

# GMA GARNET™ RETURN PROGRAM



While there is no such thing as a does-all sandblasting abrasive, GMA Garnet comes closest. GMA Garnet™ results in higher productivity and lower abrasive consumption, despite the higher initial product cost compared to slags.

## A STREAMLINED ABRASIVE DISPOSAL SOLUTION

GMA Garnet Corporation has developed a cost-effective and environmentally friendly option for customers to dispose of their used garnet. Rather than landfilling this material, customers can easily return their used garnet to one of GMA's permitted collection points in Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania; Cincinnati, Ohio; Coos Bay, Oregon; and Houston, Texas.

GMA adheres to all state and local regulations regarding environmental permits and record-keeping requirements related to our Return Garnet Program. The three easy steps below adhere to those requirements.



### STEPS

#### TEST

Submit a garnet sample for RCRA 8 TCLP analysis (if in California a CAM 17 test) to a third party and another for Sieve Analysis to GMA.

#### SUBMIT

Email your test results and complete a Returned Garnet Profile Form.

#### RETURN

Pack, palletize, and ship the garnet back.

# THE COST-EFFECTIVE OPTION FOR USED ABRASIVE BLAST MEDIA DISPOSAL

Disposing of used abrasive can be expensive through traditional waste management methods. BlastOne is committed to offering a cost-effective alternative, providing additional value to our abrasive customers. Through advances in GMA's processing capabilities, we can now reprocess used garnet into a high-quality abrasive.

By participating in the GMA Garnet Return Program, customers streamline their operations, dealing with fewer providers, stay compliant with regulations, sidestep hidden fees, and reduce their waste footprint. The GMA Garnet Disposal Program embodies environmental responsibility and practical efficiency, allowing customers to focus on their core activities while embracing sustainable practices.

BlastOne and GMA stand ready with environmentally friendly and responsible solutions.



## HOW DOES THE GMA GARNET RETURN PROGRAM WORK?

Customers send used garnet from waterjet cutting or abrasive blasting operations to one of our collection points, and we process the material in one of our state-of-the-art processing plants. Before used garnet can be returned, we must ensure it is environmentally safe to transport and process.

To ensure all loads of garnet are non-hazardous, a 100-gram sample of used garnet must be tested with a Third-Party Environmental Laboratory for Resource Conservation & Recovery ACT (RCRA 8 Metals) via Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) analysis (RCRA 8 TCLP).

Next, a sample is submitted to the appropriate GMA laboratory for a Sieve Analysis to determine if the garnet is viable for reprocessing.

If it is suitable and safe, GMA will issue a return authorization upon completion of a simple Garnet Profile Form.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Q: What does GMA do with the spent garnet?**  
GMA will reprocess the garnet just as we process freshly mined garnet, according to our same strict standards and testing.
- Q: Does the water in the garnet add weight?**  
Garnet itself does not absorb water, so any water weight is minimal and usually limited.
- Q: Do I return used garnet in bulk bags?**  
While returning material repackaged in bulk bags is most common, we are happy to work with customers to see if there are other options that may be convenient.
- Q: What is the cost?**  
The cost will include the TCLP analysis, transportation of the material to the GMA facility, and in special cases, GMA handling fees. These costs differ depending on transportation distance, lab fees, and other variables. Typically, costs are lower if your facility is closer to a collection point. Our beneficial use collection points are located in Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania; Cincinnati, Ohio; Coos Bay, Oregon; and Houston, Texas.
- Q: Do you repurchase the garnet from us?**  
No. GMA does not purchase the used garnet. However, allowing GMA to recycle your garnet is, in most cases, more affordable than paying for other methods of garnet disposal. We work with customers to create a sustainable, cost-effective, and environmentally friendly arrangement.
- Q: How do I get it out of a waterjet tank?**  
There are many ways to remove spent garnet from a waterjet tank, from shoveling the material to various automated removal systems. Contact BlastOne to discuss options for your shop.