

How to manage MDF waste?

MDF is a safe product to dispose of to landfill; however landfilling is the least preferable option to use to dispose of any unwanted product.



Reduce and Reuse

The most environmentally friendly way to manage MDF waste is to first of all reduce the amount of waste produced and, second of all, reuse as much waste as possible. MDF waste can be reduced by careful product design, and any off-cuts that are produced can be resized to make the smaller components of a product or to create other products such as small toys and craft materials.

Combustion

- Do not burn MDF in a household fire, only in an industrial incinerator, furnace or boiler. MDF should be burnt at about 1000 °C in order to reduce emissions.
- Burning MDF can produce 17 GJ/tonne of energy.
- There are no wood preservatives such as Creosote and CCA in the raw materials required to produce MDF, therefore the ash does not contain any hydrocarbons and has very low heavy metal content.

Composting

- MDF does not contain any significant amount of heavy metals, contact us for a detailed laboratory analysis.
- In order to compost large off-cuts, they must first be hogged into smaller chips. Sawdust on the other hand is very suitable for composting
- Because of a high carbon/nitrogen ratio in MDF (300:1 to 700:1), the chips/sawdust must be mixed with a high nitrogen material such as grass trimmings or food waste in order to speed up the composting process

If you need further information or if you have any innovative idea on how to use, reuse or compost MDF please contact us.