

CROWDsource

DECONSTRUCTION

A GUIDE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**Evaluating
Demolition
versus
Deconstruction
Practices**

**Policy Lessons
from
Municipalities
Around the U.S.**

**First Steps for
Your Community**

Credit: Finger Lakes ReUse

**BUILDING THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY THROUGH
DECONSTRUCTION, REUSE, AND SALVAGE**



WWW.CROWD.ORG

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

Overview of Demolition and Deconstruction 3

Steps for Local Government 6

Case Studies 14

Directories 18

FAQs 28

Glossary 30

About CR0WD 31

Faced with housing crises, aging building stock, landfill concerns, and climate impacts to the built environment, municipalities and states are increasingly turning their attention to deconstruction and building material reuse as an alternative to demolition.

Providing examples along the way, this guide outlines what deconstruction means, why moving away from demolition is beneficial, and how local governments can successfully kick-start deconstruction in their communities.

Overview of Demolition and Deconstruction

600 million tons

of building waste are generated each year from the construction and demolition of buildings and infrastructure*

Yet, **80%** of this waste could be reused or recycled. +

90%

of this waste is from demolition.*

Globally, **39%** of annual GHG emissions originate from our built environment.^

Construction and demolition waste is generated at

2x

the rate of municipal solid waste.*

* U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, [Sustainable Management of Construction and Demolition Materials](#), 2018

^ UN Environment and the International Energy Agency, [World Green Building Council Global Status Report](#), 2017

+ PlaceEconomics, [Treasure in the walls: Reclaiming value through material reuse in San Antonio](#), 2021

Overview of Demolition and Deconstruction

The Benefits of Deconstruction

Environmental

- ✓ Reduces the waste sent to landfills
- ✓ Conserves the natural resources needed to make new construction materials
- ✓ Lowers emissions by decreasing the energy use in the construction sectors
- ✓ Retains embodied carbon and water in the built environment
- ✓ Improves worker health and safety by reducing injuries associated with mechanical demolition
- ✓ Improves public health and safety by reducing airborne toxic pollutants and heavy metal soil leaching

Economic

- ✓ Lowers public and private sector costs of maintaining landfills
- ✓ Reduces expenses associated with landfill disposal fees
- ✓ Offers tax deductions from material donation
- ✓ Keeps scarce materials, like old-growth wood, in economy
- ✓ Contributes to emerging circular economy
- ✓ Creates green jobs for the deconstruction, processing, and resale of materials
- ✓ Helps augment supply of quality building materials and offsets costs of new materials

Social and Cultural

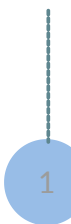
- ✓ Honors the history and craftsmanship of materials
- ✓ Develops trade skills that are being lost generationally
- ✓ Helps preserve historic architectural styles in neighborhoods
- ✓ Improves future building material design and manufacturing practices
- ✓ Preserves a sense of place and community in existing neighborhoods

Key Considerations of Construction Lifecycle



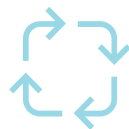
Aim for Deconstruction

Deconstruction is a preferred method to remove or renovate a structure -- particularly those that contain wood, specialty materials and architectural elements, and high-quality brick with low-quality mortar.



Dispose of Hazards

Deconstruction is desirable for environmental sustainability. When it comes to dealing with hazardous materials such as lead-based paint (LBP), and asbestos-containing materials (ACM), it is preferable to demolition.



Think about Reuse

Requiring less processing and material reuse can limit the extraction and processing of new local raw materials and reduce the transportation cost as well. Reincorporating the unused or excess material in the manufacturing process provides yet another opportunity for reuse.



Market Opportunities

Supplies of deconstructed materials such as old-growth wood, brick and architectural elements are limited due to the perception of used materials as less effective over time. However, reused materials are valuable and present opportunities to protect the environment and provide green jobs.



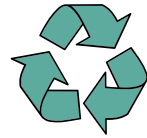
Incorporate Evaluation

Since not all materials can be reused, experts such as carpenters, architects, and tradesmen may be invited to evaluate the quality of the salvaged material for desired reuse in new structures.



Choose among Contractors

Selecting the appropriate licensed professionals that match the characteristics of building projects is a must. Labor and resource management plans should include specific recovery goals, time frames, which contractors are responsible for what stage of operation, and what methods will be used.



Design for Deconstruction

After considering salvaging valuable materials from existing buildings, we should shift our focus to the application of circular business models, which considers nontoxic materials and disassembly design for future transformable building construction.



Reference:

A Guide To Deconstruction & Lifecycle Construction Resource Guide

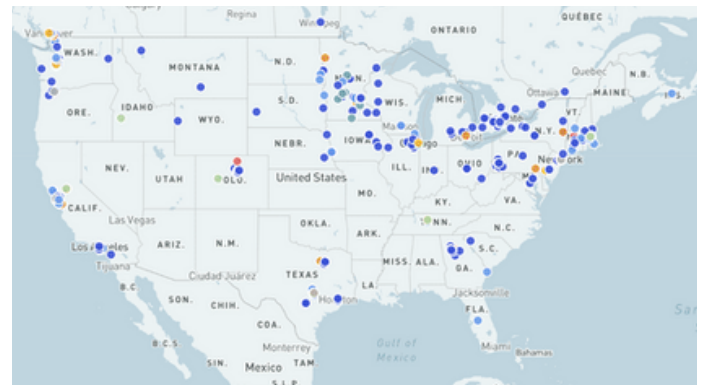
Steps for Local Government

Transforming our linear building and construction economy into a circular, regenerative process can be challenging – especially in places where deconstruction is not currently practiced, such as New York State.

Among the challenges local governments face:

- Lack of state policy to encourage and/or require CDD diversion and reuse
- Lack of skilled deconstruction workforce
- Lack of storage and processing facilities
- Cost to deconstruct is more expensive than demolition in many communities
- Time to deconstruct can be lengthier than demolition

An increasing number of communities throughout North America (and on other continents) have addressed these common challenges and are now home to growing deconstruction and material reuse activities, which bring economic, environmental, and cultural benefit. Many have found success through a phased approach.



Locations of entities that support the building reuse economy.
Credit: All for ReUse Ecosystem Map

They begin by collecting data, which is used to develop targeted permitting and financial incentives. They set stepped **waste diversion targets** for construction and deconstruction sites, and eventually adopt a **deconstruction and waste diversion ordinance**. At every step, they provide **public education and engagement** along with useful, easily accessible resources.



