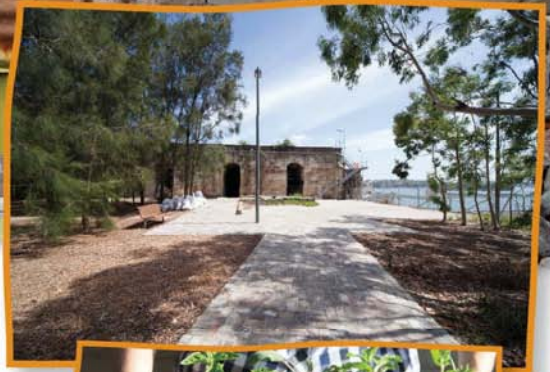


Low impact materials



During renovation and construction of the Coal Loader Center for Sustainability, 80-90% of demolition waste by weight was reused or recycled. Corrugated roofing was reused and bricks from old buildings have been used to build pathways. Plastic and steel was recycled.

We've reused crushed tiles and concrete to make the gravel paths in the Community Nursery, and even repurposed some old North Sydney street signs to make some furniture.

Our electrical equipment is low impact – the lamp in the Meeting Room's projector is energy efficient and can be recycled, the computers in the Resource Room are second hand and refurbished, and all the structural steel has been bolted together so that in the future it can be disassembled for use somewhere else.

Many of the new materials used around the site have a low environmental impact during their life cycle. The carpet is made from natural and recyclable materials, the chairs are the most sustainable on the market, and the paint is 100% Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) free (did you know that VOCs are potentially dangerous chemicals commonly found in household finishes, furnishings and products that can affect interior air quality and cause both short and long-term health problems?!)

Reusing and recycling materials decreases the demand on the environment's natural resources, saves energy and water used in making new products, and reduces waste going to landfill.

Didn't the polished antique floorboards come up a treat!



Artist anthonywhyte.com
Photo by lunasolfoto.com.au



Many things didn't even need replacing. Most of the original plasterboard & horse hair ceilings were retained, and any new ceilings have been made from compressed straw reinforced with galvanised wire to match.

