



**NORTH CAROLINA
RECYCLING BUSINESS
ASSISTANCE CENTER**

A cooperative effort of the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the N.C. Department of Commerce.

Recycling Works

Volume 6, Number 3

Summer 2000

National Recycling Conference Coming to N.C.

Local recycling companies will be highlighted in tours

By Jason Hale, Market Development Specialist

An estimated two thousand recycling professionals will be gathering in Charlotte, North Carolina this fall for the National Recycling Coalition's (NRC) 19th Annual Congress and Exposition to share knowledge and experiences in the recycling industry. This event, to be held September 10 through 13 at the Charlotte Convention Center, is the largest of its kind, attended by a national audience of recycling coordinators; local, state, and federal officials; business and industry

leaders; nonprofit recyclers; and individuals committed to recycling.

During the Congress, NRC arranges numerous tours, workshops, educational sessions, exhibit booths, and networking opportunities for the edification of attendees. Many companies appearing on the tour list have been featured in various editions of this newsletter and are being recognized for their cutting edge, sustainable, and/or efficient recycling endeavors.

Specifically, tours to be held at this year's Congress are:

(See **NRC Congress**, Page 6)



Recycling

An Investment in Our Future

Logo for the National Recycling Coalition's 19th Annual Congress & Exposition, to be held September 10-13, 2000 in Charlotte, N.C.

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DPPEA Announces Grant Rounds for Fiscal Year 2000/01

By Jason Hale, Market Development Specialist

The N.C. Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance will be holding six grant rounds this fiscal year, with available funds totaling \$524,000. The overall purpose of these grant rounds is to reduce the flow of waste going to disposal facilities in North Carolina.

The table below lists these grant rounds by type, and provides such pertinent information as funding

available, an estimate of when Requests for Proposals (RFP's) will be distributed, and appropriate staff contact data. Each grant round will require a cash match, ranging from 10 to 25 percent. Some are available to local governments and non-profits only, and some are open to the private sector as well. For more information on a specific grant, call the appropriate contact listed in the table or visit DPPEA's website at www.p2pays.org/financial.

Type of Grant	Total Funding Available	RFP Distribution	Contact Name	Contact Phone Number
Organics	\$145,000	Mid-August, 2000	Craig Coker	(919) 715-6524
Construction & Demolition	\$135,000	September, 2000	John Blaisdell	(919) 715-6522
Solid Waste Reduction Assistance	\$134,000	November or December, 2000	Jim Hickman	(919) 715-6528
Paper	\$60,000	January, 2001	Jason Hale	(919) 715-6542
Electronics	\$15,000	Spring, 2001	John Blaisdell	(919) 715-6522
Buy Recycled	\$35,000	Yet to be determined	Scott Mouw	(919) 715-6512

LOANS FOR RECYCLING COMPANIES

A Project of the N.C. Environmental Loan Fund

Commercial and SBA Loans from \$10,000 to \$2.5 million for Collection, Processing, Composting, Reuse, Organics, Recycling Equipment, and End-Use Manufacturing.

Need a loan with reasonable interest rates and flexible underwriting standards? We may have the answer! Self-Help has the expertise and programs to help recycling businesses throughout North Carolina. Call today to learn how a Self-Help loan can strengthen your enterprise.



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1.919.956.4400

www.self-help.org

N.C. Environmental Loan Fund: Self-Help established the N.C. Environmental Loan Fund to provide financing to small businesses and other organizations that preserve our natural resources. Projects that are targeted for financing include recycling firms, land conservancies, environmental consulting and services, environmental equipment firms, and sustainable development products and services. Self-Help has extended more than \$6 million in financing to this growing and important segment of our economy.

Sustainable Jobs Fund



*Capital for
job creation
in neighborhoods
that need it.*

A community development venture capital fund which finances recycling, remanufacturing, environmental, and other companies that:

- require equity or subordinated debt capital to fuel profitable growth
- create quality jobs for low-income citizens or locate in economically distressed regions of the eastern United States

For more information,
call **919.530.1177**
or visit **www.sjfund.com**

House Bill 1290 addresses recycling tax treatment

By John Nelms, Market Development Specialist

Since 1976 North Carolina has had legal provisions addressing special tax treatment for recycling and resource recovery equipment and facilities. The North Carolina Division of Waste Management administers the certification process. Eligible items include "Real or personal property that is used or, if under construction, is to be used exclusively for recycling or resource recovery is exempted from being listed, appraised, assessed, or taxed by state or local government after an approved certification." The law allows businesses obtaining this certification to remain tax-exempt in perpetuity as long as the property is used for the purpose of recycling.

