



Recycling Works

Volume 19, Number 1

Winter 2013

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

Natural Capital Investment Fund: Support for North Carolina's Recycling Innovators

by Rick Larson, Natural Capital Investment Fund

The Natural Capital Investment Fund (NCIF) has provided loans to a number of recycling enterprises in North Carolina. The fund has capital available for recycling companies seeking funding to expand or diversify into new product lines.

The NCIF is a business loan fund that provides flexible financing, including debt and equity, to small and emerging natural resource-based businesses in rural, economically distressed communities in West Virginia, North Carolina, and the Appalachian regions of Virginia, Tennessee and Ohio.



Recent recipient of NCIF financing, Greasecycle owner Dylan Gehrken stands in front of a brown grease cook tank whose content will be recycled into renewable biofuel.

For example, NCIF recently provided N.C.-based [Greasecycle LLC](#) with financing to purchase equipment and construct a 1,750 square foot greasetrap waste processing facility in Raleigh. The new facility processes greasetrap waste into marketable brown grease, as well as refining used cooking oil collected from restaurants into a higher value product.

Greasecycle owner Dylan Gehrken is committed to collecting and processing greasetrap waste in an environmentally responsible way. Thanks to Greasecycle, for the

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first time, companies that pump greasetraps for restaurants in the Triangle region (there are 1,800 greasetraps in Wake County alone) have an affordable way to dispose of this grease. Previously, pumpers had to travel up to 50 miles roundtrip to compost or land-apply their loads.

(See also the article titled “The FOG is Lifting in North Carolina! Fats, Oils & Greases Find New Life” in the summer 2012 edition of [Recycling Works](#) that also featured Greasecycle’s expansion plans.)

Says Rick Larson, NCIF’s NC Program Director: “Dylan’s business is a great example of the triple-bottom-line in action – creating jobs, reducing fuel usage, and addressing a critical water quality issue affecting the Neuse River basin. And, he has a profitable business model.”



NCIF specializes in funding “green” businesses that create employment and either address environmental needs or wish to operate in a more energy efficient or sustainable manner. Especially in today’s credit-restricted environment,

even strong companies can’t always secure the funding they need from traditional lenders or grant programs.

NCIF can lend up to \$250,000 for equipment or working capital needs at competitive rates and often works together with banks or other community development lenders to meet the total financing needs of a business. Other recent recipients of recycling loans from NCIF have been recyclers of construction waste, plastics and glass.

NCIF is the “green” business lending arm of [The Conservation Fund](#), a top-rated national land and water conservation non-profit that finds conservation solutions that make economic sense.

Interested recycling businesses can visit NCIF’s website at www.ncifund.org for more information.

Contact Rick Larson at 919-951-0113 or rlarson@conservationfund.org in Chapel Hill. Or, con-

tact Anna Tefft at 336-734-6902 or atefft@conservationfund.org in Winston-Salem to discuss whether the business is a candidate for financial assistance through NCIF.



Rick Larson (above) is the North Carolina Program Director for the National Capital Investment Fund and is a guest writer for this issue of RBAC’s *Recycling Works*. RBAC partners with the NCIF to assist in finding funding resources for recycling business across the state.



**2013 Recycling
Business
Development
Grant Round
Now Closed**

2013 proposals were due on Feb. 1, 2013.

Proposals are being reviewed, and award announcements will be made in March.

If you missed the deadline, RBAC’s grant program is conducted on an annual basis. The RBAC’s request for proposals is typically released in the late fall of each year.

Tax Exemptions for North Carolina Recycling Businesses

by Ben Rogers, Industrial Development Representative

“Fiscal cliffs,” taxes, incentives for corporations and environmental issues have been the focus of recent news. As another round of Recycling Business Development Grants and year end draws to a close, it’s a good time to review incentives specific to the recycling industry. One such incentive is North Carolina’s tax exemption equipment and facilities used exclusively for recycling and resource recovery.

In North Carolina, a business that purchases or constructs facilities or equipment for recycling is entitled to special tax treatment for real and personal property tax, corporate state income tax, and corporate franchise tax. But before you call your CPA, realize this is not a carte blanche pass on taxes for businesses involved in recycling. There are strict guidelines involved in the qualification process.

To qualify, the real and/or personal property must be used *exclusively* for recycling. In other words, facilities and equipment used only part of the time for recycling do not qualify and prorating of time is not allowed. Incidental and supportive parts of the business, such as break rooms or parking lots, do not qualify. However, the division of real property (the part of the

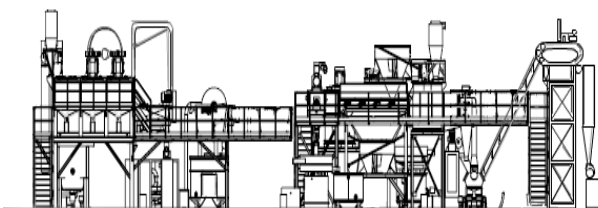
building where you have recycling equipment) is allowed.

