

**SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES
FOR BUILDING OWNERS AND OCCUPANTS**

REUSE OF BUILDING MATERIALS

**RECYCLED MATERIALS
CONSTRUCTION
DEMOLITION**

Recycled Materials



Background:

Developers must focus on the details when it comes to the long-term life cycle of a building, including the building's location, resource consumption, and environmental impact. One detail to consider during development is the materials used during construction, including the use of recycled materials.

Concept:

Two main goals:

1. To minimize environmental impacts and damage
2. To use materials efficiently

Benefits of Recycled Materials:

- Reduction of material and waste disposal costs
- Increased competitive advantage
- Reduced CO² emissions
- Responding to preemptive changes in public policy



Interested in using recycled materials?
 For a list of companies and sites that manufacture and/or sell recyclable materials approved by the US Green Buildings Council, [click here.](#)

TARGET GROUP	WHAT CAN I DO
All members of the Rochester Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition to using materials that contain more recycled content
Developer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A variety of credits are available via Green Building rating systems (such as LEED, Envision, Enterprise Green Communities, among others) by incorporating recycled materials into the design of new or existing buildings

Sources: <https://www.usgbc.org/search/Recycled%20materials>

Construction and Demolition Waste



Background:

- Reducing waste is an important factor impacting the environment during the building process.

The EPA defines three ways to reduce waste:

- **Source Reduction:** the practice of purchasing, or using materials in ways that reduce the amount/toxicity of trash created.
- **Re-use:** stops waste at its source; delays or avoids item's entry into the waste collection and disposal system.
- **Recycling:** converts materials that would otherwise become waste into valuable resources.

Concept:

Reducing, reusing and recycling will help reduce the demand for natural resources such as trees, water, and fossil fuels.

Did you know?

534 million tons of construction and demolition (C&D) debris were generated in the United States, in 2014—more than twice the amount of generated municipal solid waste¹.

Typical Construction and Demolition Materials²:

- Concrete
- Asphalt
- Wood
- Glass
- Metals
- Brick
- Windows, doors
- Materials with environmental concerns (lead, PCBs, asbestos, mold, mercury)

TARGET GROUP	WHAT CAN I DO
<p>All members of the Rochester Community</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively consider ways to re-use materials in your home instead of buying new. • If dealing with the removal, encapsulation, enclosure, repair or the disturbance of friable and non-friable asbestos, refer to the requirements of NYS Industrial Code Rule 56 by clicking here. Certain materials may require testing to understand if they are asbestos containing materials (ACM) (e.g. vermiculite insulation). Seek the services of a licensed asbestos inspector/abatement designer in order to understand how to properly handle ACM. Also note that Code Rule 56 does not apply to owner occupied single family dwellings where the owner performs the work. • Click here to learn how to create a basic waste management plan.
<p>Developer</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demolition is often associated with health concerns in the City of Rochester. Make sure you refer to the HUD Guidelines for environmental hazards such as lead when completing renovation or demolition projects. • To learn how to apply for a demolition permit, click here and click on “Demolition” under the “Brochures” category • During a project, actively plan for ways to reduce construction and demolition waste. Consult LEED for in depth guidance.

Sources: 1) <https://www.epa.gov/smm/sustainable-management-construction-and-demolition-materials>
 2) <https://www.usgbc.org/search/Recycled%20materials>

Hyperlinks: <https://labor.ny.gov/workerprotection/safetyhealth/Links/CR56.htm>
https://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/greenbuilding/documents/Waste_Management_Plan_Checklist.pdf
https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/healthy_homes/enforcement/regulations
<http://www.cityofrochester.gov/permits/>