Business in Mecklenburg County are committed to reducing, reusing & recycling

**Business Recycling & Source Separation Ordinance**

Since 2002, any business that contracts for 16 cubic yards per week or greater must recycle their office paper and cardboard. (A typical commercial garbage bin or “dumpster” has a capacity of eight cubic yards, so the ordinance would most likely affect a business if it has a standard dumpster that’s emptied twice a week.)

If an eligible business doesn’t participate as required, it will receive a notice of violation. The notice will be accompanied by an offer of technical assistance. A civil penalty will be assessed if a business fails to comply with the Ordinance within 30 days of receiving a third notice of violation.

**Commercial Recycling Centers**

Located throughout the County, these Centers accept the same list of items as the residential recycling program (see page three for a list of acceptable items). To locate the closest center to you, please visit wipeoutwaste.com.

**ABC Recycling (Alcoholic Beverage Containers)**

The State of North Carolina requires holders of on-premises malt beverage permits, on-premises unfortified wine permits, on-premises fortified wine permits, and mixed beverages permits to separate, store, and provide for the collection for recycling of all recyclable beverage containers sold at retail on the premises. Violation of this statute could result in fines or possible suspension of a business’s ABC Permit.

For more information on compliance and educational assistance, please call 980.314.3872.
The Wipe Out Waste Ambassador Program is a free networking and educational program for Mecklenburg County Businesses that are committed to building a stronger community through recycling and reducing waste in the workplace. In addition to providing an inclusive educational platform, the Ambassador Program recognizes and rewards Mecklenburg County businesses for their waste reduction and recycling efforts. The Ambassador Program operates through Mecklenburg County Solid Waste and has over 200 member organizations, ranging from small non-profits to large corporations.

**Mission**

To assist businesses in Mecklenburg County recycle and reduce their waste stream by providing a free platform to learn best-practices from subject matter experts, to network with like-minded business and to be recognized for their waste reduction and recycling efforts.

**Goals**

- To provide Mecklenburg County businesses with ongoing mentorship, education and networking opportunities centered around waste reduction and recycling practices.
- To recognize and reward Mecklenburg County businesses that reduce, reuse and recycle workplace waste and that purchased recycled products.
- To become the focal point for waste reduction and recycling education within Mecklenburg County’s business community.
- To foster a renewed commitment within Mecklenburg County’s business community to recycle and reduce waste.
- To empower businesses to become ambassadors in the business community – encouraging waste reduction and recycling best practices amongst their peers.

**WOW AMBASSADOR PROGRAM**

Since its revitalization in 2011, Membership for the Wipe Out Waste Ambassador Program has grown increasing from 23 member businesses in 2011 to 200 member businesses in 2018. A driving factor for the program’s success is the unique composition of its members, which range from small “mom and pop” stores to multinational corporations. This diversity, combined with the program’s emphasis on environmental stewardship, allows WOW Ambassador Members to learn and network with like-minded businesses while helping to build a stronger community.

Recycling Markets Have Changed!

_When in Doubt Leave it Out!_