

Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling

The Village of Northbrook is joining other communities across the country in their attempts to reduce the amount of recyclable materials from going to area landfills. It is estimated that construction projects utilize approximately 40 percent of all raw materials such as steel, concrete, and glass consumed nationally, much of which eventually becomes landfill waste. In the United States, construction and demolition activities produce approximately 25 percent of solid waste generated annually. The Village established a construction and demolition debris recycling program to encourage current efforts to recycle construction and demolition debris, support practices and procedures that promote sustainability, and encourage the general health and welfare of the Village's residents.

On August 26, 2008, the Village Board adopted the Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling Ordinance which requires the recycling of construction and demolition debris effective January 1, 2009. This will include non-hazardous construction and demolition debris.

For construction and demolition projects ("Covered Project") that meet one or more of the following criteria, the contractor must recycle a certain percentage of the construction and demolition debris:

- Construction of new structures of 2,000 square feet or more of gross floor area;
- Renovations of 10,000 square feet or more of gross floor area; or
- Demolition of 1,500 square feet or more of gross floor area.

The percentage of construction and demolition debris that must be recycled is as follows:

- Between January 1, 2009, and Dec. 31, 2010, at least 50% of the construction and demolition debris must be recycled.
- After January 1, 2011, at least 75% of the construction and demolition debris must be recycled.

Compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance is a condition of approval for all building or demolition permits issued for any covered project, unless otherwise exempt. For covered projects, prior to issuance of a building or demolition permit, the applicant must complete and submit a waste reduction and recycling plan on a form provided by the Building and Department. The waste reduction and recycling plan must include the following information, and such other information as the Building and Development Department may require:

1. Identification of materials to be diverted from disposal to recycling;
2. A description of whether and to what extent materials will be separated on-site or co-mingled;
3. The estimated weight of C&D debris, divided between inert debris and other debris;
4. The estimated weight of the inert and other C&D debris that can be diverted;

For more information regarding complying with this ordinance, contact Jim Baxa, Civil Project Engineer, at 847-272-5050, ext. 4255 or baxa@northbrook.il.us .