

# Recycling and Waste Reduction



## Sustainability City Code Initiative Frequently Asked Questions

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### What is Recycling and Waste Reduction?

Recycling and Waste Reduction is a system of regulations and policies that attempt to influence new and existing residential, mixed use and commercial developments to add recycling service areas or stations for the purpose of decreasing the amount of materials that enter the landfill, thereby extending its life and also reducing emissions of methane, a landfill and greenhouse gas. Effective Recycling and Waste Reduction strategies thus will result in more efficient trash collection services, long term cost savings, and extended land fill life while improving public health and promoting sustainable development.



### Purposes

1. Preserve natural resources for future generations;
2. Help Salt Lake City better manage and extend the life of its land fill by encouraging recycling and waste reduction practices that will reduce the amount of materials entering the landfill;
3. Minimize the impact of waste on the natural environment by reducing pollutants, greenhouse gases (notably, methane), and chemicals;
4. Reduce the need for raw materials by creating the “civic infrastructure” for buying and utilizing recycled materials and products;
5. Reduce energy consumption by recycling materials instead of using raw materials for new products, which uses more energy.
6. Reduce personal financial expenditure in the economy through the availability of cheaper recycled products; and
7. Reduce municipal expenditures and save taxpayer dollars through more efficient and reduced refuse collection services.

### What are the regulations and how are they applied?

There are 5 different Recycling and Waste Reduction regulations that will apply to certain developments either new or an expansion of an existing development. The appropriate City staff members will review the plans to ensure the Recycling and Waste Reduction regulations are met. Please see the regulations and applicability table on the next page:

REGULATION	APPLICABILITY
1. Require the designation of a certain amount of space and the installation of recycling service facilities (storage receptacles, staging, separation, etc.) within commercial, business, and mixed use developments in order to efficiently accommodate recycling activity and allow for easy pick-up servicing.	New development, redevelopment, and remodels/expansions of non-residential and mixed-use development when site plans are required in the multi-family, mixed-use, downtown, institutional, and commercial zone districts. (Not applicable to industrial uses or districts, and the Airport District.)
2. Require centralized neighborhood recycling and composting stations to be installed in new residential developments.	New residential development including single-family, multi-family, and residential components in mixed-use developments and subdivisions in all residential or mixed-use districts.
3. In existing developments, allow for the conversion of parking or other common space, under certain conditions, in order to promote the retrofit of the site for recycling facilities.	Existing multi-family residential, mixed-use, and commercial developments that do not currently meet the recycling collection facility requirements of the code.
4. Require construction waste management plans as a part of development applications and, 5. Encourage deconstruction plans and recycling/reuse staging areas as part of the issuance of a demolition permit. Applicability	All multi-family development, subdivision developments of over 20 single-family homes/lots, and new non-residential development, redevelopment and remodels/expansions. All above-referenced development and/or demolition permit applications shall include a construction waste management plan.

If you have any questions regarding Recycling and Waste Reduction Regulations or the proposal before the city, please contact Ana Valdemoros at [ana.valdemoros@slcgov.com](mailto:ana.valdemoros@slcgov.com) or at (801) 535-7236.