Useful CDD data is limited at both state and local levels. In order to gain a better understanding of their community's demolition practices and building waste streams, local governments have embedded data requirements into their permitting practices. **Even before introducing deconstruction incentives or ordinances, the collection of permit data offers a relatively easy way to begin the effort of building waste diversion while raising public awareness.**

STEP 1

Review your renovation and demolition permits to ensure they include:

- Age of building/site
- Any national, state, or local historic designations
- Building classification (commercial, residential, etc.)
- Construction method and materials (timber frame, cinderblock, brick, etc.)
- Why the building is being renovated and/or demolished
- The sequence, means, and methods of demolition

STEP 2

Require the contractor, post-demolition, to provide records that include:

- Tonnage and location where the debris was sent, including any materials salvaged for reuse and recycling.
- Where possible, a breakdown of the tonnage by specific material



STEP 3 Require completion of a salvage and deconstruction survey for all projects that involve renovation, demolition, or deconstruction.

This can demonstrate to the building owner the opportunities for salvage and raise awareness.

Seattle, WA, requires a Deconstruction and Salvage Assessment for all projects greater than 750 sf requiring demolition.

STEP 4 Consider a Case Study

A municipal-owned property or a sympathetic owner (ideally one whose structure typifies what your municipality aims to deconstruct) provides the opportunity for a case study.

Through this process, you can gain a better understanding of the deconstruction process (total cost, labor hours and cost, amount and types of materials salvaged/recycled, storage requirements). It is also a chance to gather stakeholders: workforce training organizations, reuse and salvage professionals, contractors, local sustainability experts, and community volunteers. Funding may be available through state grant programs or local organizations.

Assess the outcome: What is needed to accomplish this work on a larger scale? What private market requirements are needed to ensure success and how can they be incentivized? What other stakeholders can become part of the process?

Pathway to Policy: Introduce Incentives



An analysis of the data you collect can provide a snapshot of your local demolition and building waste situation: frequency of demolition (or renovation), type and age of demolished sites (commercial, residential), weight and material produced. **Based on this information, develop incentives that reflect the positive values associated with deconstruction and that can encourage voluntary deconstruction.** These can include favorable permitting terms as well as monetary incentives to cover the gap between demolition and deconstruction costs.

Permit Fees

- Within a defined pilot period, the application fee for a deconstruction permit is \$0, while the application fee for a demolition permit might be increased.
- Charge low fees for deconstruction permits (i.e., \$75) and high fees for demolition permits (e.g., \$5,000-10,000). Fees can be placed in a fund to pay for workforce development (e.g., the city funds half of workforce on-the-job training, with the contractor paying the balance).
- Waive the fee entirely when a deconstruction contract is attached to the permit application.

Via a city council resolution, Los Altos Hills, CA, waives permit fees for buildings being deconstructed by a licensed contractor



Permit Timelines

- Expedite deconstruction permits. Award deconstruction permits within a shorter timeframe (7-10 days) than demolition permits (14-30 days).
- Require a stay of demolition or a waiting period (i.e., 90 days) for demolition permits. This delay can be used to find parties interested in reusing a building, instead of demolishing it; it provides local businesses, nonprofits, and individuals time for soft-stripping and to arrange with the contractor for the removal of salvaged structural members. This delay also allows historic sites to be documented, if desired. Post notices prominently at the site to explain the delay, as well as door hangers on adjoining properties and information in the media and on city websites.
- Permit applicants who agree to deconstruct rather than demolish have their building plans for new construction go to the head of the queue rather than reviewed in the order they're received.

Grants

- Adopt a grant program to defray the cost of deconstruction. Set a minimum waste diversion rate for the resulting reuse and recycling; require that a percentage of the grant is forfeited if the rate is not reached.

Portland, OR, requires a delay of 35-95 days for demolition permits

Los Altos Hills, CA, has fast tracked the building permit process for deconstruction sites

Hennepin County, MN, offers grants up to \$5,000 for deconstruction. Portland, OR offered \$2,500-\$3,000 in its pilot program



Successful policy efforts are generally phased, taking into account the data gathered. (For example, if many more permits are awarded for renovation work than for full demolition, phase in requirements targeted at this type of work.) They incorporate stakeholder engagement and education and provide easily accessible public-facing resources. A phased approach to policy requirements allows for stakeholder buy-in and ensures the market can develop to best accommodate the building material supply and demand.

Phasing that demonstrates a community's commitment to its constituents can allow for a smoother transition to full deconstruction. Your community might start by requiring full deconstruction of all municipal-owned property slated for demolition, followed by deconstruction of residential buildings designated as historic resources. Over time, move on to requirements based on year the building was completed, for example.

There are other important considerations many local governments have put in place to help ensure success.

- Review requirements on an annual basis to consider if they are appropriate or need to be adjusted.
- Consider on-site source separation as a requirement, in order to ensure uncontaminated building material streams are differentiated from building waste.
- Many local governments have enacted a certification program for deconstruction contractors.

Ensuring Policy Success

Educate at Every Opportunity

- Offer easy-to-access resources that clarify permitting, explain monetary incentives (if any), and include a list of available service providers (contractors, salvage and reuse facilities, transport options).
- Provide deconstruction projects with city-generated signage for site that raises awareness of the benefits and opportunities of salvage and waste diversion.
- Provide information about the use of charitable donations of building materials and architectural salvage to not-for-profit reuse centers, which can result in tax deductions for building owners.
- Partner with workforce development organizations and green jobs companies to offer deconstruction training.
- Ensure public departments understand the benefits of deconstruction, the municipality's efforts to advance waste diversion and material reuse, and the role employees play in making this effort a success.

The state of California requires 75 percent of CDD be diverted from all construction projects

Support Statewide Action

State-level support for deconstruction and building material reuse can help bolster local efforts. Contact your state representatives to ask that they support efforts to:

- Establish a minimum building waste diversion requirement for deconstruction/demolition, renovation and new construction

Ensuring Policy Success

Support Statewide Action Cont'd

- Support green workforce development with deconstruction (and associated jobs) as a cornerstone; include a state-wide deconstruction contractor certification as part of this
- Identify funds to establish Reuse Innovation Hubs for the storage, processing, and sale of materials
- Support an online material marketplace for New York State
- Establish a grant fund for local governments to incentivize property owners
- Enact higher landfill fees for CDD disposal
- Allow undamaged, reclaimed lumber to be used for structural purposes
- Improve statewide CDD data collection through the Department of Environmental Conservation
- Require deconstruction of all state-owned properties, including infrastructure
- Launch entrepreneurial competitions to support the development of sustainable, innovative methods to incorporate recycled materials into value-added products
- Provide resources for stakeholders/interested parties

In Oregon and Washington state, salvaged lumber can be used in a structural capacity in new construction

Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection maintains a robust website dedicated to providing businesses and individuals with resources on deconstruction, salvage, and reuse

Case Study: Portland, Oregon

A LEADING MODEL FOR DECONSTRUCTION ORDINANCES

Core elements (as of 2022)

Scope: All buildings built before 1940 or designated as a historic resource must be deconstructed

Contractors: Deconstruction must be performed by a Certified Deconstruction Contractor i.e., firms licensed with the Oregon Construction Contractors Board and with at least one person certified through a skills assessment (in-person), written exam (online), and 500 hours of experience. Must also have asbestos and lead-based paint certifications.

