OTTAWA DEMOLITION CONTRACTORS

Debris & Disposal

Where demolition waste goes and what the landfill will not take.

4 Expert Answers from Demolition IQ

ottawademolitioncontractors.ca/construction-brain

Table of Contents

1. Who pays the landfill charges in an Ottawa demolition quote?
2. Does an Ontario house demolition need a waste audit or recycling plan?
3. Where does demolition debris from an Ottawa house go?
4. Will the Trail Road landfill take demolition waste from my Ottawa house?

Q1

Who pays the landfill charges in an Ottawa demolition quote?

Who pays the landfill charges is whatever the quote says: hauling and disposal can be included in a lump sum, listed as separate lines, or left out for the owner to arrange. Ask each contractor to spell out exactly what the debris removal covers before you compare numbers.

The City says building, renovation and demolition waste is not collected with regular garbage and must go to Trail Road Landfill or another landfill. Trail Road's 2026 rates for residential construction material brought in by a homeowner are $172.70 per tonne above 250 kg, with a minimum charge of $43.20; fill such as concrete without rebar is $144 per tonne. Those are homeowner rates. Ask the contractor where the debris goes and what rate applies to their loads, because we found no published Trail Road rate for contractor loads in the sources available to this site.

A few things to pin down in writing before the quote is finalized:

- Whether hauling and disposal are included in the price or quoted separately.
- Whether the price covers all debris categories, including masonry, concrete and wood, or only some.
- What happens if the load is heavier than estimated, and whether there is a cap or an adjustment clause.
- Whether any materials identified as designated substances, such as asbestos, are excluded from the disposal line entirely, since Trail Road does not accept asbestos and removal is handled by an abatement contractor before demolition begins.

The Consumer Protection Act, 2002 says that where a consumer agreement includes an estimate, the supplier cannot charge more than 10 per cent above that estimate.
Have the full scope, the itemized price and the start and completion dates in a signed written contract before any work starts on site.

Q2

Does an Ontario house demolition need a waste audit or recycling plan?

Provincial waste audit rules under O. Reg. 102/94 and O. Reg. 103/94 apply only to the demolition of buildings with a total floor area of at least 2,000 square metres. A house is well below that threshold, so those regulations do not apply to a residential demolition.

The City of Ottawa says building, renovation and demolition waste is "NOT collected with regular garbage" and directs owners to bring it to the Trail Road Landfill Site or to another landfill. We found no City diversion requirement or source-separation plan for residential demolition beyond that direction.

What this means for your quote

Trail Road accepts residential construction material brought by a homeowner at $172.70 per tonne above 250 kg, with a minimum charge of $43.20, and accepts fill such as asphalt, masonry and concrete without rebar at $144 per tonne. The landfill does not accept asbestos. Ask the contractor where the debris goes and whether hauling is included in the quoted price.

If asbestos is found during testing before the job starts, it cannot go to Trail Road and its removal is not part of an ordinary demolition. An abatement contractor handles it separately; see ottawaabatement.com.

A few things to put side by side when you have two written quotes in front of you: exactly which structures are coming down, where each quote says the work stops (at grade, or does it include anything below), and what each contractor says will happen to the debris, including who pays the tipping fee.

Q3

Where does demolition debris from an Ottawa house go?

Demolition debris from a residential house is not collected with regular Ottawa garbage. The City says building, renovation and demolition waste must be brought to the Trail Road Landfill Site or to another landfill.

If your contractor hauls the debris, ask where it goes and confirm that hauling is included in the quoted price. If you bring material yourself as a homeowner, Trail Road's 2026 rates are $172.70 per tonne for residential garbage including construction material, above 250 kg, with a $43.20 minimum. Fill such as asphalt, masonry and concrete without rebar is charged at $144 per tonne.

Two categories Trail Road will not accept matter here. The landfill does not accept asbestos, and it does not accept commercial garbage. If a pre-demolition asbestos test finds asbestos-containing material, an abatement contractor handles that separately before the demolition crew starts. That work sits outside the scope of a demolition quote, so ask whether the quote assumes the building is already clear of designated substances.

Provincial waste audit rules under O. Reg. 102/94 and 103/94 apply only to buildings with a total floor area of at least 2,000 square metres. A house demolition does not trigger those requirements, and we found no City diversion requirement for residential demolition.

What to have in writing before work starts: the quote should spell out what debris is included, who hauls it, where it goes, and whether asbestos or other designated substance removal is in scope or excluded.

Q4

Will the Trail Road landfill take demolition waste from my Ottawa house?

Trail Road accepts building, renovation and demolition waste, but with conditions that matter for a house demolition.

The City says building, renovation and demolition waste is "NOT collected with regular garbage" and directs homeowners to bring it to Trail Road or another landfill. The 2026 rates at Trail Road are $172.70 per tonne for residential garbage, which includes construction material brought by the homeowner, above 250 kg, with a $43.20 minimum. Fill, meaning asphalt, masonry and concrete without rebar, is $144 per tonne.

Two categories are refused outright. Trail Road does not accept asbestos, and it does not accept commercial garbage. That second point matters: ask any contractor you are considering whether their loads go to Trail Road or to a private transfer station, and whether the hauling cost is included in the quote or billed separately. Ask where the debris goes.

If asbestos is found in the building, its removal is a separate job for a qualified asbestos removal specialist, and that material cannot go to Trail Road at all. That is a separate contract with an abatement contractor; ottawaabatement.com covers that side of the job.

Provincial waste audit rules under O. Reg. 102/94 and 103/94 apply only to buildings with a total floor area of at least 2,000 square metres. A house demolition does not trigger those requirements, and we found no City diversion requirement for residential demolition.

When you have two written quotes in front of you, put them side by side on three things: exactly what structure comes down and where the work stops at the ground surface, whether hauling and disposal are included or itemized separately, and what the contractor's plan is for the debris, including any material that cannot go to a municipal landfill.

Disclaimer: This guide is provided for informational purposes only by Ottawa Demolition Contractors. It does not constitute professional advice. Always consult qualified contractors and your local building authority (the City of Ottawa) before any demolition. The City requires a permit to demolish a building or structure, and every utility connected to the property signs off before the permit is issued. Information is current as of November 22, 2026 and may change. Visit **ottawademolitioncontractors.ca** for the latest answers.