



# Waste Management

PROJECT Construction Business Owner Real Job Site Solutions Advertorial

JOB NO. DATE 03.05.14

## Recycling Hits 90 Percent During Campus Construction

Many people believe that sustainability takes a break during construction activities. However, a recent building project by hardison/downey construction, inc. at the University of New Mexico proved otherwise.

hardison/downey teamed with Waste Management, Inc. during the \$42.1 million student housing project, to provide construction debris removal and recycling. The scope of services Waste Management was able to provide ranged from assistance with qualifying for LEED® certification, construction and demolition, waste removal and recycling of cardboard, paper, plastic, metal, drywall, wood, concrete and asphalt, in addition to regular reporting of diversion rates and ratios using Waste Management's Diversion and Recycling Tracking Tool, DART®

Not only was waste and debris removed efficiently from the job site, but partnership with Waste Management was also able to impact the builder's recycling culture. Education was provided on the negative effects of mixing food waste in containers used for construction debris. Waste Management collaborated with the builder to solve the problem by providing incentives for the workers if they attained a 75 percent recycling goal. The response was so positive that workers policed each other, resulting in a recycling level ranging from 85 to 90 percent.

Through a collaborative partnership, the job site's recycling goal was of 75% was surpassed by 15 percentage points. The success gained here also translated into the builder's qualification to earn additional LEED credits on the work. Doug Hansen, the Project Manager on the job shared his thoughts on Waste Management's services by stating the *"...monthly reports are an excellent tool for us. They were a pivotal factor in selecting Waste Management as our vendor during Phase One. These reports helped us document waste volumes and hauling tickets which, ultimately, facilitated communications with our LEED® consultant. We are looking forward to using the DART® tool, which now allows us to access reports ourselves."*

Keys to success were several – a proactive education plan, worker incentives awarded for reaching objectives, a single provider point-of-contact to ensure continuity, and regular reporting of diversion rates.

The foundation for this success though, started with hardison/downey and Waste Management's commitment to having a collaborative partnership dedicated to finding site-specific solutions.