



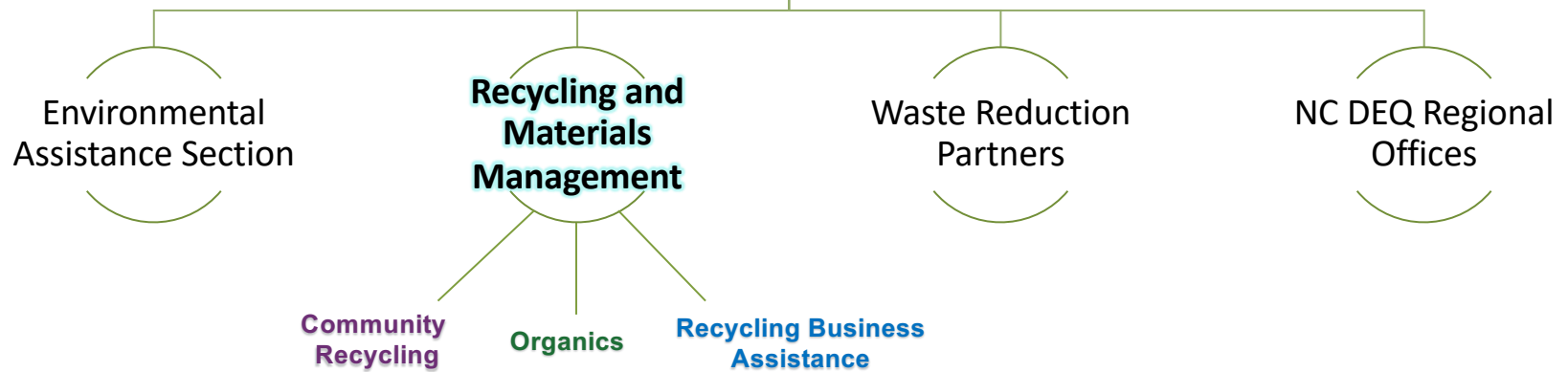
From Waste to Worth Workshop: Financing Composting & Hauling in NC

Recycling and Materials Management Section
NC Department of Environmental Quality

