

# WasteCost® lite - waste disposal needn't cost the earth!

The **WasteCost®** software has been designed by the [National Green Specification](#) (NGS) to show that for a modest outlay, significant reductions can be made in the cost of disposing waste from construction sites.

**WasteCost® lite** is a simplified version of **WasteCost® full** which is available on subscription – see details below.

## What does WasteCost® lite do?

- Calculates how much waste will be generated
- Calculates how much waste can be reclaimed for reuse or recycling by segregation
- Calculates how much waste can be diverted from landfill
- Calculates the number of skips required for each waste stream
- Calculates the cost of disposing of skips
- Calculates the savings possible through waste segregation

## Waste disposal has become a costly business

Recent legislation now means:

- An increase in the number of materials classified as 'Hazardous'
- Co-disposal of hazardous waste with non-hazardous waste is no longer permitted
- Waste Acceptance Criteria (WAC) at Hazardous waste sites means the level of hazard must be reduced before disposal
- A massive reduction of landfill sites licenced to receive hazardous waste means an increase in transport charges
- The cost of disposal of hazardous waste has dramatically increased.

## What is 'Waste'?

In the context of construction it means 'Soft-strip', 'Deconstruction and Demolition Arisings', 'Reclaim, Reuse, Recycle or Recover', 'Landscape Green Waste', 'Excavation Arisings', 'Over ordered, never needed', '5% Safety Margin', 'Unused Resources', 'Surplus to requirements of this contract', 'Spares for ongoing maintenance', 'Damaged or discarded goods'.

## Factors affecting the accuracy of WasteCost® lite

- It relies on BRE SMARTWaste data from a limited number of projects
- The types of construction are generalised
- It relies on an accurate input of local disposal costs

## Disclaimer

No accuracy should be assumed by the user for budgeting and tendering.

## **WasteCost® full**

**WasteCost® full** the expanded version of **WasteCost® lite** delivering more accurate results.

Inputs include:

- Better definition and range of waste stream options
- Waste containers to suit waste stream size
- Ability to add more detailed local waste collection rates
- A larger choice of building and construction types including newbuild, refurbishment, demolition, alteration, shell and core, office fit-out, retail refit etc.

Outputs include:

- Key Performance Indicators or KPI figures compared to national statistics (2004) when the user adds actual site quantities.
- Environmental Performance Indicators or EPI figures compared to national statistics (2004) when the user adds actual site quantities.
- Ability to calculate costs for site strip, excavation, landscape and highway works.
- Ability to determine the cost of materials disposed as waste compared with the total cost of materials
- Ability to calculate savings by reducing the over-order safety margins
- Ability to calculate the resale value of reclaimable, reusable and recyclable materials
- Ability to calculate the amount of Carbon Dioxide (a global warming gas) saved by diverting waste from landfill.

**WasteCost® full** is obtainable from the NGS by sending a cheque, along with your name, email address and a contact number, for £117.50 Inc. VAT payable to "National Green Specification" to:

NGS  
91 Oakleigh Drive,  
Orton Longueville  
Peterborough  
PE2 7AR

## **Keep up-to-date and informed**

Join the **WasteCost® full** user group and newsletter list. By registering, you will receive updated version of the **WasteCost® lite** and of **WasteCost® full** if you become a subscriber.

## **Would you like to contribute to the development of WasteCost® ?**

If you have any comments, can contribute knowledge or data or if you would like a bespoke version for a particular end-user group or would simply like to be part of a user group, please contact Brian Murphy at: [BrianSpecMan@aol.com](mailto:BrianSpecMan@aol.com)

## Other sources of information

- For waste specifications, visit the GreenSpec website at:  
[www.greenspec.co.uk/html/features/newspecs1.html](http://www.greenspec.co.uk/html/features/newspecs1.html)
- If your organization would like to organize its own in-house CPD seminar on waste, contact Brian Murphy at: [BrianSpecMan@aol.com](mailto:BrianSpecMan@aol.com)
- The DTI publication 'Site Waste Management Plans' – Guidance for Contractors and Clients is downloadable from:  
[www.dti.gov.uk/construction/sustain\\_waste\\_management.pdf](http://www.dti.gov.uk/construction/sustain_waste_management.pdf)
- BRE SMARTWaste: [www.smartwaste.co.uk](http://www.smartwaste.co.uk)  
BRE are looking for data from 1000 projects to make the BRE SMARTWaste database more comprehensive and accurate. Contact [hunterm@bre.co.uk](mailto:hunterm@bre.co.uk)
- **WasteCost**® introduces the Waste Aware Scotland and ICE waste stream colour codes. More information at: [www.wascot.org.uk/construction/colourcoding.htm](http://www.wascot.org.uk/construction/colourcoding.htm)
- UKCEED have recently run a number of seminars entitled 'Construction Resources; Using less, Recycling More' which launched the findings of a landmark study commissioned by the DTI. Papers from the seminars are downloadable from:  
[www.encluster.org/ecluster/DisplayArticle.asp?ID=3686](http://www.encluster.org/ecluster/DisplayArticle.asp?ID=3686)
- To learn more of the Environment Agency's work on waste, visit:  
[www.environment-agency.gov.uk/subjects/waste/?lang=\\_e](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/subjects/waste/?lang=_e)
- The Envirowise programme — a government initiative that aims to promote better environmental performance while increasing the competitiveness of UK industry and commerce — now offers UK construction companies free, independent, confidential advice and support on practical ways to increase profits by minimising waste:  
[www.envirowise.gov.uk/page.aspx?o=construction](http://www.envirowise.gov.uk/page.aspx?o=construction)
- Constructing Excellence: [www.constructingexcellence.org.uk/](http://www.constructingexcellence.org.uk/)
- Waste Cycle have developed their own version of a waste calculator at:  
[www.wastecycle.co.uk/?c=1047&ch=1](http://www.wastecycle.co.uk/?c=1047&ch=1)