



Debris Recovery Plans and Reports

Each year, over 4 million tons of construction and demolition (C&D) debris is disposed of in California landfills, approximately 21% of all wastes sent to landfill come from the construction and demolition industry. Much of this material can be reused and recycled.

You are required to recycle a minimum of **50%** (by weight) of the waste generated at the job site. Job site waste includes materials from an existing on site structure. The highest and best use for these materials is to salvage them. If you use a deconstruction/salvage company (or equivalent effect) and recover the maximum amount of salvageable designated and reusable materials from the deconstruction phase, those salvaged materials will qualify towards meeting the diversion goals of 50% and you will receive 3 points for engaging in deconstruction.

For materials that are generated during the construction phase, the easiest and most cost effective ways to manage C&D materials are to use the materials again on site. For example, grind wood waste on site into 2 ½ inch wood chips for soil erosion control or plant mulch. Clean scrap wallboard can be ground and beneficially applied on the construction site rather than be transported to the landfill or recycling center. Reusing materials on site qualifies towards meeting the minimum diversion goals of 50%.

You can receive **2** additional points for recycling 65% of the waste and **2** more additional points (for a total of 4 all together) for recycling 80% or more of all the job site waste. Refer to the Debris Recycling Plan matrix on the following page which will assist you in developing a strategy to manage the different types of debris generated on the job site.

To locate facilities and service providers who can recycle C&D debris, follow the Green Building link from the home page of the County Development Services Office website (sccbuilding.org). Santa Clara County does not have recycling requirements and hauling restrictions beyond those required for GreenPoint Rated certification. You must use the BIG Waste Management forms to record and verify that your project meets recycling requirements (see website).

There are two forms to be completed and submitted. You must demonstrate that at least 50% of the waste generated during construction was diverted from landfill. You will need to provide receipts and/or gate-tags from all facilities and services providers used for deconstruction, reuse, recycling and disposal of jobsite debris.

Complete and submit the following forms:

1. The Debris Recovery Plan: Pre-Demolition/Pre-Construction identifies the types of materials expected to be generated from the project, how the materials will be managed (reused, recycled, disposed) and who will be handling the materials. This is to be submitted at the beginning of the project – prior to any construction activities.
2. The Debris Recovery Statement: Post Demolition/Construction is to be completed when all construction and demolition activities are finished. This report indicates the *types* and *amounts* (by weight) of debris that were actually generated. Receipts or gate-tags for all materials must accompany the completed statement to verify how the materials were managed (i.e. reused, recycled, or disposed).