Signage: A yard sign must be posted at the site that indicates that the structure is being deconstructed and must provide City contact information for questions or concerns.

Documents: Pre-deconstruction forms, deconstruction documentation, and post-deconstruction form must be submitted to City.

Enforcement: Penalty fees for violations, misrepresented documentation, and improper use of heavy machinery. Certified deconstruction contractors may be temporarily removed from the list of approved Certified Deconstruction Contractors for violations.



Example of mandated signage for deconstruction projects.
Credit: City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

Builders, home owners, and deconstruction contractors can apply for deconstruction grants of \$2,500-3,000

City council adopts ordinance that requires buildings built before 1916 to be deconstructed. Contractor training and certification occurs.

City agency contracts a nonprofit to plan Deconstruction Workforce Training program.

City council adopts ordinance amendment to raise the building year requirement from 1916 to 1940

Sept. 2015-Aug. 2017

July 2016

March 2017

November 2019

Lessons Learned from Portland

Build qualified labor capacity

- Deconstruction contractor training and firm certification were offered concurrently with the ordinance
 - Prior to the ordinance, Portland had two whole-house deconstruction contractors. As of 2022, there are 16 certified contractors.
 - Deconstruction workforce training program similarly increased capacity

Use a phased approach

- Three-phase approach (grant incentives and the amendable year-built ordinance model) struck a balance between ambition and feasibility

Pair an ordinance with other incentives

- Grant incentives as small as \$2,500-3,000 helped kick-start deconstruction and allowed the city to collect data that informed the development of the ordinance (e.g., costs, salvaged material inventory, weights of disposed materials)
- A previous ordinance required demolition permits, but not deconstruction permits, to be delayed by at least 35 days before being reviewed

By the Numbers

100 homes



Average number deconstructed every year

26.9%



Percentage of material, by weight, salvaged per home

161 cars



CO2 equivalent the city saves every year

≥ 30



Number of people trained through the contractor or workforce training programs

≥ 2/3



Amount of demolition permits required to be deconstructed, as of 2020

≈ 5 days



How much earlier decon. projects begin new development/receive land use approval than demos.

Sources: "[Deconstruction in Portland: Summary of Activity](#)" Northwest Economic Research Center, "[Deconstruction vs. Demolition: An evaluation of carbon and energy impacts from deconstructed homes in the City of Portland](#)" Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, "[Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator](#)" EPA, "[Nantucket Preservation Symposium](#)" Shawn Wood, "[Deconstruction Documents](#)" City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability.

Case Study: Nashville, TN

A LEADING MODEL FOR DECONSTRUCTION INCENTIVES

Core elements (as of 2022)

Scope: Demolition Debris Plan applies to structures with a construction value of \$50,000 or greater. Required demolition approval applies to structures constructed before 1885.

Documentation: A completed management plan approved by the Solid Waste Division is required to gain a demolition permit.

Demolition Delay: The Historic Zoning Commission can delay the issuance of a demolition permit for 90 days in order to slow a planned demolition of historic structures to achieve documentation, salvage historic materials, and dismantle the historic structure as necessary.

Fees: In order to mitigate construction, there is a tiered building permit fee system, with residential structures starting \$28.25, and commercial starting at \$40.39. Additionally, a waste management development review fee can range from \$35 to \$1,000 based on the construction value.

Materials Marketplace: Hosts a transaction platform for organizations and businesses to post their reuse and recycling opportunities.



Example of adaptive reuse structure in Nashville, TN
Credit: Brent Moore, Creative Commons

Solid Waste Region Board approves Zero Waste Master Plan to lead to the diversion of 90% of Nashville's waste from landfills

December 2019

Enacted code that allows demolition delay of historic buildings and pre-1885 demolition review

2021

Enacted Demolition Debris Management Plan

July 2021

Nashville's only C&D waste landfill to be closed

July 2022

Lessons Learned from Nashville

Develop Marketplace

- The development of reuse centers like Materials Marketplace and Preservation Station in Nashville supports the feasibility of deconstruction by having a place for the materials to go for storage and reuse.
- It increases the development of a circular economy, which generates cost and energy savings and creates new jobs.

Use a phased approach

- Incentives such as demolition delays and fees prior to a deconstruction ordinance allow for increased capacity for deconstruction before it is required.

Robust Data Collection

- A required management plan collects data such as the types of materials that will be left over from the project and how the waste is disposed of, which includes any reuse or recycling.
- This data provides a better understanding of CDD waste streams in an area, which better informs deconstruction policy development.

By the Numbers

62



The number of MSW landfills closed in the state since 1991

13.49 M



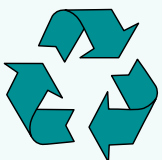
of lbs diverted from landfills through Materials Marketplace

\$622,124



savings and value creation through Materials Marketplace

75%



Nashville's goal for C&D waste diversion

\$ 62.8 M



Historic permit investment in last five years

11,000



Amount of properties protected through historic preservation zoning overlays

Sources: "[Real-time Program Metrics](#)" Tennessee Materials Marketplace, "[Tennessee Materials Marketplace](#)" Department of Environment and Conservation, "[Striving for Zero Waste](#)" Nashville.gov, "[Demolition Debris Management Plan](#)" Zero Waste Nashville, "[Construction and Demolition Debris Management Plans](#)" Nashville.gov, "[Historic Zoning Demolition Permit and Delay](#)" Cotney Construction Law, "[Waste Management, Inc. of Tennessee's Request for Approval of its Application](#)" Waste Management, "[Executive Summary](#)" The New Nashville

Services Directory



Demolition/Deconstruction



Trade Courses



Hazard Management



Transport/Hauling

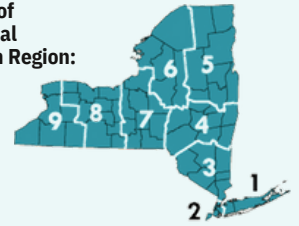


Salvage Retailers



Waste Handling/Diversion

By NY Dept. of
Environmental
Conservation Region:



Region 1

Nassau & Suffolk Counties

Casella

71 Fuller Road #6, Albany, NY 12205 ‡
(866) 839-0800

<https://www.casella.com>

Waste collection, transport, recycling, dumpster rentals



Gramercy

3000 Burns Ave, Wantagh, NY 11793
(516) 876-0020, info@gramercyusa.com

<https://gramercyusa.com/>

Demolition, recycling, remediation, abatement, waste removal, salvage



Island Architectural Salvage

194 Morris Avenue, Holtsville, NY 11742
(631) 745-4526, charlesmaltese@optonline.net
<http://islandarchitecturalsalvage.com>

Architectural salvage



The Learn Center

819 15th Street, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779
(613) 648-9991, lyndsay@thelearncenterny.com