The qualification process is relatively simple. Once potential property or equipment has been identified, contact the [N.C. Division of Waste Management](#). Then, submit an application to the DWM that may include CAD drawings, leases, facility layout, asset identification numbers, and additional applicable information. DWM field staff will review the application, conduct a physical inspection, and recommend approval (or denial) for the Division of Waste Management tax certification.

A successful tax certification exempts real or personal property from being listed, appraised, assessed, or taxed by state or local government. To do so, completion of tax exemption Form AV-12 and a copy of the DWMTC should be sent to the local county property tax office with annual reporting.

When accounting for corporate income tax, a deduction for the cost of constructing the facility or purchase of equipment can be amortized over a period of 60 months. In effect, this option allows the corporation to replace the normal depreciation schedule of 15-to-30 years with an accelerated deduction for amortization of costs. For corporate franchise tax, the cost of equipment and facilities can be deducted from either capital stock, surplus, or undivided profits. For income and franchise tax, include a copy of the DWMTC in your annual tax reporting.

For details on this and other financial incentives for recycling businesses, contact Ben Rogers at 919-707-8135 or ben.rogers@ncdenr.gov.



CAD drawings, like the one shown above, are one example of supporting materials that can be submitted to the N.C. Division of Waste Management for tax exemption certification of recycling equipment.

NC WasteTrader: An Important Recycling Market Resource

by Tom Rhodes, Recycling Specialist

NC WasteTrader is a free, web-based marketplace for discarded or surplus materials and products, designed to divert recoverable materials from disposal and provide supplies to potential users.

The purpose of the service is to help promote the free exchange of commodities that have traditionally been discarded. Many disposed items still have value and can be re-used or recycled by other companies. NC WasteTrader provides a trading platform where companies with reusable commodities can connect with those companies that can reuse them.

To access the service, simply visit www.ncwastetrader.org and click on one of the four main service functions:

- View Materials Available
- List Materials Available
- List Materials Wanted
- View Materials Wanted

As seen in the screen shot below, the website is designed to be simple and easy to use.

Participants may list items anonymously or with their names shown publicly for direct contact. The N.C. Division of Environmental Assistance and Outreach manages the site and will contact anonymous listings on behalf of parties interested in listed items.

For more information, contact Tom Rhodes at tom.rhodes@ncdenr.gov or 919-707-8140. Or, visit www.ncwastetrader.org and start using NC WasteTrader today!



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.



[View Materials Available](#)



[View Materials Wanted](#)



[List Materials On WasteTrader \(login\)](#)

NCGov.com * Disclaimer

[Recycling Markets Directory](#)

[Local Government Waste Reduction Programs/Contacts](#)

[Links to Other Exchanges](#)

[NC BiomassTrader](#)

[Join the P2Assist Listserv](#)

[State Energy Office](#)

[FreeCycle Website](#)



North Carolina Department
of Environment and
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The N.C. WasteTrader website, as seen in the screen shot above, is a free marketplace for surplus or potentially discarded materials or products.

RBAC Launches New Website Design

by Wendy Worley, Recycling Business Development Specialist

RBAC is pleased to announce the release of our new website, designed with a fresh new look and user-friendly navigation. In addition to the new look, RBAC's website has a new address:

<http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/deao/rbac>

Please update any links or bookmarks you may have with this new web address.

RBAC's most popular tools, including the Recycling Markets Directory and the waste trading websites, remain the same, but are found in highly visible locations on the page, offering users easy access to our most-used tools.

Users will notice accordion and tabbed menus that offer a variety information condensed all on one page. Be sure to click the subtitles on such menus to reveal additional information on that topic. For example, on the interior page "[Financing Tools for N.C. Recycling Businesses](#)" (seen on the right), there is a set of tabbed menus that highlight major financing topic areas, including:

- Grants
- Loans
- Recycling Tax Credits
- Other Financing Sources

Our goal at RBAC is to provide North Carolina recycling businesses with current, helpful and valuable information to help grow your business.

Please visit our new site and let us know your feedback — what works, suggestions for improvement, or additional resources or tools that you'd like to see. We value your opinion and strive to improve our services to meet your needs.



RBAC's new home page (shown above) offers new navigation features, including the accordion menu adjacent to the C&D recycling facility photo above.