The North Carolina General Assembly is presently considering changes to the special tax treatment on recycling equipment. House Bill 1290, which was introduced by Representative Paul Luebke of Durham, would make the following changes to the tax treatment of recycling equipment:

1. Remove the tax treatment from equipment that was not certified with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) within 2 years from the date of purchase of the equipment.
2. Limit the tax treatment on real property to 3 years.

The bill passed the State House last session and is presently being considered by the State Senate Finance Committee.

Note: This bill excludes recycling companies classified as major or large-scale under the William S. Lee Act.

The bill has elicited concern in the recycling business community. In its present form the tax treatment is viewed as the prime state incentive aimed at promoting recycling market development. Some recycling companies have based decisions (such as contesting city incorporation and expansions) on the law as it presently exists. As the recycling business community sees it, the special tax treatment enhances their bottom line and helps buffer them from commodity market fluctuations.

The economic development community views the special tax treatment differently. From an economic development perspective, particularly when dealing

"The North Carolina General Assembly is presently considering changes to the special tax treatment on recycling equipment . . ."

with large recycling projects, the special tax treatment is viewed as a double-edged sword. The tax exemption can aid in luring a project to North Carolina, but it can also erode the tax base of the community where it locates. For example, a \$150 million paper mill that uses recycled feedstock can expect approximately 75%, or \$112.5 million, of their investment exempt under the current law. If the project is a large employer, high growth counties with low unemployment rates whose infrastructure is already being strained view it in an unfavorable light

If you would like more information on the special tax treatment for recycling equipment you can call the N.C. Division of Waste Management at 919-733-0692.

If you would like to read House Bill 1290 in its entirety and track its progress the address is <http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/gascripts/SimpleBillInquiry/displaybills.pl>.

Soft Drink Association Offers Research Grants

The National Soft Drink Association is offering grant money to promote the research and development of products made from recycled PET (Polyethylene terephthalate). The aim of the grant round is to help researchers find new and innovative uses for recycled PET.



This year, NSDA will provide up to four grants of \$5,000 each to individuals, colleges, universities and not-for-profit organizations involved in packaging, chemical or engineering research. For more information on the grant process, contact Dr. Richard Adamson at (202) 463-6750.

Site Clean-Up and Recycling off to a Good Start

By John Blaisdell, Market Development Specialist

According to The 1998 N.C. Markets Assessment of the Recycling Industry and Recyclable Materials, C&D Commodity Profile (<http://www.p2pays.org/ref/02/0162205.pdf>), North Carolina generates approximately 2.5 million tons of construction and demolition debris per year. Residential construction debris accounts for approximately 300,000 tons, and the state's highest growth areas, Mecklenburg and Wake counties generate a large portion of that debris.

Site Clean-Up and Recycling, Inc., of Charlotte, NC is a fledgling company that is off to an ambitious start. The owner, Wesley O'Brien Davis, initially landed some key accounts with local builders, giving the company several hundred new construction sites requiring clean-up and recycling services.

Seeking a career change that offered him the opportunity to work outdoors and be closer to his family, Davis, a former energy marketing manager, began researching alternatives. Seeing the growth in the Mecklenburg County area and the massive amount of construction debris generated, he decided that a construction site clean up business would be a viable endeavor. Armed with funding from a Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling Grant from the Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance (see *Recycling Works*, Winter 1999-2000), Davis was able to leverage the purchase of a dump trailer, a truck, and the miscellaneous equipment needed to get his business up and running.

The company is under contract to service over 200 construction sites in the Mecklenburg County area, and Davis is planning for significant expansion in the near future. His long-term goal is to service 1,000 homes per year in the Charlotte market, and eventually expand into the South Carolina and Georgia markets where growth potential is also high.

