



DONTWASTEWOOD.COM

A collection of resources aimed at keeping wood waste out of landfills.

Forest Products
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MUNICIPAL LANDFILLS ARE UNDER CONSTANT PRESSURE

to deal with the growing needs of their communities. Yet wood and other mixed debris from construction, renovation and demolition activities continue to find their way into landfills, even though better options often exist.

Wood waste in landfills decomposes to create **methane**, a greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change at a much greater rate than carbon dioxide.

In 2005, Canadian wood waste in landfills accounted for 24.4 mT of greenhouse gases—the equivalent of **4.7 million passenger vehicles on our roads**.

A photograph of a wooden debris pile in a dumpster. The debris includes various sizes of wood planks, beams, and a large sheet of plywood. In the background, there are several grey metal boxes or containers. The dumpster's interior is dark, and the exterior rim is orange. The text "Why Wood You Waste?" is overlaid on the center of the image.

Why
Wood
You
Waste?



ACTIVATE WOODWASTE DIVERSION IN YOUR COMMUNITY

A growing number of municipalities are now diverting wood from construction, renovation and demolition sites. What used to be garbage is now ending up in new markets. Aged timbers, mantles and railings can command premium prices. Old lumber, flooring and trim can be reused. Lower valued wood products are being ground up into mulch or burned to produce green electricity.

Municipalities can employ a number of tactics to increase wood waste diversion, and conserve valuable landfill space.

The current orientation towards land filling construction waste can be altered through a combination of enhanced regulations, education and municipally facilitated programs. Different jurisdictions around the world have shown that with some incentive industry will innovate to make access to markets even more lucrative and beneficial to the local community.



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DontWasteWood.com contains resources that municipalities can use to help set up their own wood waste diversion programs. Applying lessons learned from successful initiatives in Europe, the US and Canada, **DontWasteWood.com** is a one-stop shop for information on wood waste diversion. Municipalities of all sizes will find toolkits, case studies and other useful resources that will prove essential for establishing a successful wood waste diversion program.

VANCOUVER WOOD, NOT WASTE

In 2008, Metro Vancouver engaged in a wood waste diversion campaign. A solid waste management study report issued in early 2008 identified wood waste as a primary target for diversion—the report estimated that Vancouverites sent 350,000 tonnes of wood waste to landfill on an annual basis.

Vancouver's wood waste pilot engaged private waste haulers, waste processors, city officials, and a local Home Depot outlet, to help bring a wood waste diversion campaign to life. The pilot raised awareness about wood waste diversion with these stakeholders, and helped to collect more than 260 tonnes of wood waste over two months. This wood waste was processed and sold into secondary markets. The pilot resulted in the creation of new markets for wood waste, and Metro Vancouver is now working to expand on its success with a full scale, permanent program.

DECONSTRUCTION IN ALAMEDA COUNTY

In Alameda County, California, the Waste Management Authority (ACWMA) has worked with the State of California to help integrate its aggressive waste management policies. The state's landfill ordinance targets have graduated from 50% (2000) to 75% (2010) in the past decade, with ACWMA looking for new diversion opportunities in the waste stream. Upon surveying its waste stream in 2000, ACWMA found that untreated and treated wood were each among the top five waste types found in county landfills.

In response, ACWMA developed a number of resources for area builders, contractors, and residents, to reduce the amount of construction and renovation debris (particularly wood waste) going to area landfills. An impressive example of ACWMA's policies in action was the deconstruction of a former Oakland Army Base.

Working with the project's contractors to develop a waste management plan, ACWMA helped to recover 98% of the dimensional lumber on the project (572 tonnes), 80% of small timbers (490 tonnes)



and additional 308 tonnes of damaged wood for use as mulch and biofuel. The CO₂ diversion from these combined efforts was the equivalent of taking 286 cars off the road.

THE FOREST PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

FPAC has committed to taking a leadership role in environmental stewardship and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction, by setting a goal of industry-wide carbon neutrality by 2015 without the purchase of offsets.

In order to meet this goal, FPAC is taking a life-cycle approach to GHG emissions

associated with wood and wood products, partnering with organizations to help them demonstrate climate leadership by reducing the carbon footprint associated with the forests they manage and the forest products they manufacture, buy, sell, transport, or handle at end of life. Encouraging users to divert wood wastes from landfill is a key part of achieving this goal.

A wood waste management program can help municipalities to:

- protect valuable landfill space
- find new revenue streams
- stimulate the local economy
- reduce their carbon footprint



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The Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC) provides a voice for Canada's wood, pulp, and paper producers nationally and internationally in government, trade, and environmental affairs. The \$65-billion-a-year forest products industry represents almost 2% of Canada's GDP and is one of Canada's largest employers, operating in hundreds of communities and providing hundreds of thousands of direct and indirect jobs across the country.

FPAC members are committed to doing their part to help achieve the industry goal of becoming carbon neutral across the supply chain by 2015. To learn more, visit **fpac.ca**.

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