<https://thelearncenter.net/>

Heavy equipment courses



Nassau BOCES

1196 Prospect Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590
(516) 622-6950, adultreg@nasboces.org

<https://www.nassauboces.org/>

Construction trades, heavy equipment training



Reclaim Everything

3230 Laurel Road, East Northport, NY 11731
(631) 525-9940, reclaimeverything66@gmail.com

<http://reclaimeverythingny.com/>

Reclaimed lumber & furniture



United Water Restoration

74 Bridge Road, Islandia, NY 11749
(631) 212-2321, office@unitedliny.com

<https://unitedliny.com/>

Debris clearout, demolition, hazard remediation



Region 2

Brooklyn, Bronx, Manhattan, Queens, and
Staten Island

Apex Technical School

124-02 Queens Plaza South, Long Island City, NY 11101
(212) 645-3300

<https://apexschool.com/>

Construction and building skills



BIG (Build It Green!) Reuse

69 9th Street, Brooklyn New York 11215
(718) 725-8925, brooklyn@bigreuse.org

<https://www.bigreuse.org/> * [facebook.com/bigreuse](https://www.facebook.com/bigreuse)

Building material, furniture, clothes + appliances



Casella

71 Fuller Road #6, Albany, NY 12205
(866) 839-0800

<https://www.casella.com>

Waste collection, transport, recycling, dumpster rentals



Chief Bricks

3221 Edson Ave, Bronx, NY 10469
(718) 379-1232

<https://chiefbricks.com/>

Buy and sell reclaimed bricks



CUNY - New York City College of Technology

300 Jay St, Brooklyn, NY 11201
(718) 260-5000, Admissions@citytech.cuny.edu

<https://www.citytech.cuny.edu/>

Construction management



‡ multiple locations within region

Services Directory

The Demolition Depot

159-161 East 126th Street, New York, NY 10035
(212) 860-1138, info@demolitiondepot.com
http://demolitiondepot.com * facebook.com/demolitiondepot
Salvage resale



Everest Construction Enterprises

87-29 188th St, Hollis, NY 11423
(917) 335-4195, info@everestenterprises.nyc
https://www.everestenterprises.nyc/
Asbestos removal, abatement, demolition, lead remediation



Island Architectural Salvage

194 Morris Avenue, Holtsville, NY 11742
(631) 745-4526, charlesmaltese@optonline.net
http://islandarchitecturalsalvage.com
Architectural salvage



M. Fine Lumber

200 Morgan Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11237
(718) 381-5200, merritt@mfinelumber.com
https://www.mfinelumber.com/
Recycled/reclaimed lumber sales



Midvalley Contractors

32 Walnut Street, New Windsor, NY 12553
(845)-565-4089, office@midvalleycontractors.com
https://midvalleycontractors.com/
Asbestos abatement, interior demolition, and mold remediation



Olde Goode Things

302 Bowery, New York, NY 10012 ‡
(212) 498-9922, webstore@oldegoodthings.com
http://ogtstore.com/ * facebook.com/OGTstore
Architectural antique dealer (including church items)



Tri-State Dismantling

207 Dupont Street, Brooklyn, NY 11222
(718) 349-2552, mail@gotstd.com
https://gotstd.com/
Dismantling, deconstruction, hauling, recycling, construction cleaning



United Water Restoration

74 Bridge Road, Islandia, NY 11749
(631) 212-2321, office@unitedliny.com
https://unitedliny.com/
Debris clearout, demolition, hazard remediation



Urban Archaeology

158 Franklin Street, New York, NY 10013
(212) 371-4646, ny@urbanarchaeology.com
http://urbanarchaeology.com
Lighting and architectural element design, salvage resale



Region 3

Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan,
Ulster, and Westchester Counties

Casella

71 Fuller Road #6, Albany, NY 12205 ‡
(866) 839-0800
https://www.casella.com
Waste collection, transport, recycling, dumpster rentals



Country Road Associates

5 Milltown Road, Holmes, NY 12531
(845) 677-6041
http://www.countryroadassociates.com/
Barn wood salvage resale



Dutchess BOCES

5 BOCES Road, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601
(845) 486-4800
https://www.dcboces.org/
Architecture & construction



Highground Industrial

12 Industrial Drive, Florida, New York 10921
(201) 252-8600
https://www.highgroundind.com/
Hazard mitigation and disposal, demolition, dismantling, construction, waste disposal, recycling



Junk King

20 Mountainview Ave Unit G, Orangeburg, NY 10962
(845) 834-4201
https://www.junk-king.com/locations/hudsonvalley
"Junk" removal, hauling, donation + recycling



Poughkeepsie Environmental & Construction Group

2600 South Rd Suite 44-156,
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
(845) 206-0812, info@poughkeepsieenv.com
https://www.poughkeepsieenv.com/
Testing, abatement, demolition, concrete recycling, restoration



‡ multiple locations within region

Services Directory

[Saracino Industries Inc.](#)

P.O. Box 426, Hawthorne, NY 10532
(845) 628-0400, mark@yonkersgranite.com
www.YonkersGranite.com
Stone suppliers, reclaimed stone sales



[Sullivan County BOCES](#)

15 Sullivan Avenue, Suite 1W, Liberty, NY 12754
(845) 295-4000, info@scboces.org
<https://www.scboces.org/>
Construction Technology



[SUNY Dutchess Community College](#)

53 Pendell Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
(845) 431-8000, admissions@sunydutchess.edu
<https://www.sunydutchess.edu/>
Architectural technology, construction technology management



[Zaborski Emporium](#)

27 Hoffman St., Kingston, NY 12401
(845) 338-6465, sandyballa@verizon.net
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063041209933>
Architectural salvage



Region 4

Albany, Columbia, Delaware, Greene, Montgomery,
Otsego, Rensselaer, Schenectady, and Schoharie
Counties

[Albany Asbestos](#)

2 Bertha Street, Albany, NY 12209
(518) 964-2081, AlbanyAsbestos@gmail.com
<http://www.AlbanyAsbestos.com/>
Asbestos testing and inspection only - no mitigation



[Albany Environmental & Construction Group](#)

911 Central Ave. Suite 24-335, Albany, NY 12206
(518) 320-7412, info@albanyenv.com
<https://www.albanyenv.com/>
Testing, abatement, demolition, construction, concrete recycling



[Capital Region BOCES](#)

900 Watervliet-Shaker Rd., Albany, NY 12205 ‡
(518) 862-4900
<https://www.capitalregionboces.org/>
Building trades, construction, heavy equipment



[Casella](#)

71 Fuller Road #6, Albany, NY 12205 ‡
(866) 839-0800
<https://www.casella.com>
Waste collection, transport, recycling, dumpster rentals



[Classic Environmental](#)

12 Wade Road, Building 1, Latham, NY 12110
(518) 591-0234, singalls@classicenvironmental.com
<http://www.classicenvironmental.com>
Waste removal, hazard remediation, demolition, construction



[Cristo Demolition](#)

241 N Pearl Street, Albany, NY 12207
(518) 463-6985, ryan@cristodemolition.com
<https://www.upstatenydemolition.com/>
Dumpsters, total + selective demolition



