As Missouri communities continue to grow, older buildings are being renovated or demolished to make room for newer, more modern buildings. Properly managing the waste during the demolition will prevent threats to human health and the environment.

Construction and Demolition Waste Regulations
The Missouri Department of Natural Resources regulates demolition and renovation projects for institutional, commercial, public and industrial structures. The department also regulates residential structure projects such as apartment buildings with more than four units or two or more residential structures. Single residential structures containing four units or less may be exempt from regulation. The Air Pollution Control Program should be contacted to determine the status. All construction and demolition waste must be properly disposed of at a permitted transfer station or landfill regardless of whether it was generated from a commercial or residential structure. Before a regulated renovation or demolition project begins, the business or entity requesting the work should make the waste disposal a part of the contract. This will reduce liability if the waste is not properly managed and should be considered by the contractors during the bid process.

Fines and Penalties
In Missouri, it is a Class D felony for businesses to illegally dispose of construction and demolition waste. A person convicted of criminal disposition will be subject to a fine not to exceed $20,000. The amount of the fine will reflect the seriousness of the potential impact to human health and the environment. Violators can also be required to clean up the waste, perform community service and serve jail time. Additionally, civil penalties up to $5,000 per day per violation may be assessed for illegal disposal violations.

Demolition or Renovation Wastes
Demolition or renovation operations can create several different kinds of waste. Those include the following:
- Clean fill - uncontaminated soil, rock, sand, gravel, asphaltic concrete, blocks and bricks, and minimal amounts of wood, metal and inert solids. These can be used to fill in excavated holes from demolition or construction projects.
- Recovered materials - includes doors and windows, which can be removed for reuse, or scrap metal and asphalt shingles, which can be taken to a recycling center.
- Regulated wastes - is anything that is not, or cannot be recycled or used as clean fill. Examples include household trash, demolition or renovation debris. These wastes must be taken to a permitted landfill or transfer station for proper disposal.
- Hazardous waste and asbestos containing material - the most common hazardous materials encountered during demolition and renovation projects are lead paint and objects contaminated by lead paint. There are many rules and regulations regarding management and disposal of hazardous and asbestos containing materials.

Asbestos Inspection Requirements
Before a regulated project begins, a licensed inspector must inspect the structure for asbestos containing material. If the inspectors finds regulated quantities of asbestos containing material or assumes it to be in the structure, an Asbestos Abatement Contractor must complete the project. Abatement contractors are trained in the proper procedures for safely removing and disposing of asbestos containing material.

Open Burning of Construction or Demolition Waste
Untreated wood waste may be burned in most rural areas provided you are granted a permit by the department and check with your local fire district for any local ordinances. Contact your regional office for more information. Any materials other than untreated wood cannot be burned.
The burning of waste can lead to toxic emissions like dioxins, volatile organic compounds and hydrogen chloride. Those nearby the burn site
could potentially experience skin and eye irritation, respiratory problems, and even central nervous system issues like headaches or dizziness.
Department of Natural Resources’ Offices

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Solid Waste Management Program
P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176
(573) 751-5401, (573) 526-3902 fax

Kansas City Regional Office
500 NE Colbern Road, Lee’s Summit, MO 64086
(816) 622-7000, (816) 622-7044 fax

Northeast Regional Office
1709 Prospect Drive, Macon, MO 63552
(660) 385-8000, (660) 385-8090 fax

St. Louis Regional Office
7545 S. Lindbergh, Suite 210, St. Louis, MO 63125
(314) 416-2960, (314) 416-2970 fax

Southeast Regional Office
2155 N. Westwood Blvd, Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
(573) 810-9750, (573) 810-9751 fax

Southwest Regional Office
2040 W. Woodland, Springfield, MO 65807
(417) 891-4300, (417) 891-4399 fax

Or call the Department of Natural Resources’ toll-free at 1-800-361-4827

For more information and fact sheets about Disposal of Construction and Demolition Waste and other Solid Waste issues, visit www.dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/pubs-reports/publist.htm

To report an illegal dumpsite, use the online report form at www.dnr.mo.gov

For More Information