Davis also plans to eventually process materials. Specifically, he sees an opportunity for processing wood from construction debris, which can be as much as 40 percent of the total waste he collects at a site. While servicing the construction sites, Davis's employees salvage reus-



Wesley O'Brien Davis (right), Owner of Site Clean-up and Recycling, Inc., and Ed Garrison of Torrey Homes stand in front of the recycling area where job site waste materials are stored until collection.

able lumber and give it to the job site's superintendent for reuse.

Davis was recently a guest speaker at the May 2000 Waste Expo in Atlanta, Georgia (<http://www.wasteexposhow.com/>), where he shared his experiences in a construction and demolition debris recycling session. His presentation included an overview of his business as well as the challenges in developing this type of business.

When asked about the challenges to start and expand his business, Davis said, "Recycling is a selling point, but it hasn't been driven home just yet. I encourage the HBA (Home Builders Association) to motivate the builders to reduce waste." Ideally, further education of the building community coupled with higher future disposal costs will employ more builders to choose recycling companies like Site Clean-Up and Recycling.

For more information, contact Davis at (704) 948-3513.

Company Profile

Company: Site Clean-up and Recycling
Started: October 1999
Business Type: Construction site recycling
Owner: Wesley O'Brien Davis
Number of Employees: 3
Tons per year: 500 tons (estimated first year)



SCHOLARSHIPS
For Recycling Entrepreneurs

Register now for the Fall Semester NxLevel course. This exciting 12-week course is designed to give entrepreneurs the skills that are needed to grow their recycling businesses.

For further information, call:
(919) 715-6516 (RBAC), or
(919) 715-7272 (SBTDC)

**CONSIDER AN INVESTMENT
IN PLANET EARTH**

Plan to attend



**5TH ANNUAL SOUTHEAST
RECYCLING AND
ENVIRONMENTAL BUSINESS
INVESTMENT FORUM**

Sept. 20, 2000

Adam's Mark Hotel, Charlotte, N.C.

Whether you are a private investor, commercial banker, investment banker, SBA lender, economic developer or operate a venture capital fund, plan to attend the 5th Annual Southeast Recycling and Environmental Business Investment Forum. The event will feature presentations from recycling and environmentally related companies seeking either early-stage or later-stage financing. For more information please contact Ted Campbell at 803.737.0477 or Dottie Landry at 803.737.0239.

What's new . . . in business

In Business is a bi-monthly publication that conveys information about creating sustainable enterprises and communities. It frequently highlights innovative, environmentally-friendly business endeavors and concepts. Three such endeavors, which were featured in the January/February 2000 issue, are described below.

Todco: grinding yard waste and clean wood waste into boiler fuel and mulch has proven to be a profitable engagement for this Lexington, N.C. based company, and has the local county singing its praises. Todco, which was started eight years ago by the then 19-year-old Todd Warford, processes wood waste from furniture manufacturers and Davidson County residents and provides its host county with an environmentally preferred outlet for a large portion of the local waste stream.

Aspen Skiing Company: deconstructing on-site buildings instead of bulldozing them, this Aspen, CO based company has achieved an 84 percent recycling rate, keeping 8,000 cubic yards from the landfill. Usable items are recovered and easily sold locally, metal is sorted for recycling, and sheetrock and wood are ground for composting.

Sylvacurl: this Vermont-based operation converts the low-valued aspen tree into packaging curls that serve as an alternative to styrofoam peanuts. It also produces colored wood shreds for decorative packaging and both aromatic cedar wood curls and hemlock for special orders. When ramping-up this operation, the owners took advantage of a variety of funding, including a U.S. Forest Service grant, a loan from the town's revolving fund for downtown remodeling projects, and a loan from a local bank.

To subscribe to *In Business* magazine, contact The JG Press Inc. at (610) 967-4135.

NRC Congress, from page 1

Tires & Recycled Content Paperboard: Continental General Tire, Caraustar Recovered Fiber Group

Sunday, September 10, 1 pm - 5 pm

First, you will visit the Continental General Tire, Inc., manufacturing plant. Tour highlights include: samples of recycled whole tire ground rubber, seeing 500-pound batches of mixed rubber from an internal mixer, extrusion of treads and sidewalls, calendaring of polyester body ply and steel belts, bead building, stock preparation of the calendared fabric and steel for tire building, tire building, tire curing, and final finish processing and warehousing.

