

Phone: 604-836-9258



Congratulations! You are on your way towards a sustainable construction site just by having a recycling station to divert construction waste from our local landfills.

Did you know that you could save 3-4 large garbage bags of plastic from hitting the landfill just by having a plastic recycling box bag on site? And did you also know that it takes 400+ years for plastic to decompose in the landfill, that's right recycling makes a huge difference! Plus you should be excited as well as proud to make small steps towards big impacts when it comes to landfill diversion.

The below mentioned is straight forward cheat sheet to share with your crew:

### **PLASTIC**

Packaging such as hard plastic, i.e. for tools, appliances, finishing materials, the list goes on.

Most of this packaging includes soft plastics such as bubble wrap, shrink wrap, soft foam, styrofoam, basic plastic wrap such a large amounts of poly (free of tape and/or paint and dirt). If the plastic is dirty please find a way to wash off the access dirt. Plastic will lots of dirt cannot be accepted.

Hard plastics can include; coffee lids (no coffee cups, they are considered contaminants), spray can lids (spray cans can be recycled in the metal bin), water bottles, pop bottles, banding (what you find wrapped around a wood crate)

**Plastic we do not take and is considered garbage dimple mat, materials that are contaminated with sealant, membranes or any other unrecyclable material.**

### **CARDBOARD**

All types of clean cardboard and paper can be put into the bag except for anything contaminated, i.e. paint and sealant

### **METAL**

Broken tools, saw blades, nails, steel stud, pipe, beer / pop cans, paint rollers (the paint sleeve for a paint roller is considered garbage so they must be separated)

### **EXTRA TIPS:**

**Drywall:** This HAS to be separated no matter what, so we suggest keeping it in a separate pile and please do not mix it with garbage. Drywall must be date-stamped showing 1987 or newer, or pre 1987 and must be accompanied by a testing report from an approved facility such as A.C.M. Environmental in Vancouver or Kinetic OHS Services in North Vancouver that shows it to be free and clear of asbestos and other banned material. For the Sea to Sky Corridor this date is 1989.

If you do not have time to get it tested we'd be happy to provide this service for you for a fee of \$100 plus the testing fee. All we would need is a sample that contains a section of tape and mud (as this is where the asbestos will be found if present) and be bagged in a zip-lock bag with the address and location in the house/building where it was taken from written on it e.g. kitchen or bathroom.

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**Clean Wood:** Any building wood that is free and clear of paint or any stain. All Lower Mainland transfer stations don't allow plywood to go in a clean wood. If we find lengths of 4 feet or more that can be reused and will be donated to local non-for profits that will repurpose them.

**Dirty Wood:** As mentioned above, plywood and gluelam are sadly considered garbage at most transfer stations as well as painted or stained wood so keep these in your garbage pile. Large amounts of plywood will also be donated.

**Stone:** If you have broken up concrete without rebar or bricks, that can actually get recycled, so keep that in a separate pile too.

**Food Waste:** Food waste can be composted, but please keep this secure in case you have any furry visitors on your site. Being bear and critter aware is important. With that said, our solution is to have plywood boxes made with a hinged top that has double locks on it. The bins should be sized to accommodate two standard Rubbermaid bins. To save on costs, bins made by crew might be the best option. We will be able to service these as needed but expecting it to be weekly or bi-weekly depending on the size. These bins should solely be used for the organic waste created. Wrappers or packaging will NOT go in these bins; just organics to save space and make it so these bins can be recycled straight into organics at the landfill. We will provide your site with the compostable bin liners needed to make the disposal of these as cheap and efficient as possible.

**Carpet:** for recycling; receiving requirements for carpet and underlay recycling must be dry and free of debris. Rolls need to be self-tied with carpet tail, string/twine or tape. Carpet and underlay should be cut in strips that are no more than 4'6" wide. No carpet from staircases, due to all the staples. Carpet and underlay must be free from staples and rolled separately. Underlay can be stacked on the same pallet as carpet. No small carpet scraps or trimmings, these go into the garbage pile. No rubber underlay. No construction debris (e.g. asbestos, sheetrock), tack strips, transition mouldings, and food scraps. **We will be able to get this recycled for you so please contact us ahead of time so we can consult with you on this process and let the recycler know that we will be dropping carpet off.**

**Garbage:** Keep a lot of garbage bins around your site. If you can use clear garbage bags instead of the black ones as they help us to see what has been disposed of. Also, we are always surprised to see so many sites without garbage bins! If you have labeled garbage bins on site your crews will know what they can dispose of in them. Plus using clear garbage bags lets us see what's inside so we can catch any recyclables from hitting the landfill.

Here is a list of construction waste that is considered waste:

Dirty paint brushes, anything with paint on it such as plastic or wood, insulation, damaged tarps, MDF, ceiling tile, coffee cups, hoses, dirty buckets, vapour barrier with any acoustic seal, tape or just plain dirty, less than 100 square feet of flooring or tile, drywall mud, used glue fillers, molding and trim that are lengths under 3 feet, particle board as well as demolition material.

Our crew hand sorts and separates all recyclables as well as any reusable items from actual garbage. We also live load our trucks so we can efficiently dispose materials to the correct locations such as the landfill, recycling centers, as well as any suitable local non-profit organizations.

If you aren't sure the amount of waste going, snap a picture and text it to Chris, 604-836-9258 and he will be able to determinate the load and cost. If you like us to swing by your site and go over all this with your crew we would be more than happy to; we will bring refreshments and snacks too!