



New Hanover County's Construction & Demolition Debris Recycling Facility Facts

- This recycling facility was approved by the Board of Commissioners in 2015 as a way to help extend the life of the county's landfill and increase the debris being recycled in our county.
- Construction and debris material was previously handled as a waste and it consumed approximately 30% of the county's landfill space.
- This project further extends the life of the landfill by 20 additional years over the life of the site.
- Prior to this facility, the county was pulling out around 6,000 tons of construction & demolition material from our waste stream by hand in a very labor-intensive method.
- With this efficient sorting facility, an estimated 60,000 tons of C&D materials will be kept out of the landfill annually.
- This new system is designed to process 30 tons of construction and debris material per hour.
- Since August 2014, disposal fees have been waived for construction and demolition materials that are separated at the job site by category and are 100% free of contamination. Eligible materials include: gypsum wallboard, scrap lumber and pallets, asphalt shingles, concrete, and bricks.
- This facility cost approximately \$1.8 million. This includes the \$1.2 million recycling equipment, as well as the concrete pad, building, and electrical work.

TIPPING FEE FACT: Over the past three fiscal years, the tipping fee at the New Hanover County Landfill has been reduced from \$59 per ton to \$50 per ton, which is more than a 15% decrease.



Environmental Management's Recent Projects

- **May 2013:** New Hanover County began a Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Recycling Program to keep the most toxic, flammable, corrosive, and reactive chemicals out of the waste stream. With this program, 300 tons of electronic waste and 350 tons of household hazardous waste are diverted annually from contaminating the landfill.
 - o As an initiative in the program, Environmental Management began a Community Battery Recycling Program by partnering with New Hanover County Public Libraries, UNCW, CFCC, and the Fort Fisher Aquarium to provide convenient satellite collection points for battery recycling. This partnership has diverted over 7,600 pounds of batteries away from landfill disposal and dramatically reduced the levels of zinc in the landfill's wastewater. For its innovation, this recycling program is being awarded the Environmental Protection and Energy Award through the National Association of Counties' Achievement Awards Program, and will be recognized this month at the annual meeting.

- **July 2014:** New Hanover County implemented a yard waste recycling program to divert 8% of the entire waste stream entering the landfill each year. Yard waste is composted and used as ground cover at the landfill.

- **July 2015:** New Hanover County renovated the former WASTEC facility and partnered with Sonoco Recycling to bring a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) to New Hanover County. This facility serves New Hanover, Pender, and Brunswick counties and processes over 25,000 tons of recyclables per year. It is the only MRF in Southeastern North Carolina and many of the recovered materials are shipped worldwide through the Port of Wilmington.

- **July 1, 2016:** A new 75,000 gallon-per-day wastewater treatment plant was commissioned at the New Hanover County landfill. This facility uses state-of-the-art Ultrafiltration and Reverse Osmosis technologies to meet or exceed federal and state treatment standards. Wastewater treated through the new system meets Federal Drinking Water standards for quality.

These programs help reduce the county's reliance on landfill disposal and have created a comprehensive and innovative solid waste management system.