[Dan's Hauling & Demo](#)

PO Box 409, Wynantskill, NY 12198
(518) 438-9800, demodan@danshauling.com
<http://www.danshauling.com>
Demolition, hauling, CDD recycling



[DCMO \(Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego\) BOCES](#)

6678 County Road 32, Norwich, NY 13815 ‡
(607) 335-1200
<https://www.dcmoboces.com/>
Building construction, conservation and heavy equipment technology



[Experienced Brick and Stone](#)

268 Central Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14206
(800) 560-5811, info@exbricks.com
<https://www.experiencedbricks.com/>
Reclaimed brick, storage yards throughout NY



[HFM \(Hamilton-Fulton-Montgomery\) BOCES](#)

2755 State Highway 67, Johnstown, NY 12095 ‡
(518) 736-4681, mdimezza@hfmboces.org
<https://www.hfmboces.org/>
Construction technology



[Historic Albany Parts Warehouse](#)

89 Lexington Avenue, Albany NY 12206
(518) 465-2987, warehouse@historic-albany.org
<https://www.historic-albany.org/warehouse>
Architectural salvage resale



‡ multiple locations within region

Services Directory

[Hudson Valley Community College](#)

80 Vandenberg Ave, Troy, NY 12180
(518) 629-4822, communityed@hvcc.edu
<https://www.hvcc.edu/index.html>

Historic preservation carpentry, historic masonry, historic window rehabilitation, building trades



[Jackson Demolition](#)

397 Anthony Street, Schenectady NY 12308
(518) 374 3366, info@jacksondemolition.com
<https://jacksondemolition.com/>

Demolition, dismantling, recycling, remediation, abatement



[Junk King](#)

132 Lincoln Ave Suite 402, Albany, NY 12205
(518) 559-1250

<https://www.junk-king.com/locations/albany>
"Junk" removal, hauling, donation + recycling



[New York Salvage](#)

35 Otesgo St, Oneonta, NY 13820
(607) 433-9890, nysalvage@hotmail.com

<http://newyorksalvage.net>
Architectural salvage retail



[Orion DES \(Demolition & Environmental Services\)](#)

8D Petra Lane, Albany NY 12205
(518) 250-5658

<http://www.oriondes.com/>

Selective + structural demolition, abatement + remediation



[Otsego Northern Catskills BOCES](#)

1914 County Route 35, Milford, NY 13807 ‡
(607) 286-7715, rdemars@oncbores.org

<https://www.oncbores.org/>

Building trades and technology



[Questar III BOCES](#)

10 Empire State Blvd, Castleton, NY 12033
(518) 477-8771

<https://www.questar.org/>

Construction technology, heavy machinery operation



[Ramos Construction & Demolition](#)

(518) 384-4721, ramosconstruction1@outlook.com
<https://www.facebook.com/ramosconstruction1/>

Construction, demolition



[Tri-County Masonry & Excavating](#)

(518) 528-1646, mike@tcmalbany.com
<https://masonrycontractorsalbany.com/>
Construction, demolition



Region 5

Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton,
Saratoga, Warren, and Washington Counties

[Capital Region BOCES](#)

900 Watervliet-Shaker Rd, Albany, NY 12205 ‡
(518) 862-4900

<https://www.capitalregionbores.org/>

Building trades, construction, heavy equipment



[Casella](#)

71 Fuller Road #6, Albany, NY 12205 ‡
(866) 839-0800

<https://www.casella.com/>

Waste collection, transport, recycling, dumpster rentals



[County Waste & Recycling](#)

1927 Route 9, Clifton Park, NY 12065
(518) 877-7007

<https://www.county-waste.com/>

Dumpsters, waste + recycling, waste diversion



[CV Waste Removal Container Services](#)

70 Ann St., Fort Ann, NY 12827 ‡
(518) 746-1558, cvwaste@gmail.com

<https://www.cvwasterremovalinc.com/>

Waste removal, recycling, dumpster rental + hauling



[HFM \(Hamilton-Fulton-Montgomery\) BOCES](#)

2755 State Highway 67, Johnstown, NY 12095
(518) 736-4681, mdimezza@hfmbores.org

<https://www.hfmbores.org/>

Construction technology



[Planit Salvage](#)

274 Greenfield Ave, Ballston Spa, NY 12020
(518) 885-4100, tdawson@planitsalvage.com

<http://planitsalvage.com/>

Metals/automotive specialization, recycling, salvage, dumpsters



‡ multiple locations within region

Services Directory

WSWHE BOCES

(Washington-Saratoga-Warren-Hamilton-Essex)

10 LaCrosse Street, Suite 6, Hudson Falls, NY 12839 ‡
(518) 746-3310

<https://www.wswheboces.org/>
Construction Trades



Region 6

Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, and
St. Lawrence Counties

Antique Woods and Colonial Restorations

121 Quarry Rd, Gouverneur, NY 13642
(315) 250-8295, lehmer@peoplepc.com

<https://www.vintagewoods.com/>

Barn wood + element salvage and construction



Casella

71 Fuller Road #6, Albany, NY 12205 ‡
(866) 839-0800

<https://www.casella.com/>

Waste collection, transport, recycling, dumpster rentals



Empire State Professionals, Inc.

5553 Cairns Trail, Clay, NY 13041
(315) 503-0000

<https://empirestatepros.com/>

Home remodeling, renovations, hazard abatement



Environmental Education Associates

335 Catherine St, Utica, NY 13501
(716) 833-2929, ajm@environmentaleducation.com

<https://environmentaleducation.com/>

Hazard management



SUNY Canton

34 Cornell Drive, Canton, NY 13617
(315) 386-7011, admissions@canton.edu

<https://www.canton.edu/>

Construction technology management



Region 7

Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Madison,
Onondaga, Oswego, Tioga, and Tompkins Counties

Abscope

7086 Commercial Drive, Canastota NY 13032
(800) 273-5318, info@abscope.com

<https://abscope.com/>

Environmental work, abatement, remediation



Barn Wood Addicts

333 Ferguson Rd, Freeville NY 13068
(607) 220-4706, barnwoodaddicts@gmail.com

<https://www.barnwoodaddicts.com/>

Reclaimed wood construction - furniture, doors, etc.



