



Building Materials

That Create *Futures* from the Past

What does deconstruction mean for people, planet and profits?

Deconstruction and reuse helps make any construction, renovation and remodeling effort more cost-effective, energy efficient and greener and can make a difference in many lives. Here's what it can do for you:

- **Reduce Waste and Pollution:** More than 40% of landfill waste is comprised of building materials. It is estimated that deconstruction could divert as much as 24 million tons of demolition debris annually and significantly reduces the energy and waste associated with new construction.
- **Cut Costs:** Reclaiming and donating usable building material reduces disposal costs. Plus, quality reused materials can be purchased for a fraction of the cost of new materials. Donating materials to a non-profit organization can result in a tax write-off for the project owner as well.
- **Design and Build Sustainably:** Deconstruction conserves resources and takes advantage of "embodied energy." Incorporating used and "vintage" materials is a cutting-edge trend that appeals to customers who are knowledgeable about contemporary eco-friendly design.
- **Earn LEED® Points:** Deconstruction and reuse is a recognized component of the LEED® rating system, providing project teams with numerous opportunities for reusing framing, masonry, siding, cabinets, doors, flooring and many other components.
- **Create Jobs:** When you choose deconstruction and reuse, you support a growing industry that is creating jobs, especially for hard-to-employ workers and disadvantaged communities. A typical deconstruction project can employ 2 to 5 times the number of workers than the average demolition project.

The ReBuilding Exchange

The ReBuilding Exchange is Chicago's first building material reuse center. Located on Chicago's southwest side, the ReBuilding Exchange provides affordable building materials to contractors, homeowners and do-it-yourselfers. It also creates jobs, trains hard-to-employ workers and diverts waste from landfills. Since early 2009, the ReBuilding Exchange has diverted more than 1,600 tons of reclaimed building materials from landfills, created 70 job-training opportunities in an emerging green



business sector, leveraged more than \$4.2 million in local investment in deconstruction activity, and directly created eight new green-collar jobs.

“This program means a lot to me – it has lifted my self esteem, provided skills that will assist me in finding and keeping employment, allowed me to work with different tools and be proud of the things made from those tools, and taught me the importance of team work.”

— **Josette Hudson**
Trainee, Safer Foundation



Deconstruction & Reuse the **Delta** way

Deconstruct: Deconstruction is the process of taking a building apart one piece at a time with the goal of reusing as much salvaged material as possible. When tearing down an entire building, or even any load-bearing walls, it is best to hire a licensed deconstruction contractor who has the expertise to do it safely.

Donate: Donating salvaged materials to non-profits like the ReBuilding Exchange allows building owners to write off the materials' appraised value and may recover the cost of deconstruction or make a profit!

	Deconstruction	Demolition
Total Cost:	\$24,338	\$10,100
Donation Value:	\$88,000	\$0
Tax Savings (in 24% tax bracket):	\$24,640	\$0
Net Gain or Loss:	+\$302	-\$10,100

Source: The Reuse People of America
<http://thereusepeople.org/Deconstruction>

Appraise: The contractor will do an inventory of all salvageable materials and turn the inventory over to the appraiser, who will assess the total value according to industry standards for tax reporting purposes.

Design: Designers can use old-growth lumber, vintage fixtures, custom-built cabinetry and other architectural elements as focal points or blending them with contemporary materials.

Reuse: Reclaimed materials may not come in standard measurements and might require repairs, refinishing, or special fitting.

To Learn More, Contact:

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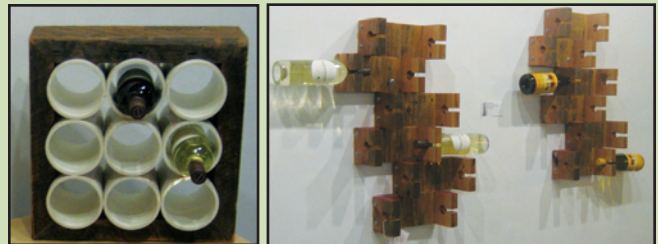
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What **Else** Is Delta Doing to Promote Deconstruction and Reuse?

- Leading the national dialogue on industry best practices and communicating the need for a coordinated national strategy and standardized curriculum for worker training.
- Working to replicate the successful ReBuilding Exchange model in communities throughout the Great Lakes region and to scale the initiative to result in more regional impact.
- Educating the public about benefits, opportunities, and best practices of deconstruction, promoting new uses for reclaimed materials and creating demand for deconstruction workers.
- Updating Suburban Cook County's Solid Waste Management Plan, developing a suburban Cook County deconstruction strategy and expanding its current Deconstruction Job Training Program to include a wider range of workforce opportunities.



2010 Wine & Design Contest

The ReBuilding Exchange partnered with other local, sustainable businesses to host a "Wine & Design Contest" in fall 2010 as a way to inspire a functional and creative reuse of materials that would otherwise end up in the waste stream. Evan Ward designed the winning piece (above left), which was auctioned off to benefit the ReBuilding Exchange and LivingRoom Realty's micro-grants program.



Discover more about Delta Institute and find your green opportunities at www.delta.org/navigate.