Seaford
Recycling & Resource Recovery Project
7th July 2007

Following our first report on the recycling works for a development of 34 two storey dwellings at Seaford, Victoria, Envirogrind Recycling Australia Pty Ltd has since completed another recycling visit that saw over 60 cubic metres of brick and tile turned into crushed rock and approximately 30 cubic metres of timber waste turned into wood chips to be re-used on site.

The designated recycling compound is working well with brick and tile being deposited in the compound area away from the active work site and onsite workers thereby reducing occupational health and safety issues.

Timber is now being collected and stockpiled for recycling and very quickly amounted to over 30 cubic metres of waste.


The wood chips created by the wood waste can be used to assist erosion control, create safe and dry walking paths or used in landscaping works within the development.

The current procedure for recycling works is an 'at call basis'. The site manager calls Envirogrind Recycling when enough brick, tile and wood waste has been stockpiled. This is working well on this site but the option is available to schedule recycling visits at regular intervals say every two or three weeks thereby ensuring the site is regularly serviced with consistent availability of crushed rock and wood chips for re-use on site.


The builder's employees and contractors have done a fabulous job separating the waste streams. There was a small amount of chipboard and treated wood that cannot be recycled mixed in the recycling pile but this was a small amount that was easily separated during the recycling process.

The builder appears to have found good use for the crush rock supplied by recycling brick waste. The long row of crushed rock supplied on the first visit was nearly all gone with only a small pile of crushed rock still waiting to be utilized.

With the first week of July being the wettest in Melbourne, Victoria, since 1983 the crushed rock was very useful maintaining walking paths, truck access route through the adjoining golf course and car parking areas. Instead of boggy mud and unsafe walkways the builder was able to easily amend areas to safe, dry and even surface areas.

Other uses for recycled crushed rock are back fill, landscaping and assistance with soil erosion.

Crushed rock from this recycling visit was left in the recycling compound for re-use in the compound and car parking area.

Wood chips are ideal when units are at fit out stage. Spreading the wood chips at entrances to units will assist in lowering cleaning maintenance. The wood chips will act as a barrier to mud and excess dirt entering the units during this period.

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Future improvements to the recycling process on this site would be delineation between waste streams. Installing temporary shade cloth/plastic strip fencing would see the amenity of the recycling compound improve and reduce hand separation of waste that has become co-mingled.

An example of shade cloth fencing is below used on another site allowing for four separate compounds collecting, wood waste, plasterboard, scrap metal and brick & tile.

On site recycling not only benefits the environment but benefits the builder, planning a multi unit development to utilize recyclable waste products such as wood chips and crushed rock while reducing waste going to landfill is setting the highest benchmark standard that future developments and builders will follow.

To date 105 cubic metres of brick and tile has been recycled and used on site and 30 cubic metres of wood waste.

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