

Building material reuse and deconstruction



Deconstruction is the process of carefully dismantling buildings so materials can be reused, recovered, or recycled instead of landfilled. Reuse and deconstruction can recover materials, keep materials in use, and reduce disposal costs.

Getting started

Cities and counties

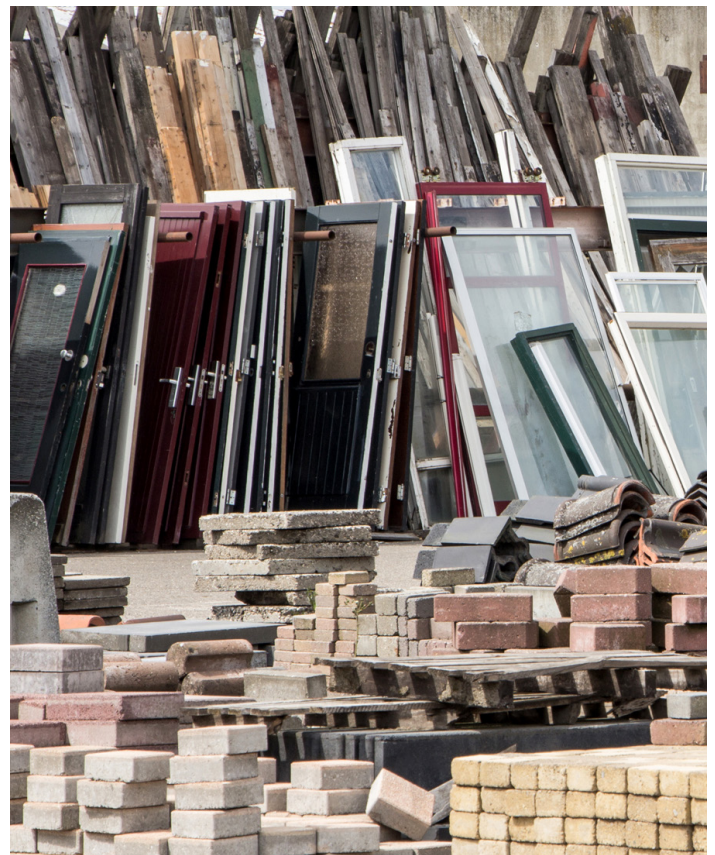
- Consider material exchanges or collection events
- Connect reusable materials with local reuse organizations
- GreenStep communities can take action through best practices 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 15, and 22

Building owners

- Ask contractors about salvaging materials before demolition
- Plan ahead for opportunities to reuse, donate, or sell materials
- Discuss how building and hazardous materials will be reused, recycled or disposed of. If they aren't, ask whether your contractor would be willing to try these practices for your project.

Contractors

- Identify salvageable materials before demolition begins
- Coordinate with reuse organizations for material recovery



Commonly reused items

Lumber	Doors
Flooring	Fixtures
Brick	Appliances
Cabinetry	Windows
Plumbing fixtures	



Technical assistance is available

No-cost technical assistance is available for local governments, organizations, businesses and building owners.

Building reuse and deconstruction

- Explore options for building reuse and material recovery
- Evaluate whether a building is a good candidate for partial or full deconstruction

Reuse programs

- Guidance for building material and household item diversion programs
- Connect with existing reuse resources and partners

Waste reduction

- Support the reduction of landfill
- Disposal through reuse, diversion, deconstruction, and recycling
- Explore practical strategies for material recovery

Need help?

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Learn more

Scan for tools, examples, reuse organizations, marketplaces, and maps.



mnpca.info/deconstruction



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