



# technical bulletin

**Asphalt Roofing  
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## ***Asphalt Shingle Recycling FAQs***

### **What is asphalt shingle recycling?**

It is becoming increasingly common for shingles to be recycled versus being sent to a landfill. Shingle recycling is the process of taking asphalt shingles from roof tear-offs and collecting them for reuse into another products, ensuring the material does not end up in landfill.

### **What are the benefits of asphalt shingle recycling?**

Shingle recycling is economically viable, convenient where available, and saves valuable resources from being sent to a landfill. Recycled asphalt shingles are most commonly used in pavement, which offsets the need for new asphalt and aggregate, and additional uses are being explored. Asphalt shingle recycling can create jobs for recycling locations and reduce costs for paving. Recycling shingles also allows homeowners to make a positive environmental contribution.

### **In what products are recycled asphalt shingles used?**

The #1 use of recycled shingles is to make roads! Ground-up shingles are typically added to the pavement and in many cases may actually improve the quality. Other uses include using the material as an input to make roofing products or road maintenance products, or to produce energy.

### **How can I find an asphalt shingle recycler nearby?**

Shingle recycling is available in most major markets in the United States and in some locations in Canada, and new sites continue to open. There are multiple resources for finding a recycler. You can check online at [www.shinglerecycling.org](http://www.shinglerecycling.org) and [www.earth911.com](http://www.earth911.com), or you can call 1-800-CLEANUP. You can also use local resources for finding businesses or conduct internet searches.

### **Is every asphalt shingle recycler listed on ShingleRecycling.org or Earth911.com?**

No! If you know of a location that isn't listed, please let ShingleRecycling.org or Earth911.com know by emailing [info@shinglerecycling.org](mailto:info@shinglerecycling.org) or [info@earth911.com](mailto:info@earth911.com).

### **What if I can't find a recycler nearby?**

Don't give up! Send an email to [info@shinglerecycling.org](mailto:info@shinglerecycling.org) or [info@earth911.com](mailto:info@earth911.com).

### **Do roofing contractors or do-it-yourselfers have to separate material as it is removed from the roof?**

Call ahead to your recycler before your first drop to determine what your recycler allows. Each recycler has specific rules regarding requirements for separating shingles from other materials.

**What about nails?**

You don't have to pull out nails – they are separated by powerful magnets on the shingle grinder, and get recycled too!

**How much does recycling cost?**

Recycling cost varies. It is almost always cheaper than landfilling and can often be made even less expensive if you separate materials properly. In some cases recycling is free.

**How much does a typical roof weigh?**

Most roofs weigh 3-4 tons.

**I don't want a large roll-off container in my yard. Will recyclers work with dump trailers?**

Most recyclers are pretty flexible – give them a call.

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