
CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION

According to the US EPA, construction and demolition debris (C&D) includes the "debris generated during the construction, renovation, and demolition of buildings, roads, and bridges. C&D materials often contain bulky, heavy materials, such as concrete, wood, metals, glass, and salvaged building components."¹ Construction and Demolition waste was excluded from the *US EPA study Municipal Solid Waste Generation, Recycling, and Disposal in the United States: Facts and Figures for 2011*. It also was not listed as one of the waste composition categories in the 2004 ODNR waste stream study of the AHSWD, because C&D waste has its own separate landfill cell.

However, the ability to recover construction and demolition materials is a key element of the journey towards zero waste. Road construction is a constant in the region and institutions such as Ohio University are regularly building new or refurbishing old buildings. According to the American Institute of Architects, anywhere from 25 to 40 percent of the national solid waste stream is building-related waste and only 20 percent of C&D waste in the U.S. is actually recycled.²

Advantages of recycling C&D material include reduced environmental impact from extraction of raw materials, reduced energy costs, new jobs in the recycling industry, and in some cases, money saved by contractors.

Baseline for Construction and Demolition

Several local thrift shops, such as Habitat for Humanity's ReStore and ReUse Industries, accept donations of flooring, crown molding, fixtures, and other items that can be used in new construction. In addition, Killbarger's recycles separated concrete, block, asphalt, and brick. Killbarger's Construction Inc. owns and operates a Demolition Landfill in Nelsonville, OH. Meigs County is home to Jeffers C&D Disposal Facility in Pomeroy, OH. There are also two C&D facilities in Lancaster, OH: M&B Demolition Disposal Inc. and Walnut C&D LLC. The C&D landfill in Nelsonville is nearing the end of its life with only about 5 years of space remaining.

ACTION STEPS FOR CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION

1. PROMOTE EXISTING AND CREATE NEW INFRASTRUCTURE TO INCREASE RECYCLING OF C&D MATERIAL

- a. Create a guide of all deconstruction, construction and demolition recycling options in Athens and Hocking Counties.
- b. Research demand for regional construction and demolition recycling services to determine feasibility for new services and facilities.
- c. Promote the development of these types of processing facilities and services through technical assistance, grant writing, and business planning support.
- d. If demand and feasibility is demonstrated, work with interested parties to establish a processing facility for construction and demolition waste that incentivizes material separation but that can handle mixed material.

2. CREATE POLICIES AND PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO INCREASE C&D RECYCLING.

- a. Work with cities, villages, and large for-profit and not-for-profit organizations to develop contracts and policies requiring contractors to sort, track, and recycle construction and demolition materials where services are available.
- b. Create incentives and provide clear guidance for contractors to recycle construction and demolition materials.
- c. Work with haulers to improve the ease of collection and transport of C&D material.

¹ <http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/conserve/imr/cdm/index.htm>

² http://www.aia.org/aiaucmp/groups/ek_public/documents/pdf/aiap072739.pdf,