



Builder's Information Sheet

Building a better environment

Construction impacts and building waste is a significant polluter to our environment and in particular our waterways.

You can use this fact sheet to encourage better practise from your builder and contractors during the construction of your new home at Swanbourne.

Benefits

- Reduce clean up costs
- Save money from stockpile loss
- Fewer complaints
- Less mud and dust problems
- Reduce Occupational Safety & Health issues
- Improved resource use

Checklist

Tick which of the following your builder is doing correctly

- Early on site supply of waste separation recycling bins, or supply separate recycle bins for construction waste
- Separate recycle bins on site for construction and demolition waste
- Gravel (or hard base material) access to site
- Specified stockpile areas located away from kerbside and covered
- Stormwater drainage protection measures in place
- Designated wash down bays (e.g. paintbrushes and trucks)
- Erosion control measures to reduce soil erosion from vehicle access
- Advised contractors of environmental responsibility

If you have ticked all the boxes you are well on your way to an environmentally sound construction site. If not, read on for information on why these are important and how you and your builder can make a difference.

Waste Minimisation

In the design phase select an architect with a like mind and specify in the brief a commitment to reducing waste to landfill. Investigate opportunities for the use of recycled and recyclable materials. Ensure building specifications are used to guide the purchase of building materials to reduce excess waste being created, and where possible, select building materials which can be pre-fabricated off site to improve the recovery process and reduce on site waste.

Recycle

Request your builder has recycling facilities on site for construction materials such as wood, brick, steel, concrete and sand. Co-mingled facilities or separate waste facilities are both available. Ensure all waste is stored securely on site to prevent littering.

Site Disturbance

A gravel access reduces the tracking of sand and mud outside the building envelope and therefore reduces the opportunity for it entering stormwater drains.

Any sand and mud should be cleaned progressively during construction and at a minimum cleaned up after construction is complete.

Stockpile

All stockpiles should be placed wholly on the construction site away from roads, and where possible placed behind a sediment barrier. At the end of the day these should be covered to reduce wind and water erosion.

Washing Down

Concrete pumps, paint equipment, and trucks should be washed down in designated wash down bays and should be clearly signed and marked for all contractors to use. This waste should be removed off site upon completion of the project.

Stormwater Connection

Install and connect stormwater downpipes (can be temporary) to prevent soil erosion on site.

Materials

Select materials that are recyclable such as concrete and bricks (not painted). Use pre fabricated materials where possible and reduce excess waste through appropriate quantity purchasing.

