

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 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
- Get involved with your school's recycling efforts and support their programs to "Be Cool! Recycle in School"



CAFETERIA FOOD WASTE DIVERSION

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



www.wipeoutwaste.com/community/schoolresources