



State of North Carolina's Support for Reuse

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NC Division of Environmental Assistance and Outreach

Statutory Basis for Reuse Support

§130A-309.04. State solid waste management policy and goals.

(a) It is the policy of the State to promote methods of solid waste management that are alternatives to disposal in landfills and to assist units of local government with solid waste management. In furtherance of this State policy, there is established a hierarchy of methods of managing solid waste, in descending order of preference:

- (1) Waste reduction at the source;
- (2) *Recycling and reuse;***
- (3) Composting;
- (4) Incineration with energy recovery;
- (5) Incineration without energy recovery;
- (6) Disposal in landfills.

NC Discard Streams that Lend Themselves to Reuse

- Electronics
- Pallets
- Construction Materials
- Consumer goods, white goods, and furniture
- Textiles
- Paint
- Edible Food

Types of Reuse Infrastructure in NC

- Habitat for Humanity ReStores
 - At least 16 listed in DEAO's Recycling Markets Directory (probably many more in the state).
- Architectural Salvage Businesses
 - At least a dozen architectural salvage and deconstruction businesses listed in the Markets Directory, and probably many more
- Traditional Charitable Reuse Operations
 - Goodwill, Salvation Army, many other operations ubiquitous in the state.

Types of Reuse Infrastructure in NC

- Food Banks and Food Rescue
 - At least 6 separate “Edible Food Donations” operations listed in the Markets Directory (more out there).
- Electronics Refurbishers / Reuse Operations
 - Extremely robust electronics recycling infrastructure in NC, including many donation non-profits.
- Specialized Reuse Non-profits
 - The Scrap Exchange, etc.
- Local government Reuse Programs

Local Government Reuse Efforts in NC

- Different kinds of reuse programs, as documented in municipal and county annual reports:
 - 89 communities report in-house reuse programs.
 - 45 total communities report public reuse programs:
 - 32 communities with Swap Shops – total of 81 in place.
 - 18 communities report paint exchange programs that diverted a total of 27,859 gallons in FY09.
 - 8 communities report pallet exchange or other exchange efforts.
 - 8 report other kinds of reuse effort.
 - 15 communities report textile recycling programs diverting ~ 900 tons per year

Swap Shops

- In NC, many counties collect solid waste and recycling through “convenience centers” – over 900 of these centers in the state.
- Swap Shops are small put-and-take sheds, mostly placed at county convenience centers.
- Swap Shops can cost as little as \$1500 to install (most ~ \$2500 - \$4000)
- Chatham and Orange Counties pioneered the used of Swap Shops.
- Swap Shops require managerial attention – some have closed because counties cannot keep up their management capacity.
- Guesstimate of diversion per year: 15-20 tons for each Swap Shop.

NC Support of Swap Shops

- DEAO provided targeted support for Swap Shops in its general community grant cycle from FY98 – FY04.
- From FY04 through FY07, DEAO conducted an open first-come, first-serve grant cycle to spur development of Swap Shops.
- Total Grant Support for Swap Shops:
 - 35 Projects establishing 43 Swap Shops supported by \$145,381 in state funding.
- Swap Shops still an eligible funding idea in future grant cycles.

Images of Swap Shops



Other NC Grant Support for Reuse

- Two kinds of state grant-making:
 - Public sector programs
 - Private and non-profit operations
- Reuse-oriented projects have been a part of every grant cycle.
- Examples over the years:
 - Habitat ReStores – 11 grants for 8 different stores
 - Architectural Salvage – 7 grants for various projects to salvage and reuse buildings.
 - Food rescue – 9 projects involving diversion of edible food.

Additional NC Facilitation of Reuse - NC WasteTrader: www.ncwastetrader.com

N O R T H C A R O L I N A **WasteTrader**

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Welcome to **NC WasteTrader**, North Carolina's marketplace for discarded or surplus materials and products. This waste exchange service is designed to divert recoverable materials from disposal while providing feedstocks and supplies to potential users.



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Ongoing NC Support of Reuse

- Technical assistance, training, and encouragement.
- Ongoing operation of NC WasteTrader.
- Support through general grant-making programs.
- Policy support if and when feasible



THANK YOU!

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