# Reviving Buy Recycled Campaigns

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## **Waste Reduction Partners**

- Innovative Partnership between NCDEQ & COGs – Land of Sky Regional Council
- Non-regulatory / no cost
- Solid waste reduction, energy efficiency, and water conservation
- Conducts on-site assessments and provides cost saving strategies and resources









- Retired business professional and staff
- Engineers
- Scientists
- 40 field team members across the state
- Recycling "Brain Power"
- 2,300 years experience



## **Motivation Behind the Campaign**

- Environmental purchasing strategies are often a recommendations in WRP's assessments
- Needed a special push for recycled content, given the need for domestic market development
- Interest from clients
- Perfect role for WRP, with the help of our partners



## Partners in this Project

- NC Recycling Business Assistance Center
- SERDC
- CRA
- APR
- EPA



## **EPA Sustainable Materials Management Grant**







NC PURCHASING TOOLKIT FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PURCHASERS NC BUSINESS LEADERS
USING RECYCLED CONTENT

NC RECYCLING INDUSTRY
JOBS STUDY

## **NC Purchasing Toolkit**



Purchasing information and key specifications



Resources for additional information



Statewide contract listing



In review mode



Available to share with anyone that wants to duplicate





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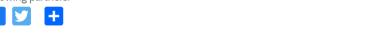
NC Purchasing Toolkit: Recycled Content Products

A Guide for North Carolina Public and Private Purchasing Agents

This toolkit was developed with support from the EPA Sustainable Materials Management Program and following partners:







## NC **Purchasing Toolkit**





















## NC Purchasing Toolkit

### **Key Products, Purchasing Information, Sample Specifications**

- a. Paper Products (Printing and Writing Paper, Coated Paper, Sanitary Paper)
- b. Plastic Products for Administrative Offices (Recycling and Garbage Containers, Trash Bags, Office Products)
- c. Industrial Products (Totes, Bins, Drums, Plastic Pallets, Crates, Slipsheets, Gaylord Liners, Can Liners, Mats, Sorbents, etc.)
- d. Packaging
  - i. Plastic (Protective, Flexible, Rigid, Food, Labels)
  - ii. Paper (Paperboard, Corrugated Paper Products)
- e. Interior Building Products
  - i. Carpet, Carpet Backing, Other Flooring and Underlayment,
  - ii. Building Insulation, Shower/Restroom Dividers, Latex Paint
- f. Exterior Building Products
  - i. Plastic Lumber (Decking, Railing, Outdoor Furniture, Landscaping Timbers)
  - ii. Non-pressure Pipe -Drainage or Conduit
- g. Compost and Hydraulic Mulch
- h. Other Parks and Recreation Products (Running Track Surfaces, Playground Surfaces)
- i. Transportation Products (Parking Stops, Traffic Cones, Traffic Barricades, Delineators)
- j. Vehicular Products (Coolant, Rerefined Oil, Remanufactured Parts, Retreaded Tires)



## **NC Purchasing Toolkit**

Special thanks to the early reviewers:

- Association of Plastics Recyclers (APR)
- NC Recycling Business Assistance Center
- NC Composting Council
- State agency procurement officials
- Private sector procurement officials



# NC Manufacturers Using Recycled Content



Sylva NC, Jackson County





Corrugated box

from the landfill every year

#### THE BUSINESS STORY

Jackson Paper is a leading recycled paper manufacturer and has been an industry innovator for over 20 years. They produce top-quality. 100-percent recycled corrugating medium and supply our paper to corrugated box makers owned and situated in the Great Smoky Mountains of western North Carolina, Jackson Paper is committed to protecting the beautiful natural environment that they call home.

"We were green before green was cool."

#### **PROCESS DETAILS**

Jackson Paper sources used cardboard from regiona material recovery facilities, which gives value to the cardboard that North Carolinians recycle through community recycling programs. The old corrugated containers (OCC) are fed into a pulper where they fibers are refined to ensure the necessary strength and quality. They are then sent to a paper machine to be formed into sheets of paper. The sheets are dried with steam, wound onto a reel, and cut into rolls. The 100% recycled paper is delivered to box manufacturers across the Southeast.

Unlike most paper mills, Jackson Paper fires their boiler with waste-wood - not fossil fuels. The boiler generates steam that powers the papermaking machinery and heats the plant. A pollution control scrubber prevents wood ash from leaving the boiler. The closed-loop water system and treatment facility allows the facility to reuse the large quantities of water needed to make paper. The result is zero discharge of waste into local sewer system or waterways







**New London NC, Stanly County** 







incinerators each year

#### THE BUSINESS STORY

Founded in 1997, Fiberon is a leading U.S. manufacturer of wood-alternative decking, railing, cladding, and fencing distributed worldwide Fiberon products are available in a wide range of styles and price points, all providing the warmth and beauty of natural wood without the costly, time-consuming maintenance. Fiberon products are free of toxic chemicals and contain up to 94%

#### **PROCESS DETAILS**

Plastic film is recycled at the New London recycling plant. The plastic pellets generated by this recycling process are sent to the profile extrusion plant The profile extrusion plant combines the recycled pellets with recycled wood flour to create decks, railing and fencing sold under the brand names Veranda and Fiberon.

#### MATERIAL RECOVERED

Fiberon products consist of locally-sourced recycled wood fibers and plastic. Fiberon diverts over 50,000 tons from landfills and incinerators each year. The recycled plastic content comes from film recycled through grocery and retail store collection programs. The recycled wood fibers are from ground window trim, doorframes, lumber and cabinet pieces. Fiberon products deliver long-term performance and require no chemical preservatives, paint or stains that are common for wood decks,

"We think trees should give our backyard's shade, not flooring."



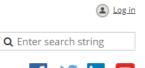
# NC Business Leaders Using Recycled Content

- To showcase manufacturers using recycled content
- To motivate purchasers and consumers to buy recycled
- Environmental savings
- Economic impacts
- How to purchase



If you are one of these businesses, and you have not yet been contacted by WRP, please reach out to us.











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#### RECYCLING DEMAND MAPPING IN THE SOUTHEAST

In a 2016 study, funded in part by the US Environmental Protection Agency, SERDC determined that over 360 key Southeastern manufacturers look to recycled feedstock to develop new consumer goods.

When communities invest in local recycling collection programs, they're supporting regional manufacturers who depend on recycled plastic, glass, metal, and paper to make new consumer goods.

These manufacturers collectively support almost 98,000 jobs and see a sales volume towering more than \$40 billion.





## **Technical Assistance Capability**

## **Customized assistance to**

 Manufacturers seeking recycled feedstock

#### **Recent success:**

- •Cellulose by-products from one NC manufacturer to a NC molded pulp manufacturer will keep 30 tons per month from the landfill
- •Also, recently worked with a composite lumber manufacturer to acquire NC ag plastic test material
- Sourcing departments and purchasers seeking recycled content products



# NC Campaign Rollout Winter and Spring 2021

## NC Public Sector:

- Local Government Solid Waste Departments
- State Agency Purchasers
- Carolina Chapter of NIGP

### NC Private Sector:

- Environmental Stewardship Initiative
- Economic Development Partnership
- WRP Clients
- NCSU Industrial Extension and ECU



# Thank you!

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