



Deconstruction in Connecticut: How to Start

INTRODUCTION

This resource is intended for homeowners, property managers, and businesses in New Hampshire who are interested in alternatives to building demolition and are instead considering strategies with lower environmental impact. Deconstruction doesn't have to be all or nothing; it can be as simple or as salvaging cabinetry and donating furniture. Options range from a pre-demolition cleanout to reclaim materials, to incremental deconstruction that salvages specific valuable parts, all the way to a full deconstruction of the structure. This flexibility allows for gradual adoption and adaptation of deconstruction practices, making it accessible and manageable for a variety of projects and goals.

Deconstruction is the process of disassembling a building or parts of a building in order to salvage and reuse and/or donate its materials. Depending on the building and its salvageable materials, methods of deconstruction can vary.

		SCALE: MIN → IMPACT → MAX				
		TYPE	Pre-Demo Clean Out	Soft-Stripping	Partial Deconstruction	Full Deconstruction
Deconstruction Pathways	DEFINITION	Removing items like furniture that can be donated before the project begins	High value and easy to remove materials like appliances, lighting, cabinetry, and architectural items	Additional material including doors, trim, flooring, and windows	Salvaging all materials with value and structural steel and lumber	Maintaining a building structure while renovating its interior for different purpose

BENEFITS OF DECONSTRUCTION

Choosing deconstruction offers a broad spectrum of benefits, including potential cost savings, marketing opportunities, job creation, and positive environmental impact.

Cost: While costs vary by project, deconstruction provides an opportunity to save on disposal costs and receive associated tax deductions when donating to qualified nonprofits, potentially offsetting any additional labor costs.

Marketing: Deconstruction projects small and large can be leveraged for brand recognition and can highlight your commitment to the community.

Job Creation: Reusing and recycling construction and demolition (C&D) materials creates jobs. In fact, deconstruction creates 6 to 8 jobs for every 1 job that demolition creates.

Environmental: Deconstruction reduces greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and embodied carbon (the greenhouse gas emissions arising from the manufacturing, transportation, installation, maintenance, and disposal of building materials), and preserves natural resources.

DECONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS, REUSE OUTLETS, & OTHER RESOURCES

Below you will find contractors and reuse outlets that can help you with your deconstruction projects, in addition to resources that you can consult on your deconstruction journey.

DECONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS				
Business Name & Address	Services Offered	Service Area	Commercial or Residential Services?	Contact Information/Website
Blansfield Builders 2 High Fields Dr, Danbury, CT 06811	Remodeling and soft strip services, donates items that are usable/worthy to reuse outlets	Southwestern Connecticut and Westchester County, New York	Both	James Blansfield (203) 797-9174 jim@blansfieldbuilders.com blansfieldbuilders.com
Domus Constructors, LLC. 9 Cross St, Norwalk, CT 06851	Green remodeler/builder that conducts soft strips and promotes reuse, repurposing and recycling of building materials and fixtures, which are scheduled to be removed from client homes as part of renovation or expansion projects	Lower Fairfield County CT (Fairfield through Greenwich)	Residential	(203) 852-6789 domusllc.com/contact-us
Innovative Custom Builders Fairfield, CT 06825	Soft strip, deconstruction on case-by-case basis	Fairfield County, CT and Westchester County, NY	Residential, and commercial on a case-by-case basis	Ziggy Turczyn (203) 768-7262, ziggy@innovativecustombuilders.com innovativecustombuilders.com
Pavarini Northeast One Star Point, 4th Floor, Stamford CT 06902	Soft strip, partner with reuse vendors and donation centers to keep building materials from landfill, site separation of materials during construction and demolition, utilization of manufacturer takeback programs (Ceiling tiles, carpet and flooring, clean gypsum wallboard)	Southern CT, Downstate NY	Commercial and large-scale residential	Michael Orbank (716) 392-7587 michael.orbank@stobuildinggroup.com stobuildinggroup.com
Urbanminers, LLC. 45 High Rock Rd, Hamden, CT 06514	Online material sales and donations, salvage and deconstruction management services	All of Connecticut	Both	Joe DiRisi (203) 824-1724 urbanminers@gmail.com urbanminers.com

