



## Strategies to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Bricks



*The first step and key to successful reuse programs is waste separation.*

### *Then*

- Design out brick waste by simplifying elevations and carbuncles in design.
- Consider a running bond pattern that makes use of otherwise rejected ½ bricks, or use partially damaged brick for odd conditions at edges or joints.
- Inquire with your supplier about reducing the inventory safety factor (padding of the quantities) in your order profile and tighten up your material takeoffs.
- Negotiate your contract with your supplier to require him to take back surplus, or excess material on the jobsite. Work with your team to locate these take back bricks in secure but accessible spots, and clearly identify what kind of brick to put there.
- Negotiate with your supplier to have him buy-back substandard, or rejected items.
- Ask your supplier to deliver bricks using only sturdy, returnable pallets, with no shrink wrap

### **Decide upon on-site grinding or reuse vs. hauling brick waste offsite for reuse?**

- Decide whether you are going to send back as many brick and brick shards as possible for refunds, or what remains will be reused or grinded for site use.
- If reuse on-site for sidewalks or other site improvements is the choice – separate and protect this brick raw material from either discards or others elements that may be otherwise discarded or on-site grinding (see below)

If grinding on-site is the choice - Discuss with the owner how he would like to utilize the ground bricks.

- Grinding and reuse of ground brick onsite;
  1. Contact a grinding vendor from the list below.
  2. Communicate to all subcontractors the location for brick piece and scraps and their role in the grinding project.

3. Label location for the grinding (versus the take-back site) in both Spanish and English. Make the labels clear (ex: Brick storage pile only, not for public use!)

Separate brick waste in a neat pile for grinding.

4. Decide how you will distribute the ground material on-site.

Uses: Bricks – can be used as a base material for your concrete flatwork or muddy site access.

Area vendor for off site recycling of bricks

Able Brick  
9640 Telephone Road  
Houston, TX 77075  
713-991-2790 / Fax: 713-991-7519  
Any condition / No hazardous waste / Limited concrete, call first

Area vendors for on-site grinding of bricks

Green Clean Management Inc.  
15614 Oxenford (249 and Grant)  
Tomball, TX 77377  
713-545-7082 / Fax: 281-374-0478 / Mobile: 713-545-7085  
[greenconstructionclean@yahoo.com](mailto:greenconstructionclean@yahoo.com)

C West  
725 West 18<sup>th</sup>  
Houston, TX 77008  
713-80C-West / Fax: 713-869-9297  
[CWEST@houston.rr.com](mailto:CWEST@houston.rr.com)

Belleau Wood Environmental, Ltd.  
774 FM 517  
Alvin, TX 77511  
1947 CR 129  
Pearland, TX 77581  
281-388-1269 / Fax: 281-648-8221 / Mobile: 281-435-1211  
[www.belleau-wood.com](http://www.belleau-wood.com)