Construction and Demolition

Construction and demolition (C&D) activity accounts for nearly 30% of all the waste generated in California. The California Green Building Code, or CALGreen, requires all permitted residential and non-residential construction, demolition and additions/alterations projects to recycle or salvage a minimum 65% of nonhazardous construction materials from the project.

Separating materials or “source separation” at the job site allows for maximum recycling. However, it is not always practical to have separate dumpsters or bins for individual materials, or to oversee the correct placement of materials in bins. The MRWMD Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) is designed to cost-effectively recover recyclable materials from mixed C&D waste, so you can collect all your recyclable materials in one bin. The diversion we achieve in the MRF ensures CALGreen compliance for contractors and builders, and allows for proper credit when applying for LEED, Build It Green, and other green building certification systems. In fact, one of CALGreen’s suggested compliance methods is to use a waste management company that certifies a minimum 65% waste diversion, such as the MRWMD MRF. You may also want to maintain a waste management plan that includes documenting diversion and disposal. MRWMD recycling and reuse programs help contractors, builders and the public cost-effectively meet or exceed CALGreen building code waste diversion requirements.

For more information on CALGreen Waste Diversion Requirements and Compliance visit: www.calrecycle.ca.gov/ConDemo/ Ordinances

For more information on how to comply with CALGreen locally, please check with your local building official.
If you can separate recyclables at the job site, we offer discounted rates for materials separated at the source. From aggregate to drywall, retired appliances, scrap wood, old doors and fixtures, the MRWMD offers a variety of services to maximize waste diversion, reuse and recycling for your building projects:

Materials Recovery Facility
Cost-effective processing and diversion for mixed C&D loads.

Last Chance Mercantile
Reuse donations accepted. Salvaged materials sold.

Household Hazardous Waste Facility
Collection facility for paint, thinner, adhesives, and hazardous products.

Recycling Drop-Off
Convenient recycling for cardboard, scrap metal, rigid plastics, glass, paper and more.

Concrete and Asphalt Recycling
Low-cost rate for loads of clean concrete.

Sheetrock / Drywall, Scrap Wood, Green Waste, Clean Soil
Reduced fees incentivize separating these materials from mixed waste.

How We Calculate Diversion

MRF diversion is calculated on a monthly basis. Customers can obtain the actual diversion percentage for any given month through their hauler, by contacting us, or from the monthly MRWMD Operating Report on the MRWMD website.

Your scale receipt is your proof of diversion. We certify that MRF scale receipts divert a minimum of 65% of tonnage received. Scale receipts that indicate a load went to “Green Waste” or “AC” (asphalt/concrete) will receive 100% diversion, while landfill loads receive no diversion.

Optimize Your Loads for Reuse and Recycling

Save money by donating reusable items such as doors, cabinets, windows, etc. in advance at the Last Chance Mercantile.

Some materials are not suitable for processing. To ensure that scale staff directs your load to the MRF, it is important to keep the following contaminants out of your load: large quantities of cable and wire, fiberglass insulation, ice plant, and poison oak.

Don't Go Home Empty

Landscape products such as wood chips, compost and top soil are available for purchase by the ton at the MRF. These products offer quality and value with the added benefit of being locally made from recycled materials. Using these products may add additional LEED green building points for your project.

Check the Last Chance Mercantile for used or salvaged materials: vintage fixtures, doors, cabinetry, remnant tile, free paint, stain and varnish. You never know what might be found for a unique addition to your building project.