Binghamton Environmental

& Construction Group

1235 Front St #321, Binghamton, NY 13905
(607) 240-5450, info@binghamtonenv.com

<https://www.binghamtonenv.com/>

Testing, abatement, demolition, concrete recycling, restoration



Casella

71 Fuller Road #6, Albany, NY 12205
(866) 839-0800

<https://www.casella.com/>

Waste collection, transport, recycling, dumpster rentals



Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES

1879 West Genesee Street Road, Auburn, NY 13021 ‡
(315) 253-0361, swoodard@cayboces.org

<https://ny50000529.schoolwires.net/cayboces>

Construction & building trades, heavy equipment repair and operations



CDP Services Excavating

9192 River Road, Phoenix, NY 13135
(315) 430-0048

<https://cdpexcavating.com/>

Demolition, deconstruction, and excavation



Chuck It Haulers

843 N Salina St, Syracuse, NY 13208
(315) 925-4439

<https://www.chuckithaulers.com/>

Dumpsters, waste removal, clean-outs, organization, hauling, recycling



‡ multiple locations within region

Services Directory

Contento's

119 1/2 Pendleton Street, Cortland, NY 13045
(607) 753-8136, Info@contentosny.com
<https://contentosny.com/>
CDD recycling center, demolition, container, hauling



Cortland ReUse

245 Mclean Rd, Cortland, NY 13045
(607) 543-4010, cortlandreuse@gmail.com
<https://cortlandreuse.org/>
Salvage resale



DCMO (Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego) BOCES

6678 County Road 32, Norwich, NY 13815
(607) 335-1200
<https://www.dcmoboces.com/>
Building construction, conservation and heavy equipment technology



Empire State Professionals, Inc.

5553 Cairns Trail, Clay, NY 13041
(315) 503-0000
<https://empirestatepros.com/>
Home remodeling, renovations, hazard abatement



Fingerlakes ReUse

214 Elmira Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850 ‡
(607) 257-9699
<http://ithacareuse.org>
Salvage and reuse retail



Gorick

27 Track Drive, Binghamton, NY., 13904
(607) 775-1765, info@gorickconstruction.com
<http://www.gorickconstruction.com/>
Demolition, earthwork, aggregate crushing/recycling services



HSE Consulting

8636 Brewerton Rd, Cicero, NY 13039
(888) 419-1438, info@hseconsultingservices.com
<https://www.hseconsultingservices.com/>
Environmental Abatement



Ithaca Environmental & Construction Group

950 Danby Rd Suite 6, Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 216-6167, info@ithacaenv.com
<https://www.ithacaenv.com/>
Testing, abatement, demolition, concrete recycling, restoration



Junk King

136 Ball Circle, Syracuse, NY 13210
(315) 254-2047
<https://www.junk-king.com/locations/syracuse/>
"Junk" removal, hauling, donation + recycling



LCP Group

3421 Vestal Road, Vestal, NY 13850
(607) 592-2866, lcpgroup@yahoo.com
<http://www.lcpgroup.net/>
Demolition, deconstruction, asbestos remediation, recycling



OCM (Onondaga-Cortland-Madison Counties) BOCES

PO Box 4754, Syracuse, NY 13221
(315) 433-2600, jbliss@ocmboces.org
<https://www.ocmboces.org/>
Construction trades



PAST Architectural Salvage Center

21 N Depot St, Binghamton NY 13901
(607) 621-9968, karenabgm@aol.com
<https://www.pastny.org/salvage-showroom>
Architectural salvage



Sabre Demolition

115 Railroad Street, Warners, NY 13164
(315) 320-4233
<http://www.sabredemolition.com/>
Demolition, dismantlement, remediation, abatement



Sessler Environmental Services

6700 Old Collamer Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057
(844) 834-6982, info@sesslerenv.com
<http://www.sesslerenv.com/>
Environmental contracting, hazard abatement, structure and material decommission



Significant Elements

212 Center Street, Ithaca NY
(607) 277-3450, sales@historicitthaca.org
<http://www.significantelements.org/>
Architectural salvage resale



Sunstream Corporation

6 Spring Forest Avenue, Binghamton, NY 13905-2316
(607) 724-4400
<https://www.sunstreamny.com/>
Environmental abatement



‡ multiple locations within region

Services Directory

[Sweet Salvage](#)

6483 E Seneca Tpke, Jamesville NY 13078
(315) 492-1266, info@ssalvage.com
[https://www.facebook.com/SweetSalvageGiftShope/Salvage resale](https://www.facebook.com/SweetSalvageGiftShope/Salvage%20resale)



[Syracuse Environmental & Construction Group](#)

4736 Onondaga Blvd #434, Syracuse, NY 13219
(315) 313-6690, info@syracuseenv.com
<https://www.syracuseenv.com/>
Testing, abatement, demolition, concrete recycling, restoration



[Syracuse Habitat Restore](#)

514 W. Genesee St, Syracuse, NY 13204
(315) 475-9172, restoremanager@syracusehabitat.org
<https://www.syracuserestore.org/>
General reuse and salvage building materials



[Syracuse Haulers](#)

6223 Thompson Rd, Syracuse, New York 13206
(315) 426-6771
<https://www.syracusehaulers.com/>
Dumpster rental, full + selective demolition, hazard remediation, CDD recycling, cleanup + detailing



[Tompkins Cortland Community College](#)

170 North St, Dryden, NY 13053
(888) 567-8211, admissions@tompkinscortland.edu
<https://www.tompkinscortland.edu/>
Construction and environmental technology



[Trade Design Build](#)

27 Track Drive, Binghamton, NY, 13904
(607) 383-0557, info@tradedesignbuild.com
<https://tradedesignbuild.com/>
Construction, design, deconstruction



Region 8

Chemung, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, and Yates Counties

[AAC Contracting, Inc.](#)

175 Humboldt Street, Rochester, NY 14610
(585) 527-8000
<https://www.aac-contracting.com/>
Hazard remediation, selective demolition



‡ multiple locations within region

[Big Wood LLC](#)

PO Box 446, Naples NY 14512
(585) 374-2699, info@bigwoodllc.com
<http://www.bigwoodllc.com/>
Salvage, reclaimed wood sales



[Cascades Recovery](#)

1845 Emerson Street, Rochester, New York 14606
(866) 839-0800, Recoveryplus_Service@cascades.com
<https://recovery.cascades.com/en>
Recycling services



[Casella](#)

71 Fuller Road #6, Albany, NY 12205 ‡
(866) 839-0800
<https://www.casella.com/>
Waste collection, transport, recycling, dumpster rentals



[Dominick & Daughters](#)

9877 Simonds Road, Corfu, New York
(585) 547-9800, barnbusted@outlook.com
<https://dominickanddaughters.com>
[facebook.com/dominickanddaughters](https://www.facebook.com/dominickanddaughters)
Construction, reclaimed barnwood installation, masonry, demolition



[Empire State Professionals, Inc.](#)

5553 Cairns Trail, Clay, NY 13041
(315) 503-0000
<https://empirestatepros.com/>
Home remodeling, renovations, hazard abatement



[Environmental Education Associates](#)

460 State St., 2nd Floor, Rochester, NY 14608
(716) 833-2929, ajm@environmentaleducation.com
<https://environmentaleducation.com/>
Hazard management



[Experienced Brick and Stone](#)

268 Central Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14206
(800) 560-5811, info@exbricks.com
<https://www.experiencedbricks.com/>
Reclaimed brick, storage yards throughout NY



[Fingerlakes Community College](#)