During the second half of the tour, you will visit a mill manufacturing 100 percent recycled paperboard. The tour will provide a glimpse into all facets of the process.

Textile Recycling: Bollag International

Monday, September 11, 2 pm - 4 pm

Tour attendees will see a textile recycling facility where textile cuttings and wipers are being manufactured and processed. First you will be taken to the receiving area of Bollag International and see the clippings and textile fibers that will be processed. Then you will view the sorting department where fiber, clippings, and wipers are sorted and graded. Next, you will be taken to the baling area to see the baled product. Finally, you will see the warehouse and shipping area.

Mecklenburg County Facilities: Convenience Center, Yard Waste Site, MRF, and Tire Recovery Facility

Wednesday, September 13, 1 pm - 5 pm

Among the many interesting and informative sites visited on this tour, you will see Metrolina Recycling Center, which is owned by Mecklenburg County and operated by FCR, Inc. The 103,000 square foot material recovery facility processes and markets 200 to 250 tons of residential material per day through the curbside and drop-off center programs. In the same facility, tour attendees will visit U.S. Fiber, Inc., a manufacturer of dry, natural, organic cellulose fiber insulation from a combination of old newspapers (from the MRF), dry adhesives, and fire-resistant chemicals.

FCR, Inc., was highlighted in the November 1998 issue of *Recycling Works*; U.S. Fiber, Inc., was featured in the Spring 2000 issue.

R24 Lumber Company and Pallet Express

Wednesday, September 13, 1 pm - 5 pm

Tour R24 Lumber Company, a finger-jointing operation

that makes building materials from discarded lumber. Finger jointing is a method of making longer pieces of lumber by gluing shorter pieces together along a joint with high surface area made by cutting a saw-like pattern into each.

Then, visit Pallet Express, which is actively harvesting the urban forest by recovering used pallets, performing pallet repair, and converting old pallets into reusable lumber.

For more information on R24 Lumber, consult the Fall 1999 issue of this newsletter.

Roll-Tech, Inc., Conwed Fibers, and the 2nd Annual Green Dream House

Wednesday, September 13, 1 pm - 5 pm

Visit Roll-Tech., Inc., a subsidiary of Roll-Gom SA of France. This company converts almost 1 million tires annually to usable recycled products, primarily solid rubber tires. Roll-Tech, Inc., estimates that its conversion of 8.5 million pounds of crumb rubber into solid rubber tires annually eliminates the disposal of about 780,000 scrap tires each year.

Then visit Conwed Fibers, a wood waste processor that supplies products to erosion control and landscaping industries using recycled wood and paper products. Manufacturing of Hydro-mulch and erosion control products will be examined.

Roll Tech., Inc., was highlighted in the August 1998 issue of *Recycling Works*; Conwed Fibers appeared in the October 1997 issue.

Composting Tour: Mecklenburg County's Compost Central and Citizen Convenience Center and UNC-Charlotte College Composting and Recycling Operations

Sunday, September 10, 1 pm - 5 pm

This tour will provide insight into the diverse nature of composting as a waste reduction tool, and will display an award-winning college recycling program.

In addition to the tours, there will be over 40 informational sessions covering various aspects of the following topics:

- Recycling Program Operations, Education and Outreach
- Business, Commercial, and Institutional Recycling and Waste Prevention
- Recycling Market Development & Buy Recycled
- Organics Recovery

See NRC Congress, next page.

Computer and Electronics Reuse and Recycling



RBAC and Southern Waste Information eXchange (SWIX) will sponsor two one-day workshops on electronics recycling in Raleigh and Charlotte in October (Exact locations and dates are yet to be determined). The workshops will address the current status of

electronics recycling in North Carolina, markets for electronics, establishing recycling programs for local governments and the private sector, and regulatory considerations of handling, disposing, and recycling electronics. For more information, contact Ray Moreau with SWIX (800) 441-7949 or John Blaisdell with RBAC (919) 715-6522.

