



# **PIRANHHA** Drywall PROCESSOR

**Before**



**After**



## **Process This Into This**

Recycling is the reprocessing of old materials into new products, aiming to prevent the waste of potentially useful materials, to reduce the consumption of fresh raw materials, to reduce energy usage, to reduce air (from incineration) and water (from land fill) pollution by reducing the need for "conventional" waste disposal, and to lower greenhouse gas emissions as compared to virgin production. Recycling is a key concept of modern waste management.



### **Specifications**

Model: PFS600 Series II  
Power Unit Needed: Skid Steer  
Width: 72in (6foot), 1828mm  
Tooth Design: Nortec Sabre Tooth  
Weight: 900 lbs, 408kg  
Drive: Hydraulic

Standard Equipment:  
Material Side Shields  
Adjustable Material Bar



### **What It Dose:**

The Nortec Dry Wall Processor is an attachment for your skid steer designed to grind up sheets of dry wall into a granular material which may then be recycled back onto the lawn.

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# NORTEC Drywall PROCESSOR



## Company turns construction scraps into fertilizer

The thought of trucks filled with scrap drywall making their way from construction sites to local landfills each day was enough to drive Mike Pahl crazy, he said. Pahl, an owner of A&B Drywall in Menomonee Falls WI, recently helped institute a new program that allows the company to recycle gypsum drywall waste that would have previously been sent to a landfill. Instead, the drywall gets ground up and mixed into the topsoil of lawns at job sites to serve as fertilizer.

"In one full swoop you can divert a quarter of your waste that would have gone to a landfill," Pahl said.

Gypsum is a mineral mined for manufacturing and agricultural uses, and makes up the core of drywall sheets, which are backed with paper. Drywall accounts for 25 percent of the construction waste stream, Pahl said.

"It's the largest contributor of commercial waste and the second largest source on the residential side," he said.

### From scraps to fertilizer

To recycle drywall, the company grinds up the excess scraps and works it into the top layer of soil. The process leaves behind the inert, naturally occurring gypsum minerals that provide valuable nutrients to plants and turf grasses.

"We are in essence putting it back to where it came from," Pahl said. The gypsum also improves water filtration and reduces potential erosion. The process is virtually dust free, and can be done "pretty much anywhere there's dirt," Pahl said. The recycling program has been in the planning stages for the last four years while the company awaited approval from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Pahl said A&B's recycling program is the first of its kind in the state. The DNR does have some requirements that A&B must meet in order to recycle the drywall, such as documenting where they spread the scraps when they spread them and how much is spread. There are also application rates that cannot be exceeded.

### A benefit to builders

Steve Bielinski of Bielinski Homes said A&B has used its drywall recycling process at 20 Bielinski home sites so far. The company is currently using the process on lawns at homes under construction on Hickory Hill Drive in Merton.

"Drywall does consume a lot of space in landfills," Bielinski said: A lot of landfills aren't taking the product anymore."

"We save the dump fee. Bielinski Homes is a "green" builder, so the company already recycles garbage debris like cardboard and wood scraps. Excess drywall is either recycled and reused, or ground up and mixed in topsoil by A&B.

"So far it's been working quite well," Bielinski said.



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