

NC Recycling and Circular Economy

2022 ESI Conference

October 25, 2022



NC DEQ - DEACS - RMMS

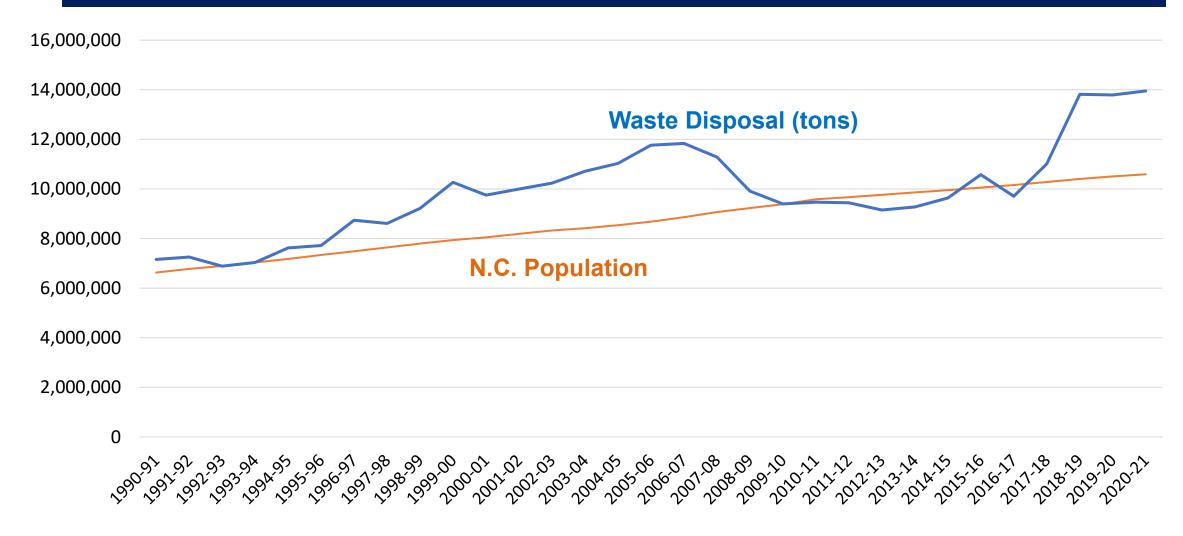
Division of Environmental Assistance & Customer Service Recycling and Materials Management Section

Non-regulatory
Local governments assistance
Recycling market development
Grants
Statewide data, reports, studies
Conferences, workshops & events





N.C. Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Disposal



NC DEQ Division of Waste Management

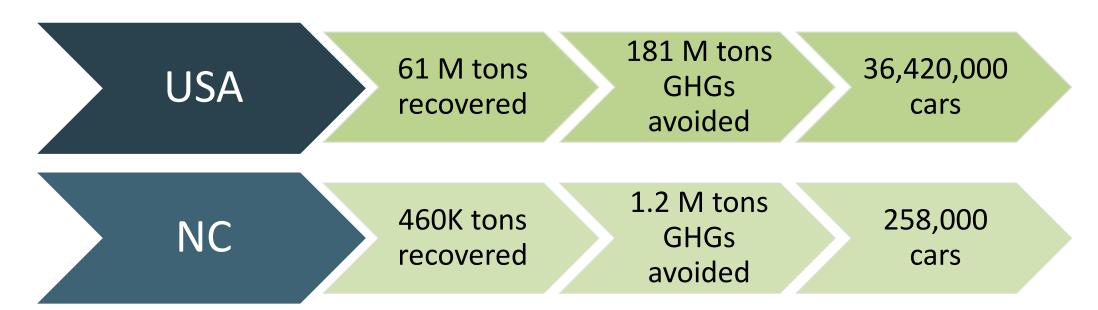
Circular Economy

- Conserves landfill space
- Creates jobs
- Conserves natural resources
- Avoids pollution and habitat loss from natural resource extraction
- Reduces energy and greenhouse gas emissions from resource extraction





Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Benefits from Recycling



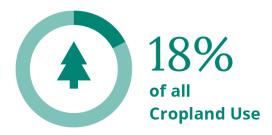
- USA figures from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Advancing Sustainable Materials: Facts and Figures Sheet 2018. Includes all recycled material generated from residential, commercial, and institutional sources.
- FY 2020-21, NC tons only include traditional household materials (glass bottles and jars, plastic containers, metal cans, paper, cartons, and cardboard) recycled from public local government recycling programs.
- Greenhouse gas benefits generated using the EPA's Waste Reduction Model (WARM) tool: https://www.epa.gov/warm.

