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## **FAQ: Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling**

### **What is construction and demolition debris and why recycle?**

The materials are items commonly removed or leftovers in remodeling, new construction, or demolition projects. The types of materials typically involve the recycling of appliances, asphalt, brick, building materials (doors, windows and fixtures); cardboard; carpet; carpet padding and foam; ceiling /floor tiles (non asbestoses); concrete; drywall (sheetrock); landscape materials (brush; trees; branches; stumps; leaves and grass); lumber and wood (no lead paint or creosote); masonry tile; metals (ferrous and nonferrous); plastics; rocks; soil.

### **Why do I have to do this?**

The State of California has required that at least 50% of Construction and Demolition Debris be diverted from the main waste stream through recycling and/or reusing/ salvaging. (SB 1374 2001-02) In 2005, cities and counties were required to implement local regulations to meet this law. The City of Clayton City Council passed Ordinance No. 389 which became effective January 6, 2006. Failure to comply with the state regulations to meet the recycling can result in the City being fined of up to \$10,000 per day by the State of California.

### **What type of project does this apply to?**

The ordinance and need for a plan and deposit fee apply to all new construction, additions or remodeling projects that involve 500 square feet or more and require either a building, grading or demolition permit.

### **Why do I have to pay a deposit fee to the City?**

The ordinance requires all projects subject to submitting a recycling and waste management plan to provide a deposit to cover city expenses involved in reviewing your plan and monitoring compliance and to provide a performance guarantee that the recycling will actually occur. Remaining funds will be refunded upon satisfactory completion of the recycling including review and verification of all appropriate documentation.

### **What is the deposit amount?**

The deposit required varies depending on the project size. For up to 2000 square foot of new, addition or remodeled area the fee is \$2000. Thereafter the fee increases by an additional dollar for each square foot of remodel, addition or new construction (i.e.: a project with 2250 square feet would provide a deposit of \$2,250).

### **When would I get a refund of any remaining deposits?**

You must submit documentation to the City of Clayton of all your recycling at least three business days prior to when you want a final inspection from the building department. The City of Clayton places a hold on final inspections until such time as the documentation is submitted and found to be satisfactory and the recycling requirement achieved. Non compliance will result in the deposit being forfeited. A refund less any would occur within 30 days of a satisfactory compliance determination, less any costs for staff review and processing/monitoring charges.

### **Why do I need to identify the types of debris generated before I begin my project?**

Identifying C&D debris by material type will help you stage the materials at the job-site and allow you to choose appropriate recycling facilities or service level needed.

### **Why should I estimate the amount of C&D debris that will be generated?**

Although this is optional, estimating the quantity of C&D debris that will be generated will help you determine space requirements on the job-site and plan how frequently C&D debris will need to be removed and the costs associated with its removal.

### **How can I estimate the amount of C&D debris material on my project?**

Attached are conversion tables and generation rates that can be used for making your calculations.

### **How do I get the debris to a salvage or recycling facility?**

If you will be hauling your **C&D** debris to a salvage or recycling facility, **call ahead** to check hours of operation, disposal fees and **confirm that the facility can receive and recycle your materials** Allied Waste (Pleasant Hill Bayshore Disposal-PHBD) is the only authorized hauler for the City of Clayton. You may use a third party hauler if they have a current City business license. Your regular household refuse and recycling is required to be serviced by Allied. Please call Allied to set up your regular weekly curbside recycling and garbage collection service at 925-685-4711; for Allied's temporary C&D service, and rate information call 671-5806.

### **What if I am using sub-contractors?**

Inform your sub-contractors about your recycling requirements. **You are responsible for any materials they take away from the job-site.** They must take materials to a recognized recycling facility and provide you with recycling receipts. That's your recycling credit driving away in their truck!

### **Do I need to separate the debris by material type or can I mix it together?**

The manner in which you collect and sort the **C&D** debris will determine what facility you can use for recycling. **Separated loads** of clean materials can be taken to one of the many area facilities listed in the Builder's Guide or Contra Costa Reuse and Recycling Guide. **Mixed loads** can be taken to facilities listed in the Builder's Guide or Contra Costa reuse and Recycling Guide that state they can receive mixed materials for recycling. **You must insist that the facility provide you with a recycling receipt and you should call ahead to confirm this.** A weight tag that simply says "C&D debris" is not adequate. A C&D Recycling Debris Box for mixed loads can be set up with Allied Waste Services by calling 925-671-5806. They can also provide you with their current rates for their services.

### **What do I need to do to demonstrate compliance with city recycling requirements?**

You will need to submit all recycling and disposal receipts to the building department before receiving your final permits. The recycling receipts should clearly state the city building permit number or job-site address, the date, the weight or volume, material type and confirmation that the materials were actually recycled. A sample form of what information is needed is attached. Please note that at most all facilities you must inform them prior to, or at the time you bring in your materials, of the need for the appropriate receipts. Most facilities can not provide the appropriate documentation after you have deposited the load or after the fact.

### **What is the cost to do construction and demolition debris recycling?**

The cost for vary depending on where the materials are taken and how they are hauled (separated material, co-mingled materials). All locations will charge a fee for taking the materials. In addition there are fees associated with hauling and on site debris boxes that would contain the materials to be hauled from the site.

### **Can I use a hauler other than Allied Waste Services?**

Yes you can use a third party hauler (not a debris box from another refuse service or landfill company such as Delta Diablo, Concord Disposal, Altamont, BFI, etc. These are franchised haulers that have very specific territory assigned to them.) A third party or independent hauler can be used however they must have a valid City of Clayton Business license. (Contact our City Business License Officer at 673-7310 to verify or obtain license application). You are responsible to ensure that they have valid City of Clayton Business License.

### **What if they do not get the City of Clayton Business License?**

Lack of a business license may result in a hold on building inspections, payment of additional fines and penalties.

### **Where can I obtain information about third party haulers and places that take C & D materials?**

Resources such as the Contra Costa Builders Guide to Reuse and Recycling and the Contra Costa Recycling Guidebook are available at City Hall or on line at [www.cccrecycle.org/debris](http://www.cccrecycle.org/debris). City Hall also has information from Allied Waste on their C&D services or at their website [www.awscce.com](http://www.awscce.com).