedule – this can be a pre-agreed time or per request;**
- **Documentation that shows the type and amount of material recovered;** and
- **Documentation to ensure hauler is delivering material to the proper recycling location and not to a landfill.**

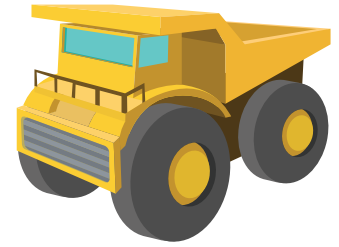
7 Place containers wisely.

Everything is worked out and it's time to find the right location for the recycling containers. It is important to account for:

- **Ease of Use** – Make sure recycling containers are easily accessible by workers; and
- **Safety** – Make sure the public has limited access to the containers/storage; and
- **Appearance** – Make sure the site appears orderly and will not raise concerns with nearby residents or businesses.

8 Promote the program.

After all logistical plans have been established for the separation, storage and recycling of C&D material, inform employees and contractors of the new operating procedures. They will need to know:



- **Why this is important;**
- **How to properly separate material;**
- **Where material should go;** and
- **How often material will be collected.**

9 Manage the program.

Designate a leader. The responsibilities for the individual and/or team include:

- **Providing continuing education for the crew and contractors;**
- **Addressing any language barriers;** and
- **Coordinating and supervising the recycling effort to maximize recovery.**

10 Prevent contamination.

Adopt the following strategies:

- **Clearly label recycling bins and waste containers;**
- **Post lists of material that can and cannot be recycled;**
- **Conducting regular inspections to verify the crew is recycling right;** and
- **Providing feedback to the crew on the results.**

Visit scdhec.gov/cdrecycling or call 1-800-768-7348 for more information.



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