

Dirty wood recycling

DEFRA reported in 2008 that 1,500,000 tonnes of waste was generated through the manufacturing of furniture and panel board. Classified as low grade or dirty wood waste, this material has long had landfill as its final destination.

Materials such as chipboard, medium density fibreboard (MDF), Plyboard and oriented strand board (OSB) may appear to be a recyclable material but due to strict acceptance and reprocessing criteria actual recycling outlets for this material are limited.

Historically landfill was relatively cheap and benefited from low processing costs as all grades of waste wood (excluding hazardous) could go to landfill. However, landfill tax has increased significantly in recent years (£24 per tonne in 2007/08), and will increase at £8 per tonne every year until 2013 when it will reach £72 per tonne. Furthermore there is a scarcity of landfill in some parts of the UK which means that landfill gate fees are also increasing.

In light of this the demand for legitimate outlets for low grade wood has increased and LondonWaste Ltd has begun to accept this material and process it for recycling and reuse. The low grade wood is separated from other materials, bulked and then transported to a specialist processor.

To enquire how please contact us on
020 8884 5664



Suitable wastes include:

- Packaging waste such as scrap pallets and packing cases
- Furniture either made from solid wood or 'flat pack' furniture made from board products or DIY materials
- Wood from building and demolition activities
- Chipboard
- Fibreboard, including Medium Density Fibrewood (MDF)
- Plywood
- Oriented Strand Board (OSB)
- Fencing (only if not treated with CCA preservatives or creosote – see below)

A low level of contamination with nails, screws and other fixings, paints, coatings and glues is permitted.

