

May, 2010
BUILDING DIVISION

DISPOSAL OF DRYWALL (GYPROC)

The purpose of this Bulletin is to advise builders and the general public of the need to properly dispose of drywall construction waste in the City.

Landfills have been the primary place to dispose of our waste. For several years, drywall is one product that has not been allowed into the City landfill. This is due to the high methane and leachate that this material produces and the effect this has on the environment.

The City is experiencing unauthorized dumping of drywall waste on City roads, boulevards and ditches. Apart from the unsightliness that results, the dumping of this material can have an environmental impact on the fragile ecosystem. Unfortunately, when this is done, the City taxpayer must bear the costs for removal, cleanup and disposal of the drywall. This means that the taxpayer is being forced to pay for the careless and illegal act of others.

Builders, developers and the general public are required to find authorized methods to dispose of drywall waste material. One such method is to haul this material to businesses that either recycle or dispose of the drywall in an environmentally acceptable manner. There are also trucking companies who collect the material for disposal. Another method could include the depositing of drywall waste between interior (non-insulated) wall spaces which do not contain electrical, plumbing or other building service lines or equipment.

If you are aware of or know of someone dumping drywall or other types of waste on City or private property, please contact the City Engineering Department's Service Request Desk at 604-590-7250 during working hours or the City of Surrey Firebase at 604-591-4431 after hours. The information you provide will help the City prosecute those responsible for damaging the environment.

For additional information on the disposal of construction waste, including recycling opportunities and appropriate disposal site(s), call the B.C. Recycling Hot Line at 604-732-9253.

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