

# How Can I Recycle Away From Home?

## School Recycling

Mecklenburg County's Wipe Out Waste in Education Program was established to assist our community's public and private schools, and colleges and universities with implementing a successful recycling program. School recycling programs have changed significantly in the last few years, morphing from accepting only paper and cardboard into a robust and diverse system that accepts a full range of recyclable material.

- All forms of paper and newspaper are being collected in classrooms.
- Backroom kitchen operations are diverting metal cans and cardboard from the landfill.
- Many high school athletic fields have bins to accept plastic bottles and cans.
- CMS Cafeterias feature recycling programs that accept empty milk cartons, juice cartons, water bottles, paperboard, and aluminum cans.
- Yard trimmings and food waste are being composted and used on-site to enrich school gardens.

The County's "Be Cool! Recycle in School!" program continues to be promoted in our schools and at special events to keep recycling in the minds of educators and students. County staff helps environmental clubs with lesson plans, field trips, presentations, school gardens, composting efforts and obtaining speakers. We also hold informational workshops for school personnel to keep them updated on the latest in recyclable materials, and on programs designed to encourage and reward those schools that excel in their recycling efforts.

### For Teachers, Staff & Administration

Please contact our school recycling specialist at [solidwaste@mecknc.gov](mailto:solidwaste@mecknc.gov) for assistance with setting up or revitalizing a program at your school.

### For Parents

Here's how you can help:

- Pack lunches and snacks in reusable containers and thermoses to reduce the overall amount of trash
- Send cloth napkins instead of disposable ones
- Learn the full list of recyclable materials and place these materials in appropriate recycling containers



## CAFETERIA FOOD WASTE DIVERSION

20 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools are currently collecting food scraps in their cafeterias.



[www.wipeoutwaste.com/community/schoolresources](http://www.wipeoutwaste.com/community/schoolresources)

# CAUSE (Colleges and Universities for a Sustainable Environment)

Most area colleges and universities operate their own recycling and waste reduction programs. For information about those programs, please contact the relevant facility.

CAUSE is our local college sustainability networking group. The group meets at sites around the region and focuses on networking and sharing relevant information between college and university facilities.

Participating members include: UNC-Charlotte, Davidson College, Queens University, Central Piedmont Community College, & Winthrop University.

**For more information, please email [solidwaste@mecklenburgcountync.gov](mailto:solidwaste@mecklenburgcountync.gov).**

## Faith-Based Recycling

Mecklenburg County is committed to providing faith-based organizations with an opportunity to Wipe Out Waste in and around your facilities. Our faith-based campaigns are the perfect way to build awareness about the importance of recycling. The educational materials encourage members of your organization to make a positive difference in maintaining a sustainable environment with positive messaging and learning the Do's and Don'ts of recycling.

There are two campaigns to choose from, "Recycling Is Heavenly" or "Heaven Holds A Special Place For Those Who Recycle." All campaign material can be customized with your logo to meet the specific needs of your organization. We can also provide you with interior cardboard containers to use for recycling.

**For more information, please contact us at [solidwaste@mecklenburgcountync.gov](mailto:solidwaste@mecklenburgcountync.gov).**



- **8.5 x 11 & 11 x 17 Fliers Available to Download**  
(Print two-sided front & back with recycling Do's and Don'ts)