



Valley Home Builders Association

GREEN BUILDING

Building sustainable quality of life.



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Construction Waste in Wisconsin

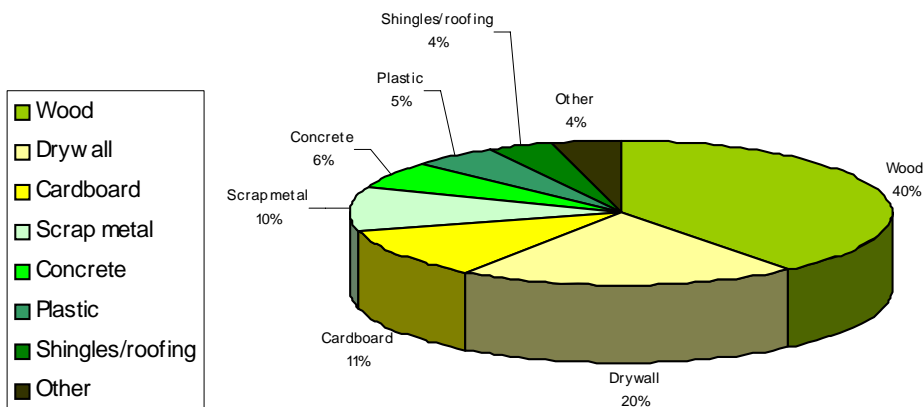
Waste Reduction & Recycling

Waste results from constructing, remodeling or demolishing a building. Scrap lumber, drywall, plastic binding, cardboard and other paper wrappers must be either recycled or landfilled. The Wisconsin Recycling Law requires all Wisconsin citizens (including builders and contractors) to recycle certain items. Items such as cardboard, newspapers, office paper, #1 and #2 plastic containers, steel cans, glass bottles, waste oil, lead-acid batteries and brushes are prohibited from landfills and from burning. Fines and citations can result from violations of the Wisconsin Recycling Law.

Wisconsin's Waste Reduction and Recycling Law bans several materials found at construction and demolition sites from landfills and incinerators. Banned materials include:

Major appliances	Newspapers
Waste oil	Aluminum cans
Tires	Steel cans
Yard Waste	Bi-metal cans
Cardboard	Glass bottles and jars
Office paper	Plastics #1 and #2
Magazines	Motor vehicle batteries

The percentage breakdown of a typical construction site in Wisconsin is shown below:



Developing and implementing a construction waste management plan that includes utilizing recycling facilities and services helps to reduce the quantity of landfill materials generated on construction sites and can reduce the costs of disposal. Consumers are increasingly demanding “green” practices in their new homes, and once builders, employees, subcontractors and others working on residential construction projects to learn how to separate waste, reusable and recyclable products — and consistently do so — it’s a win-win for everyone, including the environment.