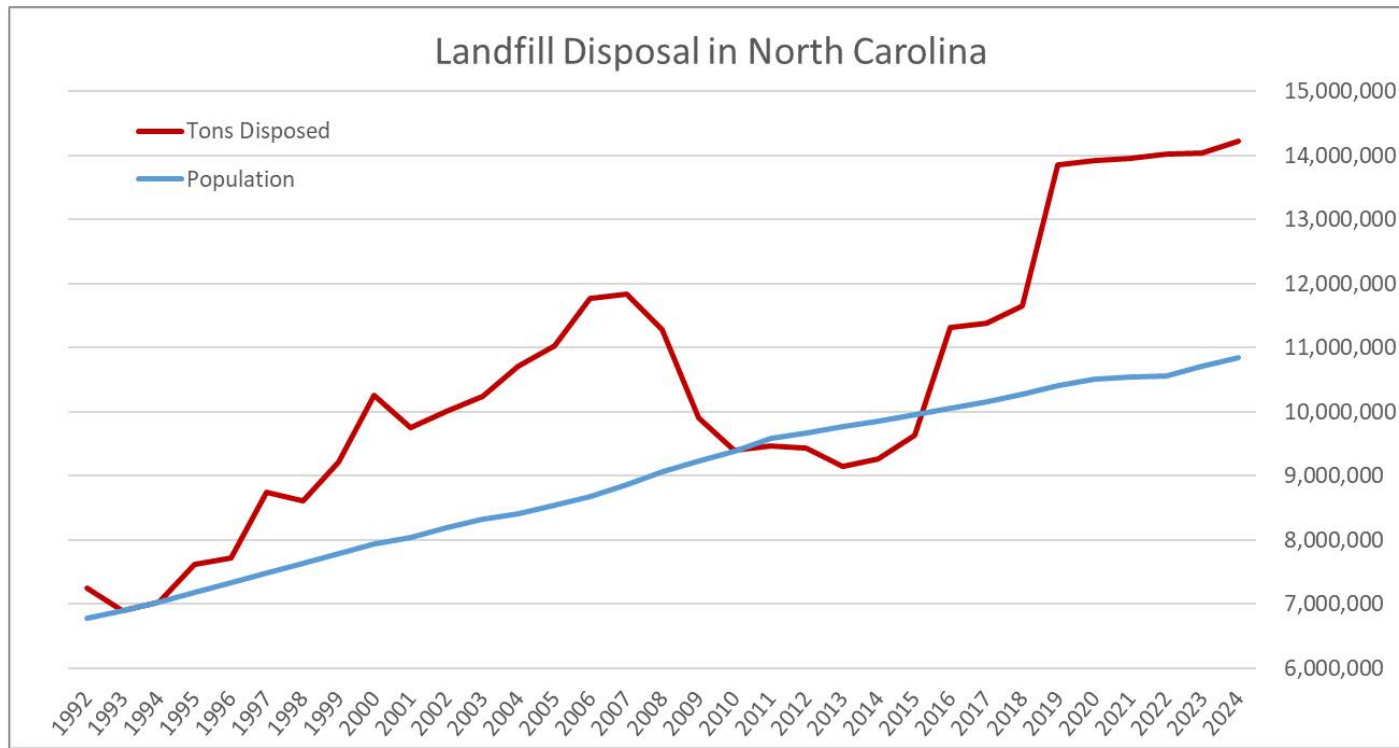




Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service (DEACS)



Disposal Trends

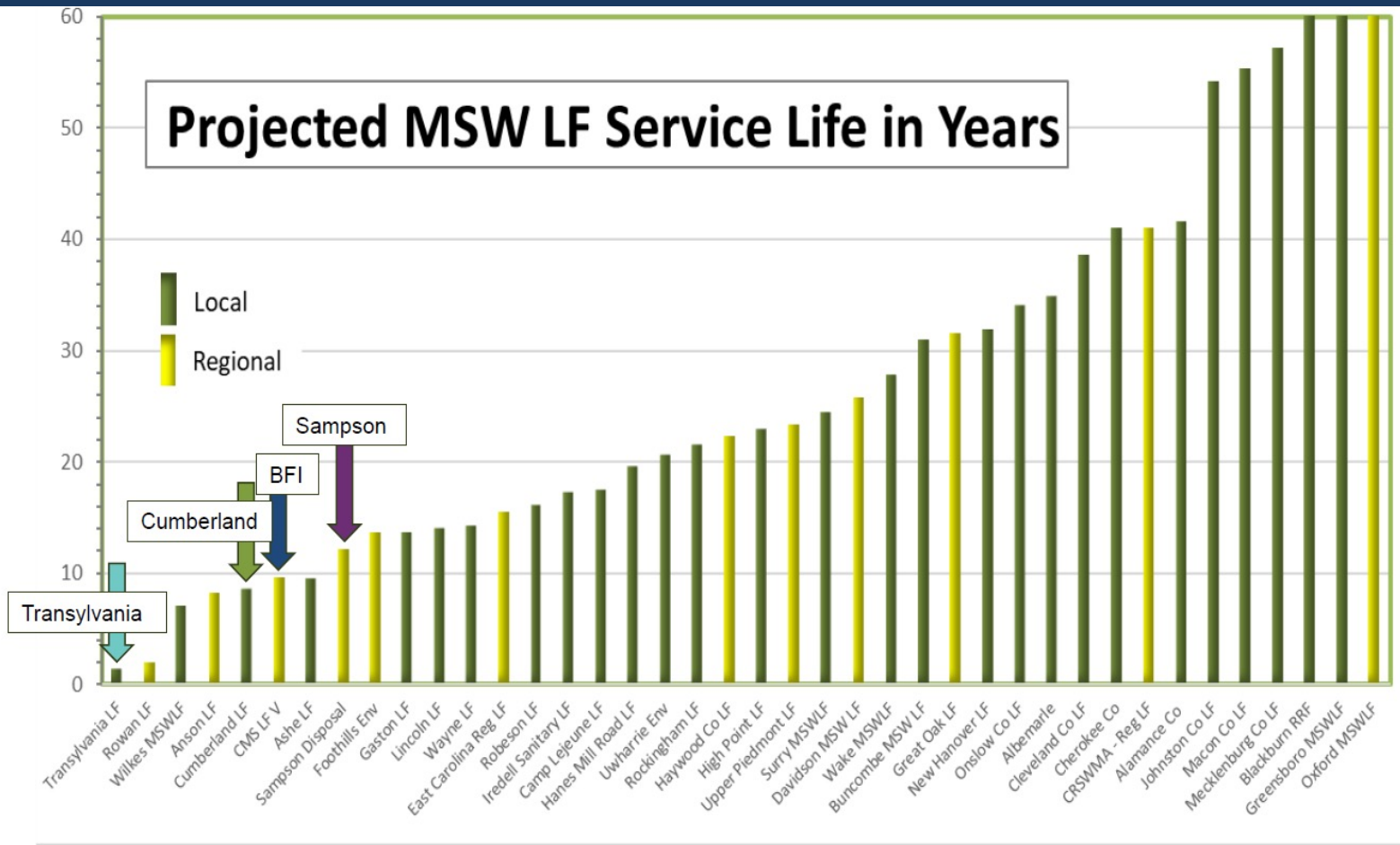


2024 Disposal
14.2M tons

Per Capita Disposal
1992: 1.07 tons
2024: 1.31 tons



MSW Landfill Projected Service Life



Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR)