3325 Marvin Sands Drive, Canandaigua, NY 14424
(585) 394-3522, onestop@flcc.edu
<https://www.flcc.edu/>
Architectural technology



Services Directory

[Frederico Demolition](#)

1005 Chili Avenue, Suite 2, Rochester, New York 14611
(585) 563-3567, info@fredericodemolition.com
<https://fredericodemolition.com>
Demolition, deconstruction, preservation, hazard abatement



[Greater Southern Tier BOCES](#)

459 Philo Road, Elmira, NY 14903 ‡
(607) 739-3581, tdriscoll@gstboces.org
<https://www.gstboces.org/>
Building construction, heavy equipment



[Historic Houseparts](#)

540 South Ave, Rochester, NY, 14620
(585) 325-2329, info@historichouseparts.com
<http://historichouseparts.com>
Salvage and restoration



[Junk King](#)

40 Stace St Suite E, Rochester, NY 14612
(585) 299-5933
<https://www.junk-king.com/locations/rochester>
"Junk" removal, hauling, donation + recycling



[Metro Environmental](#)

30 Industrial Park Circle, Rochester, NY 14624
(716) 285-9280, info@metroenvironmental.com
<https://www.metroenvironmental.com/>
Environmental contracting, hazard remediation, select demolition



[Monroe #2-Orleans BOCES](#)

3555 Buffalo Road, Rochester, NY 14624
(585) 349-9100, CWDInfo@monroe2boces.org
<https://www.monroe2boces.org/>
Residential construction, heavy equipment operations



[Monroe Community College](#)

1000 East Henrietta Road, Rochester, New York 14623
(585) 292-2000
<https://www.monroecc.edu/>
Construction technology



[Paul Davis Restoration](#)

1075 Buffalo Road, Rochester, NY 14624
(585) 647-9933, grny@pauldavis.com
<https://greater-rochester.pauldavis.com/>
Natural-disaster triage, mitigation, hazard remediation, restoration



[Pioneer Millworks](#)

1180 Commercial Drive, Farmington, NY 14425
(585) 924-9970, info@pioneermillworks.com
<https://pioneermillworks.com/>
Reclaimed wood panels and flooring



[ReHouse Architectural Salvage](#)

469 W Ridge Rd, Rochester, NY 14615
(585) 288-3080, info@rehouse.com
<http://www.rehouseny.com/>
Architectural salvage resale



[Rochester Environmental & Construction Group](#)

620 Park Ave #135, Rochester, NY 14607
(585) 299-1533, info@rochesterenv.com
<https://www.rochesterenv.com/>
Testing, abatement, demolition, concrete recycling, restoration



[Rock Environmental](#)

69 Seneca Ave, Rochester, NY 14621
(585) 340-6799
<https://www.rockenv.com/>
Building and interior demolition, hazard remediation, restoration



[Sessler Environmental Services](#)

1330 Research Forest, Macedon, NY 14502
(844) 834-6982, info@sesslerenv.com
<http://www.sesslerenv.com/>
Environmental contracting, hazard abatement, structure + material decommission



Region 9

Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Niagara,
and Wyoming Counties

[Buffalo Environmental & Construction Group](#)

2316 Delaware Ave #250, Buffalo, NY 14216
(716) 262-3600, info@buffaloenv.com
<https://www.buffaloenv.com/>
Testing, abatement, demolition, concrete recycling, restoration



[Cascades Recovery](#)

1845 Emerson Street, Rochester, New York 14606
(866) 839-0800, Recoveryplus_Service@cascades.com
<https://recovery.cascades.com/en>
Recycling services



‡ multiple locations within region

Services Directory

Casella

71 Fuller Road #6, Albany, NY 12205 ‡
(866) 839-0800

<https://www.casella.com/>

Waste collection, transport, recycling, dumpster rentals



Environmental Education Associates

346 Austin Street, Buffalo, NY 14207
(716) 833-2929, ajm@environmentaleducation.com

<https://environmentaleducation.com/>

Hazard management



Experienced Brick and Stone

3370 Broadway St, Cheektowaga, NY 14227
(800) 560-5811, info@exbricks.com

<https://www.experiencedbricks.com/>

Reclaimed brick, storage yards throughout NY



Gothic City Antiques

1940 Niagara St, Buffalo, NY 14207
(716) 874-4479, charlie@gothiccity.com

<http://gothiccity.com/>

Architectural salvage resale



Greater Southern Tier BOCES

459 Philo Road, Elmira, NY 14903
(607) 739-3581, tdriscoll@gstboces.org

<https://www.gstboces.org/>

Building construction, heavy equipment

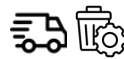


Junk King

1386 Lovejoy St, Sloan, NY 14212
(716) 271-5425

<https://www.junk-king.com/locations/buffalo>

"Junk" removal, hauling, donation + recycling



Metro Environmental

2939 Lockport Road, Niagara Falls, New York 14305
(716) 285-9280, info@metroenvironmental.com

<https://www.metroenvironmental.com/>

Environmental contracting, hazard remediation, select demolition



OSC (Ontario Specialty Contracting Inc.)

140 Lee Street, Buffalo NY 14210
(716) 856-3333

<https://oscinc.com/>

Environmental remediation, demolition, dismantlement, decommissioning



Pinto Construction Services

132 Dingens Street, Buffalo, NY 14206
(716) 825-6666

<https://www.pintocs.com/>

Demolition, Dismantlement, construction, underground infrastructure



ReUse Action

980 Northampton Street, Buffalo NY 14211
(716) 894-3366, info@reuseaction.com

<http://reuseaction.com>

Reclaimed lumber, architectural salvage



Total Wrecking and Environmental

PO Box 326, Buffalo, NY 14231
(716) 692-2002, info@totalwrecking.com

<https://www.totalwrecking.com/>

Demolition, dismantlement, environmental services, abatement



CROWD maintains an up-to-date resource list of New York State businesses and organizations that provide deconstruction-related services.

If your business is missing from this list or you wish to update the information that appears as part of your listing, please email info@christophersoncenter.org. so you can appear in the next guide.