BUILDING MATERIALS REUSE OUTLETS

Organization Name & Address	Services Offered	Items Accepted	Service Area	Commercial or Residential?	Pickup Service?	Contact Information/Website
Armster Reclaimed Lumber Company 246 South Main St, East Windsor, CT 06088	Restoration consulting, material recovery	Reclaimed wood and lumber	New England; NY, CT, MA	Both	Yes	Klaas Armster (203) 214-9705 sales@armster.com armsterreclaimedwood.com
BIG Reuse 1 12th St, Brooklyn, NY, 11215	Reuse outlet, accepts donations	Working appliances, building materials, doors, windows, flooring, furniture, tools, cabinets, lighting, lumber, etc.	New York City and adjacent	Both	Yes	donate@bigreuse.org bigreuse.org
Reclamation Lumber 424 Grand Ave, New Haven, CT 06513	Demolition review, restoration consulting, recovery	Wood and lumber		Both		(203) 752-1204 sales@reclamationlumber.com reclamationlumber.com
The ReCONNstruction Center 731 New Britain Ave, Newington, CT 06111	Reuse outlet, accepts donations, deconstruction services	Working appliances, building materials, doors, windows, flooring, furniture, tools, cabinets, lighting, lumber	CT and surrounding areas	Contact to inquire	Yes	(860) 597-3390 info@reconnstructioncenter.org reconnstructioncenter.org/wp
Restore – Costal Fairfield County 1785 Stratford Ave, Stratford, CT 06615	Reuse outlet, accepts donations	Working appliances, building materials, doors, windows, flooring, furniture, tools, cabinets, lighting, lumber	Costal Fairfield County	Contact to inquire	Yes	(203) 383-4385 donate@restorecfc.org fairfieldcountyrestore.org
Restore – Greater New Haven 286 South Colony Rd, Wallingford, CT 06492	Reuse outlet, accepts donations	Furniture, tools and garden items, working appliances, lighting, complete cabinets, doors, windows, sinks, vanities, building materials, etc.	Greater New Haven County, Killingworth and Clinton (for free pickup)	Contact to inquire	Yes	(203) 800-5517 restore@habitatgnh.org newhavencountyrestore.org/donate
Restore – Housatonic 51 Austin St, Danbury, CT 06811	Reuse outlet, accepts donations	Working appliances, building materials, doors, windows, flooring, furniture, tools, cabinets, lighting, lumber	Housatonic Valley	Contact to inquire	Yes for eligible areas, requesting \$20/pickup	donate@housatonichabitat.org housatonichabitat.org/restore

Organization Name & Address	Services Offered	Items Accepted	Service Area	Commercial or Residential?	Pickup Service?	Contact Information/Website
Restore – Middlesex 34 Shunpike Rd, Ste 24, Cromwell, CT 06416	Reuse outlet, accepts donations	Working appliances, building materials, doors, windows, flooring, furniture, tools, cabinets, lighting, lumber	Berlin, Chester, Cromwell, Deep River, Durham, East Haddam, East Hampton, Glastonbury, Essex, Haddam, Marlborough, Middletown, Middlefield, Portland, Rocky Hill, Old Saybrook, Westbrook, Wethersfield.	Contact to inquire	Yes for eligible areas, requesting \$15/pickup	(860) 788-6483 habitatmiddlesex.org/restore/donate
Restore – Plainfield 808 Norwish Road, Plainfield, CT, 06374	Reuse outlet, accepts donations	Working appliances, building materials, doors, windows, flooring, furniture, tools, cabinets, lighting, lumber	Eastern CT	Contact to inquire	Yes for eligible areas, requesting \$20/pickup	(860) 564-7507 managerne@habitatect.org habitatect.org/restore
ReStore – South County 1555 Shannock Rd, Charlestown RI, 02813	Reuse outlet, accepts donations	Working appliances, building materials, doors, windows, flooring, furniture, tools, cabinets, lighting, lumber	South County	Contact to inquire	Yes	(401) 213-6716 restore@southcountyhabitat.org southcountyhabitat.org/restore
Restore – Waterford 82 Boston Post Rd, Waterford, CT 06385	Reuse outlet, accepts donations	Working appliances, building materials, doors, windows, flooring, furniture, tools, cabinets, lighting, lumber	Eastern CT	Contact to inquire	Yes for eligible areas, requesting \$20/pickup	(860) 437-3422 managerse@habitatect.org habitatect.org/restore

OTHER DECONSTRUCTION RESOURCES

Organization Name	Description	Notes	Website
All For Reuse	"All For Reuse is an initiative to develop a network of building professionals committed to the reuse of commercial building materials. Building material reuse is an overlooked solution to carbon reduction and local economic development."	Hosts a reuse ecosystem map: allforreuse.org/ecosystem-map	allforreuse.org
Build Reuse	"Build Reuse is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit established in 1994 that serves as the premier national organization encouraging the recovery, reuse, and recycling of building materials in the United States. We are also committed to developing social investment and workforce development programs in the deconstruction industry. Our vision is to transform our communities by creating a building industry in which used and excess materials become an asset and waste is no longer acceptable."		buildreuse.org
Building Ease - BE-Xchange	"BuildingEase is the first global trade exchange for (green) construction products making B2B e-commerce easy for the building industry!"		mt.buildingease.com
CROWD (Circularity, Reuse, Zero Waste Development)	CROWD is a New York State network uniting professionals and academics in sustainable building practices. Formed in 2020, it promotes deconstruction, reuse, and preservation to minimize demolition's environmental impact, focusing on circular economy principles. Partners include organizations in architecture, construction, and historic preservation.		cr0wd.org
RE-USE Consulting	A consulting service active across North America that provides guidance on deconstruction and building materials reuse projects in the commercial and residential sectors, establishment of local ordinances or programs that support deconstruction, and more. RE-USE Consulting also has a deconstruction institute training program and reuse center. They are based out of Bellingham, Washington but are expanding across the US.	Contact Dave Bennink to learn more, 360-733-1363, re-use@comcast.net	reuseconsulting.com/contact-1
Reuse Marketplace	"The Reuse Marketplace is a free online service to facilitate the reuse of surplus and unwanted materials and items. Membership is free."		reusemarketplace.org

Call or email CET if you are a deconstruction contractor or a builder open to reusing/donating reclaimed materials from projects.

For assistance with your next deconstruction project, contact CET at cetonline.org, info@cetonline.org, or 413.586.7350.



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