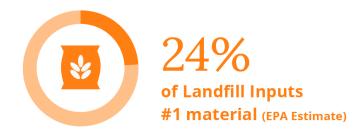
Food Waste in US

- One-third of the food produced is never eaten.
- About 54 million tons of food waste.
- Footprint equivalent:
 - 42 coal-fired power plants
 - Water for 50 million homes
- Single largest material landfilled
 - 24% according to EPA
 - Landfills are about 15% of US methane emissions.
- 1 in 8 Americans are food insecure.







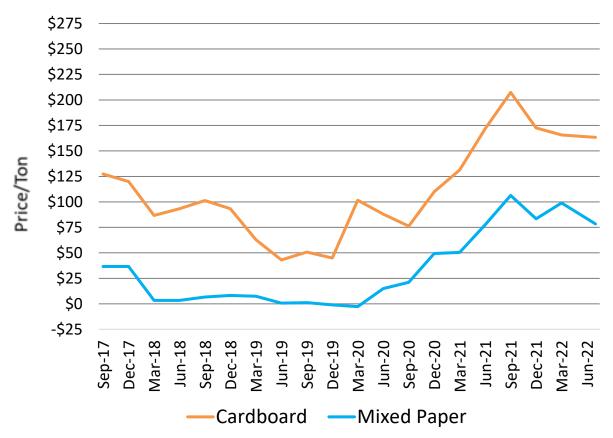


Source: ReFED

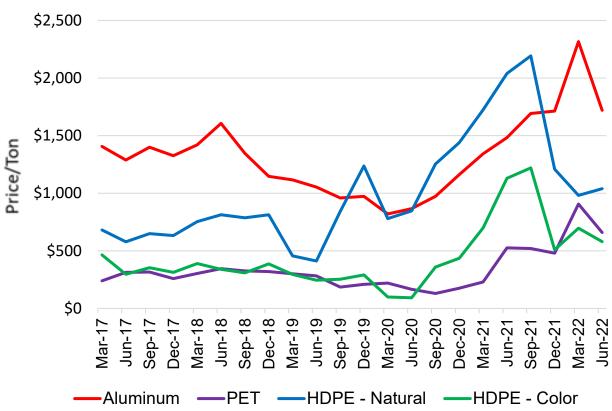


Market Prices

Pricing Trend for Recyclable Fiber



Pricing Trend for Recyclable Containers

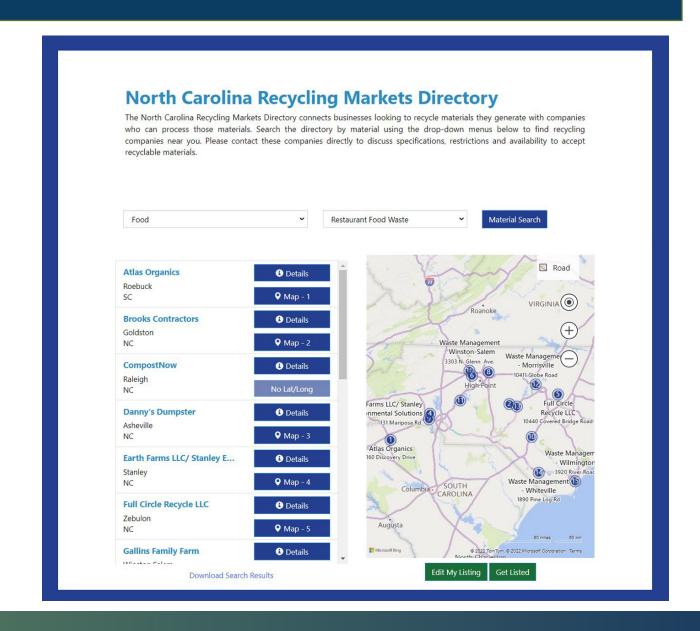


Recycling Markets Directory Relaunch



NORTH CAROLINA RECYCLING MARKETS DIRECTORY

https://recyclingmarkets.deq.nc.gov/



Food Waste Campaign



Working Together for a Circular NC Economy

 Expand partnerships and resources to Use the Food NC

ESI Members – feedback, case studies, tools & resources needed

- Continue the Recycle Right NC effort to reduce contamination and improve the quality of recovered materials
- Expand access to recycling and composting services
- Grow demand
 Increase recycled content in product manufacturing
 Increase purchasing of recycled content products
- Recruit new and support existing recycling business expansion in NC

Use the Food NC for Businesses Some fruits give off a gas that cause other fruits to spoil faster. Keep them separated.

Questions?

Thank you!

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Recycling and Materials Management Section

www.recyclenc.org





