Construction and demolition (C&D) debris is a widely underutilized resource that represents nearly 30% of the municipal waste stream entering Wisconsin landfills.

Large quantities of relatively clean high-value materials are disposed of in landfills, resulting in higher C&D costs and wasted resources for the industry. The National Association of Home Builders estimates that 1.7 tons of wood waste is generated during the construction of a 2,000 square-foot home.

Dimensional lumber along with engineered wood products (such as oriented strand board, plywood, wood I-joists, glue laminated timbers and laminated veneer lumber) make up a large percentage of the wood waste that may be chipped for erosion control mulch. For more information on exempt use of wood wastes, see DNR guidance document Wood Chip Exempt Use Guidance [http://dnr.wi.gov/files/pdf/pubs/wa/wa1019.pdf](http://dnr.wi.gov/files/pdf/pubs/wa/wa1019.pdf).

How to Obtain an Exemption from the DNR

An exemption may be obtained from your local DNR office by submitting a letter requesting a low hazard exemption prior to mulching with wood-chips created from engineered wood (see definition above). The letter must contain your company’s name, address, a contact person, phone number and an estimate of the amount of wood waste that you expect to use as erosion control or landscaping annually. Use the example letter provided in this fact sheet as a guide to request the exemption. The DNR may specify requirements in addition to the best management practices described in “Wood Chip Mulching for One and Two Family Home Sites” developed by the Dane County Land Conservation Department.

By receiving this exemption, I estimate that our company expects to divert approximately _____ tons* of wood waste from state landfills in the next year. I have enclosed a check in the amount of $550, payable to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, for the permit fee. I understand that this is a one-time fee.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

(sign name)
typed name, title
company name

Enclosure (check)

*Residential construction yields approximately 1.5 pounds of wood waste per square foot constructed in homes. Estimate the square footage you anticipate building in the next year, convert to wood waste pounds, calculate tons and enter total.

Draft exemption letter created by WasteCap Wisconsin, Inc. in cooperation with the WI DNR. No guarantee is given or implied that use of this sample will result in a successful exemption by the WI DNR. WasteCap Wisconsin has additional information available to help recycle construction and demolition debris.

414/961-1100, wastecap@wastecap.org www.wastecapwi.org
For More Information

For more information on similar subjects, visit dnr.wi.gov and search “demolition” or email DNRWasteMaterials@wisconsin.gov

Disclaimer: This document is intended solely as guidance and does not contain any mandatory requirements except where requirements found in statute or administrative rule are referenced. Any regulatory decisions made by the Department of Natural Resources in any matter addressed by this guidance will be made by applying the governing statutes and administrative rules to the relevant facts.

Equal Opportunity Employer and Americans with Disabilities Act Statement: The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Chief, Public Civil Rights, Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.

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Pursuant to ch. 227, Wis. Stats., the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has finalized and hereby certifies the following guidance document.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOCUMENT ID</th>
<th>WA-19-0608-C</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOCUMENT TITLE</td>
<td>On-site Beneficial Reuse of Ground Engineered Wood Wastes</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROGRAM/BUREAU</td>
<td>Waste and Materials Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATUTORY AUTHORITY OR LEGAL CITATION</td>
<td>Ch. 289, Wis. Stats., chs. NR 500, 502, 518, Wis. Adm. Code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATE SENT TO LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU (FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS)</td>
<td>October 21, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>DATE FINALIZED</td>
<td>November 12, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DNR CERTIFICATION</td>
<td>I have reviewed this guidance document or proposed guidance document and I certify that it complies with sections 227.10 and 227.11 of the Wisconsin Statutes. I further certify that the guidance document or proposed guidance document contains no standard, requirement, or threshold that is not explicitly required or explicitly permitted by a statute or a rule that has been lawfully promulgated. I further certify that the guidance document or proposed guidance document contains no standard, requirement, or threshold that is more restrictive than a standard, requirement, or threshold contained in the Wisconsin Statutes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Signature: [Signature]
Date: November 12, 2019