

Seven Steps to Create a Waste Management

Written by: Dumpsters.com Blog

Waste management plans aren't new, but in recent years they've become more of a necessity when planning a construction job – especially since American investors are moving to a sustainability-focused investment model. From 2018-2020, the number of sustainably invested assets under management grew from \$12 trillion to \$17.1. This sustainability trend is affecting all industries, including construction.

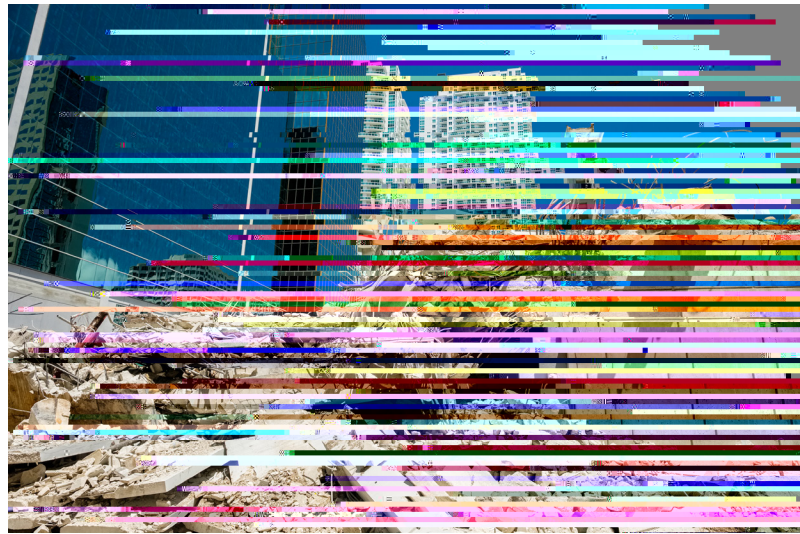
We've consulted with industry experts from Recycling Certified Institute, the National Waste and Recycling Association, and The ReUse People to give you all the tips you need to write a waste management plan for your next construction job.

What Is a Waste Management Plan?

A waste management plan deals with more than just waste. At its core, a waste management plan – also known as a WMP – is a record of materials removed from a jobsite and their byproducts. It lists the site materials, how much can be diverted into recycling or reused, how much is going to a landfill, and where it's going.

There are four main reasons you need a waste management plan:

- » To keep a construction site organized from top to bottom.
- » To recoup losses on materials. Recycling is cheaper than using just a landfill.



- » To gain LEED certification. LEED, which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is a sustainability rating system for new construction or remodels. Many large corporations and municipalities are requiring LEED in all new and remodel buildings.
- » To follow local regulations, which often require WMPs.

How to Make a Construction Waste Management Plan

Generally, hiring LEED consultants is a condition in the contract, but these are mostly for massive undertakings with companies that like to boast about having a "zero carbon



To reach high diversion rates, you need to share where dumpsters are going, what materials you're recycling and your goals. Tell workers what will be reused.

"Some states (such as California) require a 75% or higher diversion rate and source separation. So, treated lumber goes in one pile, untreated another. Commercial projects often stipulate on dumpsters or reuse piles, 'clean wood only' and force subcontractors to make sure that material is in, or they don't get paid," says Ted Reiff, President and Founder, The ReUse People.

5. SUBMIT WASTE ESTIMATES TO OBTAIN PERMITS

The most important thing to keep in mind with permits and regulations is they vary from city to city and state to state. Be sure to research and speak with regulators so you know their expectations.

"Several municipalities have software capable of calculating, based on the materials of the building and the square footage, how much waste they expect you to create," Bantillo said. "If you can show you have an estimate similar to theirs, it can expedite the permits process."

In addition, LEED certification requires that waste estimates be verified by a third



About the Article

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