

Do I Need to do Anything Differently as a Homeowner?

No. In fact, wood chips can be used as mulch for landscape beds, shrubs and islands around trees. Landscape mulch is used in this fashion as a ground cover material to control weeds, prevent moisture loss in soil and for aesthetic purposes.

Contact your builder for more information.

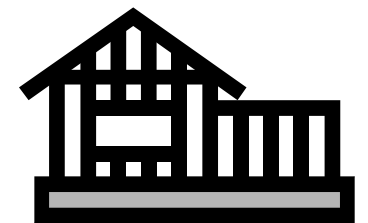


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A Fact Sheet for Homebuyers

Land Application of Construction Scrap



Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board

What is being done?

- **Land application of wood chips to control erosion.**

Wood chips provide strength and stability to soft or muddy driving surfaces, and promote the drainage of water away from the driving surface. The use of wood chips for erosion control is limited to areas where decomposition, or the breaking down of the wood, is desirable, such as under grass, gardens or bushes. Temporarily placing wood chips next to the home before sod has been laid helps prevent muddy rainwater from splashing onto the home's exterior siding.



Why is this being done?

- **Reduce disturbances at the site.**

The grading, trenching and excavation of construction activity disturbs the natural site. Soils are often compacted, causing the soil structure and natural drainage patterns to change. Land applying wood can offer beneficial solutions to these common and often unavoidable consequences of building a home.



- **Conserve landfill space.**

The construction of a 2,000 square foot home will generate approximately four tons of debris, all of which is typically disposed in landfills. Wood comprises over 40% of this waste. In Minnesota, there is limited reuse or recycling options for this material. Land application of wood can be a cost effective and environmentally friendly alternative to landfilling.

Do These Materials Pose any Threat to my Family, the Local Water Supply or Grass and Plant Growth?

No. Guidelines for the application of these materials have been prepared with the approval of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. The materials being land applied are clean, non-toxic, standard construction materials that have not been chemically treated or painted.

Why hasn't this been done before?

This particular waste management technique is new. The equipment required to do this has only recently become available.