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# TALKIN' TRASH

Diamond Waste Services, Inc. Newsletter · July 2008

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Dear Customer,

In his play Henry V, William Shakespeare wrote *"All things are ready if our minds be so."*

It is in this spirit of preparedness that Diamond Waste would like to share an important update regarding LEED Green Building standards as they relate to construction and renovation projects in the Baltimore / Washington DC area.

If you have any questions about trash removal, recycling and LEED Green Building standards, please don't hesitate to contact us. We are always ready to swing by and discuss any concerns you may have about your project.

Best Regards,  
**Wallace Putkowski**,  
President  
Diamond Waste Services, Inc.

## LEED Green Building Standards to be Mandated for Maryland, DC and Virginia

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by Polly Bart, Ph.D.  
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Greenbuilders, Inc.

During the past six years, the US Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system has become recognized as a useful guide to evaluating the "greenness" of commercial construction. Maryland/DC/Virginia is the first region to implement a series of local legislative actions which will effectively mandate LEED for many large projects within 12-18 months.

Some of the best thinking this country can provide has gone into developing and continually improving the LEED rating system. Membership in the USGBC is limited to companies, not individuals and not the government. For this reason, LEED rarely tells you what to do; it tells you what to achieve and makes suggestions for ways of accomplishing goals and winning points in the rating system. Depending on points achieved, projects will be certified by a third party evaluator and may achieve Silver, Gold, or

Platinum status.

The first LEED rating systems were designed for new construction or major renovation of office buildings. With the success of LEED-NC came other systems, for core and shell buildings, commercial interiors, and existing buildings (management and maintenance systems). Although LEED-NC has been used for many property types, there are now specialized systems for retail, healthcare, homes, neighborhoods, and most recently, schools.

Only about thirty percent of those jobs which have registered for LEED thus far have achieved certification. Handling waste management correctly is an important part of avoiding problems and delays and getting your project certified. As a LEED consultant specializing in working for general contractors and construction managers, I advise my clients that they may sometimes use subcontractors who have performed well previously, even if they do not have LEED experience. There is one exception to this suggestion, however, and that is waste management. **The waste management company hired must have prior LEED experience**, because the procedures and record-keeping are too different from "business as usual" to try to develop during the project.

An experienced waste management contractor should be able to readily provide you with the following three things as part of the interview: 1) a LEED construction waste management plan which they have used previously, 2) sample tickets showing how and by whom the weight and type of recyclable waste for each load are identified, and 3) a monthly or biweekly report tabulating waste recycled by weight and where it went (required for LEED MR 2.1-2). Asking for these documents will assist you in accurately assessing the company's experience.

## New LEED-S For Schools

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As of April 20, 2007 all new school construction and major school renovation projects seeking LEED certification must use LEED-S. For those familiar with LEED-NC, a chart showing differences is available on the USGBC website, [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org). Unique features appropriate for contractors doing school construction include issues such as classroom acoustics, master planning, mold prevention, environmental site assessment, and use of the school as a teaching tool.

## New Howard County & Baltimore City LEED Requirements

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Both the Howard County Council and Baltimore City Council have passed green building legislation requiring new buildings to get LEED certification.

The Howard County regulations mandate new commercial buildings of at least 50,000 sq. ft. and county-funded buildings of at least 10,000 sq. ft. obtain LEED certification.

Baltimore City's law also requires LEED certification for new city-owned or subsidized structures of at least 10,000 sq. ft. (with building permits filed after July, 1, 2009). The Baltimore City Council is still working on a set of official green building guidelines.

## The Baltimore / Washington Area's LEEDing Waste Removal Service

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Diamond Waste Services, Inc. is the Baltimore/Washington area's premiere LEED experienced waste removal company. We can help you to establish a waste management plan, implement a specific program on your job site and document the results as part of the LEED certification process. Please don't hesitate to call us today and set up an appointment to find out more about getting your project LEED certified.

## The Benefits of Diamond Waste

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Diamond Waste is committed to providing courteous, attentive service to each customer. We like to maintain close communication regarding pick-ups and scheduling and we're flexible as your job site conditions change. There are no surprises with Diamond

Waste. Every Diamond Waste truck is equipped with a two-way radio and GPS so we always know the location and ETA of your next pick up. We take pride that our customers are never left guessing when their waste will be removed. Our staff can easily be reached should you require after hours service assistance.

***Choosing Diamond Waste Services, Inc. would bring the following benefits to your project:***

- Prompt, reliable waste removal solutions for construction and demolition applications.
- Excellent communication - there are no surprises with Diamond Waste. Our trucks are equipped with two-way radios and GPS, so we always know the location and ETA of your next pick up.
- Experience at obtaining security clearances to access and provide services to secure installations such as airports, military bases and government facilities.
- LEED compliant "Green Building" waste removal and recycling services with full documentation.
- Recycling removal of "metal only," "wood only," "concrete / masonry only" and other recyclable materials.
- Special waste removal of creosote lumber, tires, contaminated soil and other waste materials.
- Scheduled service 24 hours per day, 7 days per week and our dispatch is always available to answer your call.
- Veteran owned and operated.

When the job schedule is critical and you need on-time, no-nonsense waste removal - call Diamond Waste! We'll get the job done. Reliably. After all, "Our Service Shines!"

If you are planning a construction or demolition project please consider adding our company to your team by allowing us to assist with waste and debris removal. If you know of someone that may benefit from our service, please consider forwarding this email to their attention.

Thank you for your time and help.

**Contact Information**

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