

CITY OF PIEDMONT, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
120 VISTA AVENUE, PIEDMONT, CA 94611
TEL: (510) 420-3050 FAX: (510) 658-3167

Construction & Demolition (C&D) Debris Recycling Requirements

Projects having a building permit valuation greater than or equal to \$50,000 are required to divert at least 50% of the debris generated by the project from going to a landfill. This includes all construction, demolition and/or renovation projects within the City. Although not required, the City encourages projects with a valuation of less than \$50,000 to recycle at least 50% of the debris generated.

Required documentation of compliance: The project applicant is required to submit a completed and signed Debris Recycling Statement (DRS) prior to the issuance of a building permit. Prior to the start of construction/demolition, the project applicant is required to submit a Drop Box – Dumpster Application. Richmond Sanitary Service, the City’s franchised waste hauler, will work with the project applicant to ensure that at least 50% of the debris generated is recycled. Richmond Sanitary Service will verify that the contents of the drop box were recyclable and recycled and submit to the City an accounting of the weight and types of materials diverted.

Do not place non-recyclable material in the C&D recycling drop box! Please note that if the drop box intended for the collection of mixed recyclable debris is contaminated with debris that is not recyclable, the contents of the box will be treated as waste (non-recyclable material) and taken to the landfill. As a result, you may not meet the requirements of the C&D Ordinance and may be subject to a fine.

FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

Q: Are there any additional City fees associated with these requirements?

A: No. There are no additional City fees associated with the requirement to recycle C&D debris.

Q: Am I required to use Richmond Sanitary Service to haul recyclable and non-recyclable debris?

A: Yes. Richmond Sanitary Service has an exclusive franchise for the removal of solid waste and recyclable material from properties within the City limits.

Q: May I self-haul the debris?

A: Contractors, or any other paid hauler other than Richmond Sanitary Service, cannot remove the debris for the homeowner. Only home-owners who do not pay to have debris

removed but personally transport the debris to the solid waste and/or recycling facility are exempt from the exclusive franchise agreement.

Q: Can I salvage or reuse materials, fixtures and appliances?

A: Yes. Applicants are encouraged to salvage and reuse materials and fixtures such as bricks, windows, light fixtures, porcelain fixtures, fireplace mantles and more per the attached Salvaged Material Form (SMF). If you do salvage or reuse, you will need to submit a SMF along with weight estimates and receipts from salvage vendors to the City to document that you have diverted at least 50% of the C&D materials from the landfill. Please refer to the *Builders' Guide to Reuse & Recycling* for information on salvage and reuse service providers.

Q: How do I estimate the weight of materials reused or salvaged?

A: You should use the attached City approved Conversion Table for Salvage and Reuse to estimate the weight of these materials.

Q: How do I comply with the Diversion Goal if more than 50% of the debris generated is not recyclable?

A: If unique circumstances make it infeasible for you to comply with the Diversion Goal, you may apply, in writing, to the Building Official for an exemption.

Q: What is the penalty for not complying with the Ordinance?

A: Violation of a City ordinance, such as the Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling Ordinance, is considered an infraction that may result in a fine.

Q: Are these requirements really necessary?

A: Yes. C&D debris represents a significant portion of the City's overall waste stream. Keeping these materials out of landfills is an essential part of the City's plan for:

- **Fulfilling the City's own environmental and waste reduction goals; and**
- **Complying with the State's Integrated Waste Management Act¹.**

¹ AB 939 requires every city and county in the State to reduce the quantity of materials disposed at landfills by at least 50% (by weight) from 1990, or potentially face fines for non-compliance.