Awarded \$612,441 from EPA in 2023
3-year contract

Project Components

- MRF Assessment
- Waste Characterization Study
- Market Assessments
- Recycling Flow Analysis
- Education: Lithium-ion batteries



Materials Management
Optimization Study

RRS  | recycle.com

Round 2 funding beginning Oct 2026



Waste Characterization Study

2025 sort dates:

- Spring: Apr-Jun
- Fall: Sep-Oct

Evaluating loads from:

- Residential
- Commercial
- Mixed

Preliminary Results:

30% organics and compostable



Residential Food Scrap Drop-off Map

NC Residential Food Scrap Drop-offs

Find address or place

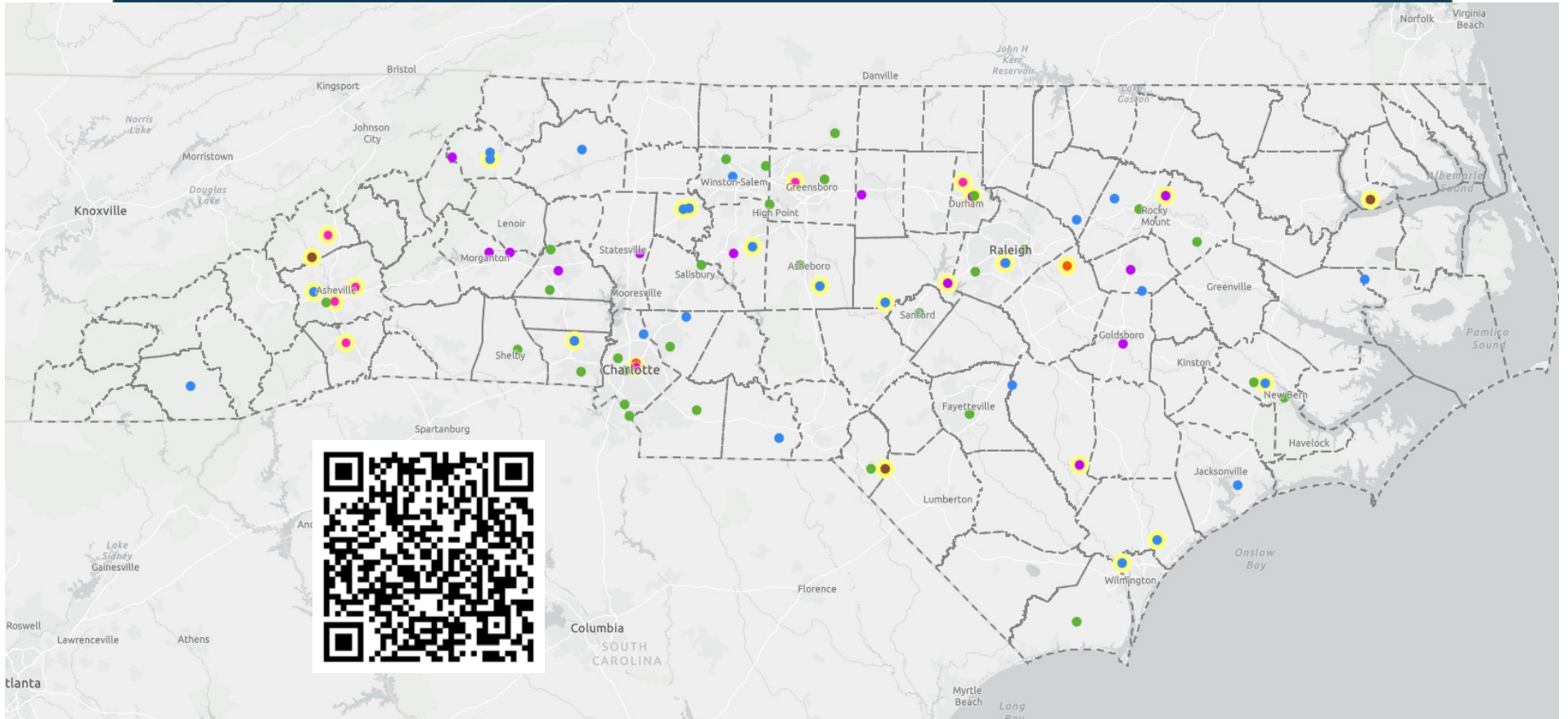
Legend

- Accepts all food scraps & BPI-certified products
- Accepts all food scraps - No BPI-certified products
- Meat-free & Dairy-free food scraps only

50 mi

TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USFWS | NC DEQ - Div. of Water Resources Powered by Esri

NC Permitted Compost Facility Map



Grant Opportunities

- Depending on the project, haulers and composters may be eligible for two grants:

- **Food Waste Reduction Grant**

- **Purpose:** Develop food waste reduction infrastructure.
- **Eligible applicants:** compost facilities, compost haulers, local governments, anaerobic digestion facilities, and food recovery organizations.
- *Projects – food waste only*

- **Recycling Business Development Grant**

- **Purpose:** Invest in equipment, buildings and infrastructure to increase the capacity of a recycling business.
- **Eligible applicants:** recycling businesses (for profit or non-profit).
- *Projects – all other feedstocks and materials*

Visit the RMMS grant website to learn more!



