

WASTE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

CONSTRUCTION





Journey Through Time, created by local school students and artist Steven Campbell.

Acknowledgement of Country

Cessnock City Council acknowledges that within its local government area boundaries are the traditional lands of the Wonnarua people, the Awabakal people and the Darkinjung people. We acknowledge these Aboriginal peoples as the traditional custodians of the land on which our offices and operations are located, and pay our respects to Elders past and present. We also acknowledge all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who now live within the Cessnock Local Government Area.

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INTRODUCTION

Introduction

Waste from construction activities may be minimised by both planning and on-site management practices. This can result in more efficient waste management and costs savings for the construction project. Major sources of waste generation during construction include:

- Construction material packaging, including plastic film and cardboard
- Material offcuts, spare or excess materials or over-ordered construction items
- Waste from workers at the site, including food packaging
- Damaged or non-reusable parts, tools and equipment.

This guideline has been developed to assist with the completion of a Waste Management Plan (WMP) for construction projects and assist with meeting the requirements for waste management under Council's Development Control Plan (DCP). A template WMP for construction has been provided in **Appendix A** of this guideline to assist in preparing for a construction project.



The background is a solid green color with several abstract white shapes. A thin white line starts from the left edge and curves downwards and then back up towards the center. There are also larger, rounded white shapes in the top right and bottom left corners.

WASTE MINIMISATION

Waste Management Plan

In preparing a WMP for a construction project consideration of the waste hierarchy under the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001 is to be undertaken (**Figure 1**).

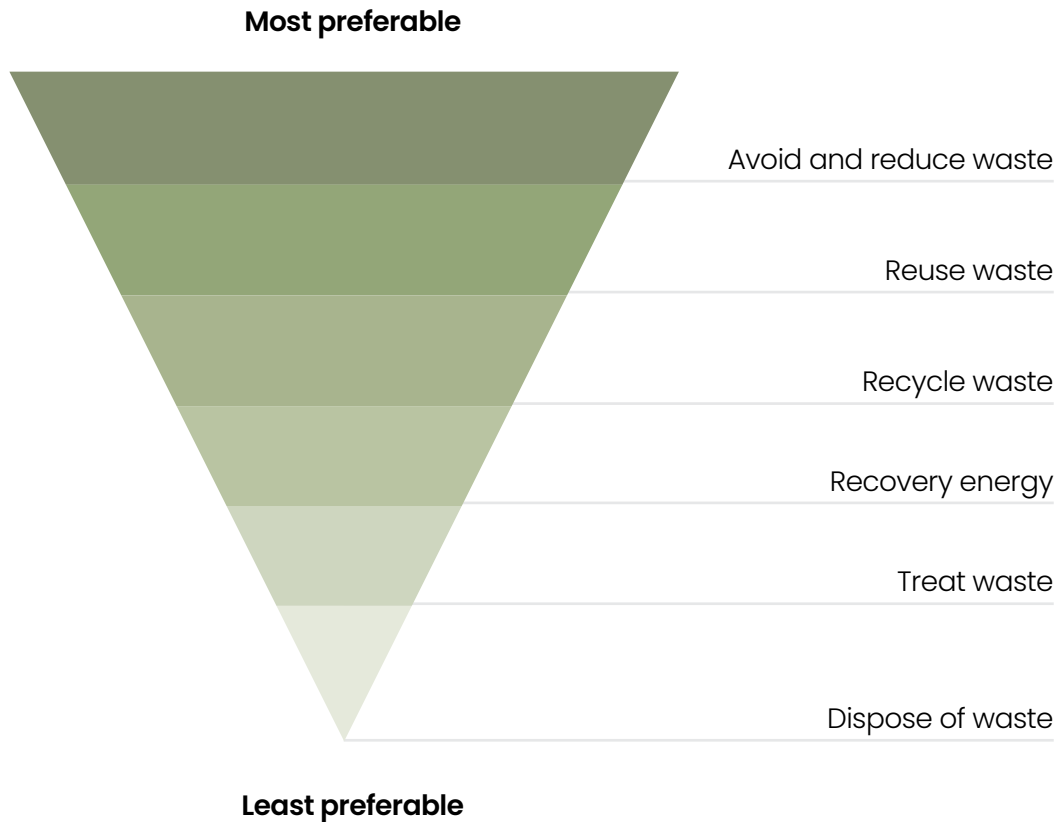


Figure 1: Waste hierarchy – *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001*.

Avoiding construction waste

Measures to minimise waste during construction can include

- A purchasing policy to facilitate appropriate quantities of materials for the project
- Prefabrication of materials
- Reuse of formwork from other projects
- Modular design to reduce offcuts/excess
- Limiting excavation
- Source separation of offcuts to facilitate reuse or recycling
- Bulk purchasing to reduce individual packaging
- Appropriate storage of materials with expiration times to avoid spoiling and limit waste. Preparation of these materials should be batched to avoid spoiling or excess wastage.
- Appropriate landscape planning to reduce maintenance/generation of green waste materials.
- Co-ordination and sequencing of trades/ construction to avoid generation of additional waste.

Construction reuse and recycling

Alternatives to the use of new construction materials may include:

- Reuse of existing materials from the site or from other projects.
- Purchasing second-hand materials or materials with recycled content

Recycling of construction materials can include:

- Setting aside full tiles, bricks and pavers as spares for use in other projects
- Keeping residual paint for future occupants to conduct colour-matching in repairs
- Use of broken bricks or tiles as drainage aggregate
- Use of spare timber for formwork
- Establish a return or buy-back arrangement with suppliers or arrange for materials to be sent to architectural salvage or used material outlets
- Return of pallets to suppliers.

Construction waste storage areas

The waste storage area at the construction site is to be a minimum of 3.5m² with a screening height of 1.2m. A number of bin locations may be required depending on the size of the project.

Any bins are to have tight fitting lids to prevent litter/waste escaping from the waste storage area.

Construction waste collection point

The waste collection point for construction waste material is to be located within the site and safely accessible by the waste collection vehicle. The waste collection vehicle should be able to access and leave the site in a forward direction.

The construction waste collection point is to be identified on the submitted Site Plan.



The background is a solid light green color. It features several abstract white shapes: a thin line that curves from the left edge towards the center, a larger rounded shape in the top right corner, and a large, light green rounded shape in the bottom left corner that overlaps the main background.

USEFUL RESOURCES

Useful resources

Green Cross Australia, Green Building Guide

<http://www.builditbackgreen.org/bushfires/interactive-green-building-guide.aspx>

National Institute of Building Services 2024, Whole Building Design Guide – Construction waste Management

<https://www.wbdg.org/resources/construction-waste-management>

NSW EPA, Household building and renovation

<https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/household-building-and-renovation>

Planet Ark 2023, Business Recycling Directory

<https://businessrecycling.com.au/>



APPENDIX A

Appendix A

Click here to download a council built template for your waste management plan:

<https://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/files/assets/public/v/1/hptrim/website-forms-do-not-change/waste-management-guidelines- construction -fillable-form.docx>



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