

# REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE

Reduce, reuse and recycle more now for cleaner land, air, water, and a thriving economy.

Montgomery County, Maryland has a goal to reduce waste and recycle 70 percent of all waste by 2020. Construction and demolition (C&D) waste accounts for a large percentage solid waste generated in the United States. Montgomery County Executive Regulation 1-15 requires all businesses, including C&D companies, to recycle the following materials:

- Mixed or sorted paper; corrugated cardboard boxes, white and colored paper, boxboard, newspapers, inserts, magazines, catalogs, telephone directories, paperback books, unwanted mail and all other clean, dry paper

- Yard trim (grass, leaves, garden trimmings and brush) and Christmas trees
- Scrap metal (both ferrous and non-ferrous)
- Commingled or sorted containers (aluminum cans and foil products, bi-metal cans, glass bottles and jars, and plastic bottles and containers)

Businesses that use a recycling collection company must maintain copies of collection contracts and invoices and use a Montgomery County licensed collector. Also, businesses must file a business recycling and waste reduction plan and

subsequent annual recycling reports, if required.

In addition, a companion regulation, Executive Regulation 18-04, bans the disposal of recyclable materials as solid waste and establishes responsibilities for haulers, collectors and all other persons that use County solid waste acceptance facilities. If a collector observes recyclable materials in solid waste set out for disposal, the collector must notify the customer and the Division of Solid Waste Services about the violation and provide time for the customer to remedy the situation.

## RECYCLE

Recycling construction waste can be as good for your bottom line as it is for the environment. It allows you to minimize waste disposal costs while conserving renewable natural resources. Once construction has begun, waste materials will be generated. One way to manage these materials may be to source-separate materials such as wood, concrete, masonry and cardboard, and take the unused or unwanted materials to recycling facilities. You may haul the materials yourself or contract with a licensed collection company that provides on-site containers. Before you begin a recycling program, it is important to:

- Evaluate your waste stream. Identify the types and quantities of materials generated on-site that have the potential to be recycled in Montgomery County.

- Develop contract documents that include requirements for source separation and on-site recycling. This step is critical for large demolition or new construction projects. On smaller jobs, discuss waste handling requirements with your employees, subcontractors and others at the job site prior to beginning a project.
- Set up the site. Identify locations for the separation of materials at the job site in the early stages of planning. Clearly designate recycling bins by color and/or use large signage. Bins may need to be located in a locked or supervised area to prevent contamination by the public. Recycling containers must be located near trash

containers and be located in reasonable and convenient proximity to all buildings and other uses on-site.

- Reward participation. Communicate the success of the recycling project with your employees and subcontractors. Encourage their suggestions on ways to more effectively implement a waste reduction, reuse and recycling plan. Market your firm as one that recycles; potential clients and customers are looking for green contractors.

## REDUCE, REUSE & RECYCLE MORE NOW!

Take part in what Montgomery County is doing to reduce waste and recycle more now! We'd like to add your construction and demolition business to our list of recyclers, so let us know how you are doing! If you have a concern or issue you wish to discuss, or a success story you want to share, contact the Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons (SORRT) Program.

3-1-1 or 240-777-0311

[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling)



Montgomery County, Maryland  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of Solid Waste Services  
Waste Reduction and Recycling Section