RBAC Resources

- NC Recycling Markets Directory
- NC Waste Trader
- Grants for recycling business expansion
- NC recycling tax property credits
- Information on loans and other finance tools
- Customized Outreach Design



DEQ Resources



Connects waste generators (such as businesses) with companies who can collect, process, recycle or remanufacture those materials

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



Marketplace for fluctuating streams

Aimed to turn one organization's by-products into usable goods or inputs for another organization

<https://wastetrader.deq.nc.gov/>



Recycling Business Development Grants

- **Why:** To help recycling businesses in North Carolina boost material diversion, create jobs, and advance a circular economy
- **What:** To assist with capital costs for physical infrastructure to increase the capacity or improve efficiency of a recycling operation
- **How:** Current grants are up to \$75,000 with a 50% cash match requirement
- **When:**
 - Grant Proposal Window: Sep – Nov 2026
 - Grant Awards given: Dec 2026
 - Grantee Contracts Signed by: Mar 1st, 2027
 - Grant Contract window from: Mar 1st – Feb 28, 2028



Tax Incentives

N.C. Recycling Property Tax Exemption

- North Carolina offers a property tax exemption on equipment and facilities used exclusively for recycling and resource recovery. For more details and application information, please visit the N.C. Division of Waste Management's [Tax Certification Program website](#).



Loans for Recycling Businesses

Self-Help Credit Union

- North Carolina's Self-Help Credit Union provides loans from \$15,000 to \$500,000 for existing small businesses and nonprofits. Loans can be used to expand, purchase equipment, buy or renovate a building, or cover everyday expenses. They offer fully secured term loans, typically requiring real estate collateral, and SBA financing options including 504 and 7(a) loans. Borrowers must have been in operation for at least two years. Lines of credit and bridge/short-term financing are not available.

Partner Community Capital

- North Carolina's Partner Community Capital provides loans from \$5,000 to \$1.5 million to locally-owned small businesses in Eastern and Western NC. They focus on businesses that create lasting jobs, support their communities, or use natural resources responsibly. Priority borrowers include minority and woman-owned businesses, rural businesses, and those providing vital community services or consumer products and services. As a non-traditional lender, they pair flexible financing with strategic advisory services to help borrowers make the most of their loan.

Mountain BizWorks

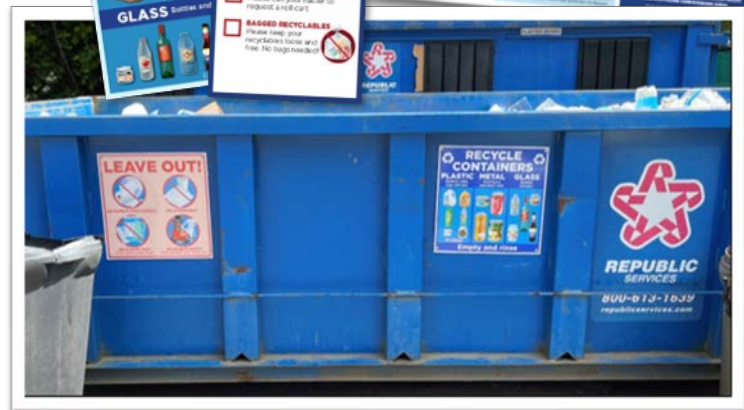
- Mountain BizWorks specializes in non-traditional loans from \$1,000 to \$500,000 to help small businesses in Western North Carolina launch and expand. In addition to financing, they offer business planning courses, technical support, and training.

Small Business Administration Loans

- The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) sets the guidelines for several loan programs to assist small businesses. SBA does not lend money directly but serves as a guarantor of loans made by private, community and other lending institutions. Loans can be used for most sound business purposes including working capital, equipment, furniture and fixtures, land, buildings (including purchase, renovation and new construction), leasehold improvements and debt refinancing (under special conditions).



Customized Outreach Design



Questions?

Christine Wittmeier

Organics Recycling Team Lead
(919) 707-8121

christine.wittmeier@deq.nc.gov

Marc Boettger

Recycling Economic Development Specialist
919-707-8133

Marc.boettger@deq.nc.gov

