Construction Debris

The Town of Reading's curbside trash and recycling collection program is designed for the collection of normal household waste materials. Construction and Demolition Debris are materials generated as a consequence of construction, remodeling, demolition and repair operations. This means that Reading households (or by extension, their contractors) are responsible for their disposal.

Construction and demolition materials generated in the home are NOT collectable curbside with the following limitations:

1. Wood scrap must be cut to thirty six (36) inches in length and bundled with tape or twine and set next to barrels. Bundle must weigh less than sixty (60) pounds and any splinters/fastenings/nails removed or covered. This is considered a bulk item.
2. Fence materials: Wood fence scrap must be cut to forty-two (42) by twenty-four (24) inches. Exposed splinters and fastenings (nails or screws) must be removed or covered. Wire fence should be rolled and tied in bundles less than Forty (40) pounds. This is considered a bulk item. Chain link fencing cannot be collected.
3. Carpet must be cut into forty-eight (48) inch strips or less and rolled and bound with tape or twine. No more than 15 rolls will be picked up. This is considered a bulk item.
4. Sheet goods flooring (linoleum) should be cut into forty-two (48) inch strips and rolled and bound with tape or twine. No more than 15 rolls will be picked up. This is considered a bulk item.
5. Windows: two windows with frame will be accepted up to 42 x 30 inches. Remove or cover all fastenings and splinters. Glass panels, glass doors and glass shower enclosures cannot be accepted. Two windows per household will be picked up as a bulk item per week.
6. Paint and solvents: Latex paints must be thoroughly dried. Empty cans should be left without covers on top of or beside refuse containers. Oil based products are accepted only at semi-annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection events.
7. Plumbing Fixtures: Sinks and toilets may be placed with regular trash (tank separated from bowl) as a bulk item (one per week). Fiberglass tub will be accepted as a bulk item, cast iron tubs are not.
8. Ceiling Tiles (non-asbestos) – 2 tiles per week. This is considered a bulk item.
9. Miscellaneous metal items may be collectable on annual metal collections. Call DPW Administration office for details. 781-942-9077 or visit our website: www.readingma.gov

Important: Asbestos is required to be disposed of via a licensed Asbestos contractor. For more information you can visit www.mass.gov/dep

(This above list is intended as a reference only and may not include every item determined to be construction debris.) Brick, concrete and asphalt, doors, skylights, roofing, sheetrock, siding, electric wiring, radiators, baseboard heaters, insulation, piping, ceramic tile, etc. are not collectable.

If you have hired a contractor, ask them to haul it away as part of the price of the project. If you are a do-it-yourselfer....call a contractor from the phonebook. Look under "Rubbish & Garbage Removal".

Reminder: If your project requires a dumpster, a permit is required by the Town of Reading Health Department.
http://www.readingma.gov/pages/ReadingMA_Health/docs/applications/tempdumpster.pdf