

Acceptable Material Grades

Recycled wood to conform with the below specification for use as recycled feedstock in the panel board manufacturing industry or as wood-fuel for combustion in boilers compliant with the Waste Incineration Directive.

Moisture Content will range from 10-30%, the Supplier should take all appropriate steps to ensure that the Moisture Content is not increased due to insufficient storage or transportation measures.

Wood must not contain hot spots and must be free from any contaminants that could lead to fire. If unsure, please speak to a member of staff and check for hot spots with temperature gun.

If maximum quantity of manufactured board in a load exceeds 40% Sylvagen must be contacted in advance of loading.

Grade A

EWC Codes: 03 01 05 – Wastes from wood processing and the production of panels and furniture /15 01 03 – Waste Wood Packaging

Soft Unpainted White Wood including - Pallets, Off cuts, Scaffold Boards, Joists*, Untreated Floor Boards, Skids, Crates and Boxes.

May contain small amounts of nails and metal fixings, paints and surface coatings are not acceptable.

Packaging and pallets marked with 'MB' will have been treated with Methyl Bromide, and will be deemed Hazardous. Sylvagen will not accept this in the feedstock.

Grade B

EWC Codes: Grade A + 17 02 01 – Construction & Demolition/19 12 07 – Wood not containing dangerous substances from waste management facility

All Grade A Material

Window Frames & Doors*, Roof Trusses*, Painted Soft Wood*, Treated Floor Boards.

May contain small amounts of nails, metal fixings, small amounts of paints and surface coatings are acceptable (non CCA or Creosote).

Grade C

EWC Codes: Grades A + B plus 20 01 38 – Municipal/Industrial Waste

All Grade A and B Material

Fencing products, flat pack furniture, MDF, plywood, OSB, fibreboard, Civic Amenity Waste, Formica, Kitchen Furniture.

May contain small amounts of nails, metal fixings, paintings, plastics, glass, binders, glues, grit, surface treatments (non CCA or Creosote).

*** From 1st September 2023, Demolition waste wood (RPS 250 Withdrawal)**

Potentially hazardous waste wood items are:

barge boards; external fascias; soffit boards; external joinery (wooden windows and conservatories); external doors; roof timbers; tiling and cladding battens; timber frames and joists from pre-2007 buildings.

Sylvagen will NOT be able to accept the above items on our current destination permits.

Unacceptable Materials

Recycled wood will face immediate rejection or charges if it contains any of the following:


Creosote Treated Products, CCA Treated Railway Sleepers, Telegraph Poles or Fence Panels, Asbestos Insulation Board and any other Hazardous Waste.

Contamination in Loads

Recycled wood will face rejection or picking charges if deemed to contain the following:

Unidentifiable material, Batteries, Hot material, Paper, Foam, Textiles, Felt, Tar, Rubber, Polythene, Cardboard, Black Bags, Plastic Coated Wire, Degraded Wood, Burnt or Charred Material, Excessive Fines, Nails, Metal Fixings, Plastics, Glass, Grit Mud and Stones.

Please see below extract WRA Grades of Waste Wood which is a useful informative guide detailing the various grades of Waste-Wood.

 Wood Recyclers' Association		WRA Grades of Waste Wood			
GRADE	Typical Markets	Typical Sources of raw material for recycling and/or recovery	Typical Materials	Typical non-wood content prior to processing	Notes
Grade A Pre-Consumer Waste Wood (*1) and untreated wooden packaging = Clean untreated	A feedstock for the manufacture of professional and consumer products such as animal bedding, equine and landscaping surfacing. May also be used as a fuel in domestic and non-IED Chapter IV biomass installations and for the manufacture of pellets and briquettes.	Wood Product Manufacturing, Distribution, Retailing, Packaging and Secondary manufacture, e.g. joinery and pallet reclamation.	Solid softwood and hardwood. Packaging waste, scrap pallets, packing cases and cable drums. Process off-cuts from the manufacture of virgin/sawn timber and untreated board products.	Nails and metal fixings. Minor amounts of non-hazardous surface coatings, such as water-soluble paint.	This is a waste as defined by the waste regulations. Does not require an IED Chapter IV installation and should not contain any treated or low-grade material.
Grade B Business waste wood = Treated Non-hazardous	This is the preferred feedstock for industrial wood processing operations such as the manufacture of panel board products. Can also be used for IED Chapter IV biomass.	As Grade A, plus construction and demolition operations, skip operators, transfer stations.	May contain Grade A material as above plus building and demolition materials and domestic furniture made from solid wood.	Nails and metal fixings. Some paints, plastics, glass, grit, non-hazardous coatings, binders and glues. Limits on treated or coated materials as defined by end users and IED.	This is mostly solid wood. Some feedstock specifications contain a 5% to 10% limit on former panel products such as chipboard, MDF and plywood. Is a waste for the requirements of Waste Management Regulations. Will require an IED Chapter IV compliant installation for biomass. Any of the items listed in the WRA Waste Wood Assessment Guidance as 'Potentially Hazardous' (*2) must be segregated and tested to prove that they are non-hazardous. Otherwise they must be categorised as Grade D – Hazardous.
Grade C Municipal waste wood = Treated Non-hazardous	For use in the IED Chapter IV biomass installations and for panel board in controlled volumes.	All above plus municipal collections, transfer stations and HWRCs.	All of the above plus flat pack furniture made from board products and DIY materials.	Nails and metal fixings. Paints, coatings and glues, paper, plastics and rubber, glass, grit. Coated and treated timber (non CCA or creosote).	This is mostly board products. Mainly suitable for IED Chapter IV compliant biomass installations, but also suitable for panel board manufacture with correct processing and blending. Is a waste for Waste Management Regulations.
Grade D Hazardous waste wood = Treated hazardous	Requires disposal at facilities licensed to accept hazardous waste.	Waste wood from hydraulic engineering, such as wood from docks. Waste wood from industrial applications such as cooling tower timbers, woodblock flooring or moulds. Waste wood from boats, carriages and trailer beds. Waste wood treated with CCA or creosote. Any of the items listed in the WRA Waste Wood Assessment Guidance as 'Potentially Hazardous' (*2) must be segregated and tested to prove that they are non-hazardous. Otherwise they must be categorised as Grade D – Hazardous.	Agricultural fencing, telegraph poles, railway sleepers. 2 Potentially hazardous waste wood items are: barge boards; external fascias; soffit boards; external joinery (wooden windows and conservatories); external doors; roof timbers; tiling and cladding battens; timber frames and joists from pre-2007 buildings.	Copper chrome arsenic (CCA) preservation treatments and creosote.	These materials must be segregated and consigned as hazardous to sites permitted to accept hazardous wood.

Clean/untreated waste wood is suitable for processing into animal bedding, panel board feedstock, landscaping or equestrian surfaces and biomass. Treated, but non-hazardous waste wood is suitable for processing as a feedstock for panel board or energy recovery in a Chapter IV compliant facility. Hazardous waste wood can only be disposed of in a facility licensed for this purpose.

*1 Pre-consumer waste wood is waste wood material created during the manufacturing process of virgin wood, not involving the application of treatments, e.g. offcuts or trimmings from virgin/sawn timber. It is also waste wood material created during the manufacturing process of raw, untreated board products such as panel board, MDF and plywood (for clarity, this waste wood can only be used/burnt at source). Waste from joinery activity using these untreated wood materials is also included in this definition.

Source: The Wood Recyclers' Association September 2023