For more information or to offer feedback, please contact RBAC's Wendy Worley at 919-707-8136 or wendy.worley@ncdenr.gov.

<http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/deao/rbac>



Many of RBAC's new webpages, such as the "Financing Tools" page seen above, feature tabbed menus that offer a condensed set of information all on one page.

Myrtle Beach to Host CRA's 2013 Annual Recycling Conference & Trade Show in April

by Matt Ewadinger, RBAC Manager

The Carolina Recycling Association's 23rd annual conference is an event that recyclers will not want to miss. The annual event, which will take place on April 8–12, 2013, at the Hilton Kingston Plantation in Myrtle Beach, S.C., is traditionally one of the largest events of its kind in the United States. Last year's conference set new records with more than 500 attendees and 90 exhibitors on hand.



The event will offer numerous opportunities for recycling companies, local recycling program staff and equipment vendors to do business, network and learn from experts on the latest in recycling issues in the Carolinas and beyond.

This year's conference agenda will feature many timely and important topics, including:

- Voluntary Producer Responsibility Programs Affecting the Carolinas
- Corporate Responsibility and Greening the Supply Chain
- Materials Recovery Facility Roundtable
- Recycled-Content Products Made in the Carolinas
- Smart Business/Green Hospitality

- Away-from-Home Recycling
- Single Stream Recycling Efforts
- Communication Strategies – Speaking the Same Language
- Organics Challenges and Opportunities
- Boosting Glass Recovery

In addition to a full slate of sessions, the conference offers exhibit and sponsorship opportunities designed to increase exposure of recycling companies and vendors to the greater Carolina recycling community.

For more information and to register for the 2013 CRA conference, please visit: www.cra-recycle.org/2013/.



Southeast Recycling Development Council Recognizes NC's Scott Mouw with Recycling Leadership Award

by Wendy Worley, Recycling Business Development Specialist

Southeast Recycling Development Council (SERDC) recently launched its annual Recycling LEadership Awards Program. SERDC's LEAP awards program is designed to recognize those persons or organizations that have helped "propel recycling upward and forward" in the Southeast and beyond. These individuals or organizations have proven leadership in one or more of the following recycling areas:

- Advances in economic benefits including job creation, cost savings, and maximization of revenue/income
- Advances and growth in recycling tonnage/capacity
- Advances in innovation and technology
- Advances in recycling outreach and education

For this inaugural award year, SERDC looked for leadership nominees whose work has occurred during the period since SERDC's creation (approximately seven years ago). The 2012 awardees included the manager of North Carolina's recycling program, Scott Mouw.

Scott Mouw is the chief of Community and Business Assistance for the N.C. Division of Environmental Assistance and Outreach. In this capacity, Scott directs the state's recycling program, which includes efforts to improve material collection, develop material markets, increase public commitment to recycling, and help create and implement materials management policy. He is a member of the Technical Advisory Group for AMERIPEN, and has also participated in the Environmental Protection Agency's Sustainable Recycling Financing dia-



logue and the Sustainable Packaging Coalition Labeling project and also participates in wider national and regional efforts to improve recycling. His program leads the region with a grant program that funds local government programs, and also private processors and recycled material users.

Other recipients included Alabama representative Alan Booth and Alcoa, an international aluminum company with several locations in the Southeast.

SERDC recognized the award recipients during our inaugural LEAP awards presentation. Representative Alan Boothe, Alcoa and Scott Mouw have contributed greatly to increasing sustainable recycling in the Southeast.

For more information, contact Jennifer Cooper at jenn.cooper@serdc.org or visit <http://www.serdc.org/>.



The work we do helps support industry in the Southeast.



2012 Southeast Food Waste Reduction Conference Brought Industry and Government Together



by *Brian Rosa, Organics Recycling Specialist*

In November, the 2012 Southeast Food Waste Conference proved a valuable experience for all who attended and helped promote community and business food waste reduction. More than 250 recycling industry and local government professionals gathered in Charlotte to discuss challenges and opportunities to increase food waste diversion in the Carolinas.

Presentations addressed residential and commercial/institutional food waste collection from the generator and collector perspectives. The conference provided a great forum for participants to learn and discuss the environmental and economic benefits of food diversion and ways to grow this industry.

The sold-out exhibit hall featured 30 vendors who provide food waste collection and hauling services, consulting services, residential food waste equipment, and commercial/industrial composting equipment for on-site processing.

Special thanks to Earth Farms Organics who helped divert 280 pounds of food scrap from the conference waste stream!

The conference was presented by the Carolina Recycling Association, N.C. Composting Council, Southeast Recycling Development Council, and the N.C. Division of Environmental Assistance and Outreach, among others.

