

Departments of Transportation Survey Executive Summary

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The Construction and Demolition Recycling Association

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the United States, Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste forms a significant portion of the solid waste stream. Given its magnitude, these materials offer an untapped resource for the recycling industry. Notably, an effective avenue for the advantageous reuse of these materials lies in transportation projects, a sector that demands vast resources.

However, state-specific policies and regulations concerning the utilization of C&D materials in transportation projects present a complex landscape. While some states are progressive, with regulations that promote the reuse of C&D materials, others tend to be more conservative, restricting their use. This disparity emphasizes the importance of thoroughly understanding state-specific regulations, enabling government and industry organizations to collaboratively explore and expand the possibilities for reusing C&D materials.

To this end, the University of Florida, commissioned by the Construction and Demolition Recycling Association (CDRA), has embarked on a comprehensive survey of all 50 states. This project focuses on the use of recycled asphalt shingles (RAS), recycled concrete aggregate (RCA), and recycled glass in bridge and road applications.

Our team reached out to the Department of Transportation (DOT) in each state and conducted an in-depth review of DOT standard specifications. We have collated a report comprising the explicit rules, delineated by state, regarding the use of these three recycled materials in diverse transportation projects. This report is based on both the specific state standard specifications and the data collected from our survey.

Our goal is to provide a detailed, easy-to-navigate reference for policymakers, CDRA members, and other stakeholders, offering them a better understanding of the potential end markets for recycled C&D waste in the United States. With this information, we hope to facilitate more informed decisions, drive regulatory changes where needed, and ultimately, boost the recycling and reuse of C&D materials across the country.