

Deconstruction Opportunities

For private residents intending to either demolish or substantially change their home's footprint, deconstruction offers a LOCAL opportunity to REDUCE debris sent to landfill, DECREASE greenhouse gas emissions, REDUCE harmful resource extraction, SUPPORT local jobs in the green economy, and potentially SAVE a significant amount on taxes if a tax write-off is taken for donated materials.

For contractors, making this option available to your clients requires training, preparation, and connections with deconstruction specialists and resale locations. Steps to deconstruction include:

1. Contacting an independent reuse expert to determine what materials can be salvaged such as flooring, lumber, furniture, and light fixtures, and to provide a list of qualifying non-profits and/or reuse facilities that will take the specific materials within that building. A list of experts can be found below.
2. Providing a cost proposal to your client for deconstruction, or contact a deconstruction company to provide you with an estimate.
3. Applying for demolition permit (may differ depending upon the jurisdiction).
4. Deconstructing the building using industry best practices and maximizing recovery of materials. Best practices and training opportunities can be found at websites listed below.
5. Documenting the amount and value of donated materials, as well as any materials that are not able to be donated. If these materials are delivered to a Zero Waste Marin-certified facility, you can still use the Easy Method on the C&D Diversion Form which is required to have your permit approved. NOTE: The value of the salvaged materials can be used by your clients as a tax write-off if desired; this requires a qualified third-party appraiser if the value exceeds \$5,000.

Salvaged materials can be dropped off at reuse stores for little to no fees, and repurposed for new construction – a benefit that can set your business apart from the competition! Be sure to call the facilities before you drop off materials to ensure they will take what you have salvaged.

The C&D Diversion Form,¹ which is distributed at building counters throughout Marin County, is designed so that you can bring material for donation to certified reuse centers. Local reuse centers include:

- Marin Community Benefit Cooperative
- GreenLynx
- Heritage Salvage
- Urban Ore
- Building Resources
- Daniel O. Davis, Inc.
- The Reuse People
- Ohmega Salvage
- This & That
- Habitat ReStore Santa Rosa
- Recycletown Petaluma

¹ Also available on the Zero Waste Marin website, ZeroWasteMarin.org/C&D.

- Industrial Reusable Materials Windsor

Remember to include a copy of your receipt from the reuse center to get credit for donating materials!

Want more information about deconstruction? Contact:

- Building Materials Reuse Association, with an annual conference and training books and training courses (<https://bmra.org/>)
- Reuse Alliance (www.reusealliance.org)
- GreenLynx, based in Santa Rosa (<http://greenlynx.net/>)
- The ReUse People, based in Oakland (<http://thereusepeople.org/>)
- Earth Advantage, based in Portland with online courses available (<https://www.earthadvantage.org/training/>)
- Habitat for Humanity ReStore, throughout the Bay Area (<https://www.habitatgsf.org/>)