

MRc5: Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion

Construction waste management is pursued on nearly every LEED project, and for good reason. With proper planning, four points are achievable.



Have a good construction waste management plan.

First of all, it is required for under MRc5 that you have a plan that identifies what waste is going to be generated for the project, and what means will be implemented to divert from landfills.



Commingled Waste: Identify a 3rd party certified recycling facility.

Aim to use a third party certified recycling facility (see [RCI Certification website](#) & [Green Badger Map](#) for facilities). **Otherwise the default commingled percentage is 35% for all commingled waste.**



Communicate your plan to the team and subcontractors.

Let everyone know what the recycling strategies are (one dumpster, multiple dumpsters, subs responsible for their own waste, etc.) so there's no confusion and materials aren't getting tossed in the waste dumpster.



Track and communicate with the team frequently.

Update waste tracking on a monthly basis. Reviewing and updating waste quantities monthly allows the team to view the overall project diversion rate in real time. Notify the team if the project begins to fall below the required diversion goals and take action accordingly to increase the project diversion rate.



Dumpster Signage Tip

Clearly label your dumpsters by material!



Working through this plan with your waste haulers will help you identify:

- Your optimum dumpster placement strategy
- Where materials are going to go
- What the estimated totals will be
- Commingled facility annual diversion rate

Earning 1 Point

1 point - 35% reduction, and at least 10% of diverted (recycled) materials are salvaged (reused) AND/OR source separated and sent to a single material recycler.

Earning 3 Points

3 points - 65% reduction, and at least 30% of diverted (recycled) materials are salvaged (reused) AND/OR source separated and sent to a single material recycler.

Earning 2 Points

2 points - 50% reduction, and at least 20% of diverted (recycled) materials are salvaged (reused) AND/OR source separated and sent to a single material recycler.

Earning 4 Points

4 points - Salvage or source-separate and recycle these targeted materials: clean gypsum, carpet, ceilings, and furniture. Targeted materials diversion must exceed 10% of the total construction and demolition materials.

Strategies for Achieving the LEED MRc5: Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion



Track both total diversion and waste / sf



On-site waste separation based on phases



Focus on concrete early



Commingled during, maybe metals



Wood or Paper/ Cardboard at the end

RESOURCE

Click here to read our ebook on construction waste management.