Presentations are available online at: <http://www.cra-recycle.org/foodwasteconference/>. Contact Brian Rosa at 919-707-8123 or brian.rosa@ncdenr.gov.



Attendees shared information and knowledge at the 2012 SE Food Waste Reduction Conference, building partnerships to propel the region to greater food waste diversion.

Natural Capital Investment Fund

NCIF makes loans and investments in the \$35,000 to \$250,000 range, primarily to expanding businesses.

Recycling businesses interested in NCIF funding should contact Rick Larson at rlarson@conservationfund.org or by phone at (919) 967-2223.

NCIF is an affiliate of The Conservation Fund, a national nonprofit with a unique commitment to balanced land and water conservation solutions that emphasize the integration of economic and environmental goals.



Stanley Environmental and Earth Farms Organics Team Up to Compost Grease Trap Waste

by Brian Rosa, Organics Recycling Specialist



William Lanier founded Stanley Environmental Solutions in the early 1970's as a local septic tank service provider. The business later expanded to commercial and industrial pumping services.

Over time, William Lanier's son, Jim, shifted Stanley Environmental Solutions' core services towards commercial grease trap cleaning services. With the implementation of this new service, all grease trap waste and food waste from local restaurants previously going to the landfill would now be recycled at the parent company's composting facility, Earth Farms Organics.

Earth Farms Organics was created in 2006 on 100 acres of land in Dallas, N.C. with the purpose of composting food waste from grease traps in restaurants. Just five years later, Earth Farms diverts organic waste from all over the Charlotte area and turns it into nutrient-rich, soil-enhancing compost.

Stanley Environmental and Earth Farms continue to grow in volume processed, technologies used, and the construction of a new facility. Stanley Environmental announced they will now operate a grease dewatering and recycling operation in Durham. Located on a Brownfield site near downtown Durham, this new facility has the capacity to process 40,000 gallons per day of grease trap waste.

The brown grease will be transported back to the Earth Farms Organics site for composting. An additional 1,000 gallons of oil will be separated and sold to the biofuel industry for mak-

ing biodiesel at a per pound price. The remainder of the grease trap water will go to the City of Durham's waste water treatment plant.

For more information, contact Jim Lanier at 704-263-8186 or jim@stanleyenviro.com. Visit the companies' websites at Earth Farms Organics (<http://www.earthfarms.com/>) or Stanley Environmental Solutions (<http://www.stanleyenviro.com/>).

Jim Lanier is a board member of the [N.C. Chapter of the US Compost Council](#) and [N.C. Septic Tank Association](#).

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RBAC Welcomes New Staff Member: Mike Greene

by Matt Ewadinger, RBAC Manager

RBAC is pleased to announce the addition of Mike Greene to the recycling business assistance team. Mike fills the Recycling Business Development Specialist position previously held by Matt Todd.

In addition to general technical and business assistance to recycling companies, Mike will assume the management of the Independent Collectors Network.

Prior to joining RBAC, Mike was employed as a Business Development Specialist with the city of Greensboro's Field Operations Department. In that capacity, he worked on a variety of recycling endeavors including commercial customer services, multi-family residential and ABC recycling services, grant writing, project management and reporting.



Starting with RBAC on Feb. 4, 2013, Mike Greene, shown above, will provide general technical and financial assistance to recycling businesses in N.C., as well as oversee the Independent Collector's Network.

Mike is an Appalachian State University graduate where he received a bachelor's degree in Communication with a concentration in Public Relations and a minor in Marketing.

Mike will be working at our Green Square office in Raleigh, where he can be reached at 919-707-8137 or mike.greene@ncdenr.gov.

New contacts for key RBAC services are:

Recycling Markets Directory

Sherry Yarkosky
919-707-8133

sherry.yarkosky@ncdenr.gov

Recycling Business Development Grants

Wendy Worley
919-707-8136

wendy.worley@ncdenr.gov

Independent Collectors Network

Mike Greene
919-707-8137

mike.greene@ncdenr.gov

Recycling Works is published by the N.C. Recycling Business Assistance Center, a program of the Division of Environmental Assistance and Outreach of the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources. For more information call 877-623-6748, or write to DEAO, 1639 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1639.

Patrick McCrory, Governor, North Carolina
John. E. Skvarla, III, Secretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Division of Environmental Assistance and Outreach

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Scott Mouw, Chief, Community & Business Assistance Section
Matt Ewadinger, RBAC Manager
Wendy Worley, RBAC Market Development Specialist
Sherry Yarkosky, RBAC Market Development Specialist
Mike Greene, RBAC Market Development Specialist
Ben Rogers, RBAC Industrial Development Specialist