‡ multiple locations within region

Online Resources Directory

[All for Reuse](http://allforreuse.org/)

<http://allforreuse.org/>

National network of building professionals committed to material reuse

[Bay Area Deconstruction Work Group](http://www.deconstructionbayarea.com)

<http://www.deconstructionbayarea.com>

West-coast based deconstruction advocacy and resource organization

[Build Reuse](https://www.buildreuse.org/)

<https://www.buildreuse.org/>

National nonprofit targeting deconstruction/reuse investment and workforce development

[Building Green](http://buildinggreen.com)

<http://buildinggreen.com>

International green building knowledge base

[Climate Heritage Network](http://climateheritage.org)

<http://climateheritage.org>

International interdisciplinary network whose member are committed to achieving Paris Agreement goals

[Construction and Demolition Recycling](http://www.cdrecycler.com)

<http://www.cdrecycler.com>

National CDD magazine and database

[Construction and Demolition Recycling Association](https://www.cdrecycling.org/)

<https://www.cdrecycling.org/>

International material database and coalition of organizations supporting CDD reuse

[CROWD \(Circularity, Reuse and Zero Waste Development\)](https://cr0wd.org)

<https://cr0wd.org>

New York State collaborative network of planners, preservationists, salvage and reuse professionals, municipal staff, faculty and students working to support a linear building and construction economy

[Delta Institute](https://delta-institute.org/)

<https://delta-institute.org/>

Midwest nonprofit for interdisciplinary community and landscape reforms via research

[Ellen MacArthur Foundation](https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/)

<https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/>

UK-based network committed to the creation of materials reuse and circular economies

[Northeast Recycling Council](https://nerc.org/)

<https://nerc.org/>

Northeast interstate nonprofit in policy research, education and technical assistance for CDD reuse

[Reclamation Administration](http://www.reclamationadministration.com/)

<http://www.reclamationadministration.com/>

North American network of local government professionals committed to accelerating urban sustainability

[Recycle Search Database](https://recyclesearch.com/)

<https://recyclesearch.com/>

Recycling and reuse resource database

[Reuse Wood](http://www.reusewood.org)

<http://www.reusewood.org>

Online materials database and CDD directory

[Salvo Directory](https://www.salvoweb.com/salvo-directory)

<https://www.salvoweb.com/salvo-directory>

International architectural salvage directory

[Urban Sustainability Directors Network](https://www.usdn.org/)

<https://www.usdn.org/>

National network of building professionals committed to material reuse

[Waste Heritage Research \(Carleton College\)](https://wasteheritageresearch.wordpress.com/about/)

<https://wasteheritageresearch.wordpress.com/about/>

Carleton College's research hub including glossary, news site and publisher for material salvage information

[NYS Department of Environmental Conservation](https://www.dec.ny.gov/)

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/>

[U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](https://www.epa.gov/)

<https://www.epa.gov/>

(NY is in EPA Region 2: <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-region-2>)

How should we store materials for reuse if we have a small local capacity?

If you have limited storage capacity, the most effective practice is to identify salvage dealers or buyers prior to the deconstruction, so that materials go directly to those who will use, process, and/or sell them. Establish a local network of dealers, buyers and users who can take materials directly from the site, if possible.

A materials survey done in a building before its deconstruction can help to estimate the types and amounts of materials that will be available, which can assist in identifying next destinations and communicating with interested parties.

The Service Directory in this guide contains salvage retailers who may be able to take materials. Additional local contacts who would take salvaged materials might include:

- Stone/brick/masonry companies
- Reuse/upcycle artisans
- Reuse, antique, and architectural salvage stores

Reuse materials provide entrepreneurial opportunities to community members. Consider how the available materials can be advertised to attract local potential entrepreneurs and community organizations in need of building materials.

Who are the people in my community I should reach out to for support?

A reuse economy engages a number of interested parties in a community. Here are some of the parties that may be interested in supporting deconstruction and reuse efforts:

- Climate/sustainability task forces/committees working at municipal and county levels
- Planning, sustainability, and construction program faculty and students at colleges, universities, and trade schools
- Reuse/salvage dealers, artisans, entrepreneurs, etc.
- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- Preservation and historic associations

How do I identify a professional deconstruction contractor?

There currently is not a certification or licensing program for deconstruction contractors in the state of New York. However, many demolition contractors are able to perform deconstruction services if the RFP is written to require this. Contractors may refer to these services as “dismantling.” The Service Directory in this guide provides a list of demolition contractors, many of whom have experience in providing dismantling/deconstruction services.

Glossary

Circular economy

A circular economy is restorative and regenerative by design and aims to keep products, components, and materials at their highest utility and value at all times. (Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 2015) This is in contrast to the linear economy that begins with the extraction of resources from the environment to their use and eventual deposit into a landfill.

(Felix Heisel, [Circular Construction Lab 2021](#))

Construction and demolition debris

Also known as CDD, this is material that is generated during renovation, construction, deconstruction, or demolition of buildings and infrastructure; it is considered non-water soluble and non-hazardous and may have the potential to be reused or recycled.

(Palo Alto municipal [code](#))

Deconstruction

The careful and systematic dismantling of a part or a whole building structure in order to maximize the recovery of valuable material. It is an environmentally friendly alternative to demolition, which produces large amounts of pollution and waste that ends up in landfills.

(Jennifer Minner, [Just Places Lab 2021](#))

Embodied carbon

All CO₂ emissions generated during the production and handling of a building's materials throughout its life: product and construction stage (raw material, manufacturing, transport, construction, and installation), use stage (repair, replacement, refurbishment), and end-of-life stage (deconstruction/demolition, transport, waste processing). If these materials end in landfill or incineration, the embodied carbon is lost. Operational carbon refers to all CO₂ emissions related to the operation of a building during its use stage (heating, cooling, electricity, etc.). While operational carbon emissions are emitted over time, the majority of embodied carbon emissions happen before the first day of a building's use.

(Felix Heisel, [Circular Construction Lab 2021](#))

Recycle

An umbrella term for processes that convert waste into usable products, materials, or substances with the goal of reintroduction to the marketplace. In contrast to reuse, recycling processes generally change the physiognomy (and may also change the composition) of the resource. Recycling processes divert material from the landfill or incinerator.

(Felix Heisel, [Circular Construction Lab 2021](#))

Reuse

A process that further utilizes a component, products, or material in its original composition and shape.

(Felix Heisel, [Circular Construction Lab 2021](#))

Salvage

A systematic and careful intervention to extract valuable building materials, components, and products before demolition. The salvaged materials usually retain their original form with light reprocessing before being re-installed into a building.

(Felix Heisel, [Circular Construction Lab 2021](#))

About CROWD

CROWD (Circularity, Reuse, & Zero Waste Development) supports New York State communities in their plans to achieve sustainable, equitable and resilient built environments. CROWD seeks to advance sustainability, resilience, and green jobs within the built environment by helping communities realize the environmental, cultural, and economic benefits of reusing buildings and building materials through research, education, policy, design, and development of an equitable green workforce.

CROWD is a collaborative network of planners, architects, preservationists, policymakers, salvage and reuse professionals, real estate specialists, academics, and students from around New York State. Founding partners include the Circular Construction Lab, Finger Lakes ReUse, Historic Ithaca, Just Places Lab, Preservation Association of Central New York, and the Susan Christopherson Center for Community Planning.



Credit: Melody Chen, Just Places Lab



Credit: Finger Lakes ReUse

Initially focused in the Finger Lakes region, CROWD has expanded its partners and initiatives to become a leading voice in New York State for the benefits of deconstruction and reuse of building materials.

As we expand our efforts across New York State, we welcome anyone to join us by emailing us at info@crowd.org.



SUSAN CHRISTOPHERSON
CENTER FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING

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