The Environmental Building News (EBN) reports “the term deconstruction took hold at the first Used Building Materials Association meeting in Canada in 1996.” The term was created to place an emphasis on disassembly and salvage for reuse—in contrast to demolition which traditionally places emphasis simply on building removal. The term is not limited to manual building disassembly; deconstruction contractors use both manual and mechanical approaches to maximize the recovery of materials for reuse.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines deconstruction as, “the disassembly of buildings to safely and efficiently maximize the reuse and recycling of their materials.” The process of dismantling structures is an ancient activity that has been revived by the growing field of sustainable, green building.

Recovering materials for reuse reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and abates the need for new landfills and incinerators. Deconstruction can contribute to the environmental and economic health of the community while retaining historic building character within a community. Additionally, the salvage and reuse of building materials reduces the “carbon footprint” of a project by avoiding the manufacture and transport of new materials. Reducing consumption of virgin materials helps preserve natural resources and protect the environment from the air, ground, and water pollution related to extraction, processing, and disposal of raw materials.

**Deconstruction Services for Connecticut**

**Contractors & Consulting Services**

**Brad Guy**  Assoc. AIA, LEED AP  
Phone: 814.571.8659  
Email: guy_brad@yahoo.com

**Build It Green! NYC**  
3-17 26th Ave. (at 4th Street), Astoria, NY 11102  
Contact: Justin Green  
Phone: 718.777.0132  
Email: justin@bignyc.org  
Web-site: www.bignyc.org

**Haz-Pros Inc.**  
125-A Brook Street, West Hartford, CT 06110  
Contact: Chris Stefanowicz  
Phone: 860.232.2225  
Email: chris@hazpros.com  
Web-site: www.hazpros.com

**Planet ReUse**  
208 W. 19th Street, Kansas City, MO 64108  
Contact: Nathan Benjamin  
Phone: 816.918.1120  
Email: nbenjamin@planetreuse.com  
Web-site: www.planetreuse.com

**Institute of Local Self Reliance**  
2001 S. Street NW. Suite 570, Washington D.C. 20009  
Contact: Neil Seldman  
Phone: 202.898.1610  
Email: nseldman@ilsr.org  
Web-site: www.ILSR.org

**RE-USE Consulting**  
2421 St. Clair Street, Bellingham, WA 98229  
Contact: Dave Bennick  
Phone: 360.201.6977  
Email: re-use@comcast.net  
Web-site: www.reuseconsulting.com

**The ReUse People**  
CA, CT, IL, NC, OH, TX, UT, WV  
Contact: Ted Reiff  
Phone: 510.383.1983  
Email: tedreiff@TheReusePeople.org

**Union Rangers**  
98 Elm Street, West Haven, CT 06516  
Contact: Christian Kling  
Phone: 800.620.1492  
Email: veteranjobs@unionrangers.com  
Web-site: www.GreenRecon.com

**Urbanminers, LLC**  
30 Manila Avenue, Hamden, CT 06514  
Contact: Joe DeRisi  
Phone: 203.287.0852  
Email: urbanminers@urbanminers.com  
Web-site: www.urbanminers.com

**Why Deconstruct?**
- Recover irreplaceable building materials
- Reduce the need to extract raw materials
- Save energy and reduce environmental impacts of conventional demolition
- Increase small businesses and expand local tax base
- Keep materials local to reduce costs and transportation
- Support green building practices and earn LEED credits
- Fully compatible with demolition and construction & demolition recycling activities.

Source: Institute for Local Self Reliance
Choose Deconstruction

Deconstructing abandoned buildings will revitalize our cities by reducing waste, creating green jobs, providing high quality recycled materials for new construction, and more.”

-Neil Seldman, ILSR

Source Reduction and Recycling Program
79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106
860.424.3365
www.ct.gov/deep/C&DManagement

Disclaimer: The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) maintains the content within this brochure to enhance public access to information and facilitate understanding of waste reduction, reuse and recycling. The CT DEEP is not recommending these resources over any others and recognizes these represent only a partial listing of resources on this subject.

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