

Recycling Ordinance

Construction and Demolition (C & D) waste represents 22% of the total tonnage disposed. Much of this material can be reused or recycled, conserving natural resources and saving valuable landfill space.

In response to State-mandated waste reduction goals, the City adopted Ordinance No. 618 which went into effect on January 31, 2009. It requires at least 65% of the total C & D debris generated by a Covered Project to be recycled and/or reused.



The City encourages compliance with the C&D Recycling Ordinance. Failure to do so may result in a stop work order and a delay of final approval.

Steps for Complying

Step 1 – Obtain a C & D Waste Management Plan with a permit application from the Planning Division.

Step 2 – Determine if your project qualifies for C & D recycling.

Step 3 – Complete the C & D Plan with project information, estimated C & D project waste, disposal methods planned, commitment by applicant to comply with Ordinance No. 618, and receive City approval.

Submit the completed C & D Plan to the Community Development Department, Environmental Services Division for approval.

Step 4 – Report all disposal and recycling activities monthly throughout the duration of the project and one final report at completion of the project with weight tickets from disposal/recycling facilities used. Monthly and Final Report forms will be provided.

Step 5 – Receive final approval from the Environmental Services Manager.

Exempt Projects

The following projects are exempt from the C & D Recycling requirement:

- ❖ Projects less than 10,000 sqft or an actual value of less than \$10,000 unless it is a demolition or grading project.
- ❖ Work not requiring a building or demolition permit.
- ❖ Detached single family residential structures and associated detached or attached accessory structures unless they represent significant reconstruction/remodel as determined by the Building Official.
- ❖ Work requiring only a plumbing, electrical or mechanical permit.
- ❖ Roofing projects not requiring removal of the existing roof.
- ❖ Demolition or construction required to protect public health or safety in an emergency, as defined in Public Resources Code §21060.3.

Exemptions may also be granted for the following reasons:

- ❖ An emergency situation exists;
- ❖ Lack of storage space onsite;
- ❖ Contamination by hazardous substances;
- ❖ Low recyclability of specific materials.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is there a deposit or fee? No

What needs to be recycled?

At least 65% of the total C&D debris generated by a Covered Project of which no more than 20% can be achieved through the recycling or reuse of inert materials.

What's a Covered Project?

- All construction and tenant improvement projects requiring a permit pursuant to the L.A. County Building Codes.
- Projects either 10,000 square feet or greater or have an existing or projected value of \$10,000 or greater.
- All demolition or grading projects of any valuation, and
- All City-sponsored construction, demolition and renovation projects.

Do I have to use specific refuse haulers/recyclers?

Yes, those licensed to operate within the City of Commerce.

A list of these haulers/recyclers is available at www.ci.commerce.ca.us in the Environmental Services Division section.

Contractor Resources

General Information and Material Exchange

California Integrated Waste Management Board – Contractor Tool Kit and California Materials Exchange information

www.calrecycle.ca.gov/condemo/
www.ladpw.org/epd/lacomax/

Donating Reusable Materials

Habitat for Humanity
www.habitat.org

Disposal of Refuse/Recyclables

Construction & Demolition Material Recycling Guide – available from the Community Development Department.



Construction & Demolition Recycling Program



City of Commerce

Environmental Services
(323) 722-4805

www.ci.commerce.ca.us