Electronics Recycling Web Resources:

- NC Electronics Market Assessment: <http://www.p2pays.org/ref/02/0162206.pdf>
- US EPA's compilation of resources: <http://www.epa.gov/epr/elec-org.htm> and <http://www.epa.gov/jtr/comm/electron.htm>
- EPA's Common Sense Initiatives: <http://www.epa.gov/commonsense/computer/index.htm>
- Trade Associations and Organizations:
 - <http://www.deer2.com/>
 - <http://www.nsc.org/ehc/epr2.htm>
 - <http://computer.org/tab/ehsc/>
 - <http://www.iaer.org/>
 - <http://www.nrc-recycle.org/Programs/electronics>
 - <http://www.svtc.org>

Scholarships to NRC Congress & Exposition Available

DPPEA is offering partial scholarships to the National Recycling Congress in Charlotte, September 10- 13, on a reimbursement basis. Only one scholarship is available per jurisdiction, agency, or company. DPPEA will reimburse \$200 of registration expenses upon submittal of proof of paid registration. Only ten scholarships are available on a first-come, first-serve basis and pre-approval is necessary.

Please send a letter or email requesting consideration for a scholarship to: Scott Mouw, NC DPPEA, 1639 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1639, or scott.mouw@ncmail.net. The letter should explain why registration assistance is needed. Those persons chosen for a scholarship will be given an approval letter in return and then reimbursed once registration expenses are incurred and documented.

Recycling Works is published by the N.C. Recycling Business Assistance Center (RBAC), a program of the Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance of the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). For more information call (919) 715-6500 or (800) 763-0136, or write to DPPEA, 1639 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1639.

James B. Hunt, Jr., Governor, North Carolina

Bill Holman, Secretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance

Gary Hunt, Director
 Scott Mouw, Chief, Community & Business Assistance Section
 Matt Ewadinger, RBAC Manager
 Jason Hale, RBAC Market Development Specialist
 John Blaisdell, RBAC Market Development Specialist
 John Nelms, RBAC Industrial Development Specialist
 Tom Rhodes, RBAC Market Development Specialist



NRC Congress, from previous page

- Recycling the Next Generation of Materials
- Source Reduction
- Recycling Policy & Economics
- Professional and Organizational Development

Over 65 exhibitors will be present at the event, as well. These exhibitors will include recycling groups and associations, government entities, recycling press, and private recycling companies. For details on how to register as an exhibitor, contact Kim Henley of the Carolina Recycling Association at (919) 851-8444.

The NRC is a non-profit coalition of diverse individuals committed to maximizing recycling in order to achieve the benefits of resource conservation, effective solid waste management or waste reduction, environmental production, energy conservation, and social and economic development. For more information on NRC's 19th Annual Congress and Exposition, call the Registration Hotline at (703) 683-9025 ext. 401 or visit NRC's website at www.NRC-recycle.org. Click on the Green dot on the left hand side of the homepage, scroll down, and click on "Annual Congress & Exposition."



The Recycling Business Assistance Center (RBAC) is a program of the North Carolina Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance.

Call (919) 715-6500 or 1-800-763-0136 for free technical assistance and information about preventing, reducing, and recycling waste.

North Carolina market prices for recyclables

Prices current as of April 12

Item	Western Region	Central Region	Eastern Region
METALS			
Aluminum Cans, lb. loose	\$0.51	\$0.49	\$0.54
Steel cans, gross ton baled	\$25	\$28	\$25
PLASTICS			
	Central Region markets plastics together		
PETE, lb. baled	\$0.15	\$0.055	\$0.15
HDPE, lb. baled	\$0.20	\$0.055	\$0.19
PAPER			
Newsprint, ton baled	\$80	\$85	\$65-\$85
Corrugated, ton baled	\$90	\$110	\$90
Office, ton baled	\$190	n/a	\$225
Magazines, ton baled	n/a	\$60	**
Mixed, ton baled	\$50	n/a	\$50
GLASS			
Clear, ton crushed	\$42	\$40	\$25
Brown, ton crushed	\$24	\$30	\$21
Green, ton crushed	\$10	\$0	\$0
**Facility sells magazines with newsprint. Note: Prices listed above are compiled by RBAC and are for reference only. These prices are not firm quotes. RBAC obtained pricing information from processors for each category and developed a pricing range.			

Visit RBAC online at

<http://www.p2pays.org/rbac>



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