

Kentucky Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Guide

A guide to preventing erosion and controlling sediment from construction activities in Kentucky

Debris and Trash Management

Debris and trash management practices are policies and procedures designed to minimize the generation of waste and to handle and dispose of waste in a manner that minimizes risks to surface waters.

Following are lists describing the targeted materials and recommended procedures.

Construction (and Demolition) Debris

- Dimensional lumber
- Miscellaneous wood (e.g., pallets, plywood)
- Copper (pipe and electrical wiring)
- Miscellaneous metal (e.g., studs, pipe, conduit, sheathing, nails)
- Insulation
- Concrete, brick, and mortar
- Shingles
- Roofing materials
- Gypsum board

Trash

- Paper and cardboard (packaging, containers, wrappers)
- Plastic (packaging, bottles, containers)
- Styrofoam (cups, packing, and forms)
- Food and beverage containers
- Food waste

Storage Procedures

- Stress to employees the importance of keeping the work site clean.
- Wherever possible, minimize production of debris and trash.
- Designate a foreman or supervisor to oversee and enforce proper debris and trash procedures.
- Instruct construction workers in proper debris and trash storage and handling procedures.
- Segregate potentially hazardous waste from nonhazardous construction site debris.

- Segregate recyclable construction debris from other nonrecyclable materials.
- Keep debris and trash under cover either in a closed dumpster or other enclosed trash container that limits contact with rain and runoff and prevents light materials from blowing out.
- Store waste materials away from drainage ditches, swales, and catch basins.
- Do not allow trash containers to overflow.
- Do not allow waste materials to accumulate on the ground.
- Prohibit littering by workers and visitors.
- Police the site daily for litter and debris.
- Enforce solid waste handling and storage procedures.

Disposal Procedures

- If feasible, recycle construction and demolition debris such as wood, metal, and concrete.
- General construction debris may be hauled to a licensed construction debris landfill (typically less expensive than a sanitary landfill).
- Use waste and recycling haulers or facilities approved by the local jurisdiction.

Education

- Educate all workers on solid waste storage and disposal procedures.
- Instruct workers in identification of solid waste and hazardous waste.
- Have regular meetings to discuss and reinforce disposal procedures (incorporate in regular safety seminars).
- Clearly mark on all debris and trash containers which materials are acceptable.



Poor site management of construction debris.

References

[EPA General Construction Site Waste Management](#)