THE MECKLENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADOPTED A LEADERSHIP POLICY IN 2004 DIRECTING THE INCLUSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICES IN COUNTY OPERATIONS. THE FOLLOWING ARE SUCCESSES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE PAST FISCAL YEAR.

SUSTAINABILITY

ENERGY USE
In County managed facilities, total energy consumption increased by 8.2%, while a reduction of 5.9% occurred on a ft² basis when compared to 2012 baseline data. Energy use of all assets, including the libraries, increased by less than 1% when compared to 2012 baseline data.

PURCHASING
Three elements are monitored for environmentally friendly product purchases:
- 99% of paper purchases had 20% recycled content
- 33% of office supplies met green buying standards
- 80% of toner purchases included recycled content

EMPLOYEE STEWARDSHIP
Employees earned 6,825 credits through volunteering, improving workplaces, and community engagement. This is an increase of 2,826 credits compared to FY17.

GREENSPACE
7,770 acres within the Mecklenburg County are now designated as nature preserves, an addition of 199.26 acres since FY17. Mecklenburg County has a goal of preserving 8,000 acres by 2025.

WATER
92% of area streams met the instantaneous bacteria compliance standards during dry sampling periods, an improvement of 5.4% from FY17.

AIR QUALITY
The National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) were all attained in FY17. This continues to be a priority including creating “breathing room” under the 70 parts per billion ground-level ozone standard.

WASTE & DIVERSION
The growth of our community continues to challenge and provide opportunities for diversion efforts.
- 506,728 tons sent to landfills
- 122,046 tons sent to compost facilities
- 107,032 tons sent to recycling centers