



State Solid Waste and Material Management Plan

The Solid Waste Management Act of 1989 established policies and goals to promote methods of solid waste management that are alternatives to disposal in landfills and to assist local governments with solid waste management. The law required DENR to develop a comprehensive solid waste management plan and to periodically update the plan with input from local government, regional planning agencies., industry, and the general public.
Applicable laws: North Carolina General Statutes 130A-309.06(a)(1) and 130A-309.07

The Solid Waste and Material Management Plan

The State Solid Waste and Material Management Plan (plan) is a comprehensive plan required by state law which assesses the status of solid waste management in North Carolina while providing new objectives and strategies to achieve environmental and economic benefits over the next ten years. The first plan was adopted in 1990 and updated in 2003. The 2014-2024 state plan is under development.

Developing the Plan

While the Department is responsible for developing and issuing the plan, the Division of Waste Management’s Solid Waste Section coordinates the development of the draft plan using information from other agencies within DENR and by surveying stakeholders, including affiliates and organizations, waste managers, industries involved in waste diversion, and the general public.

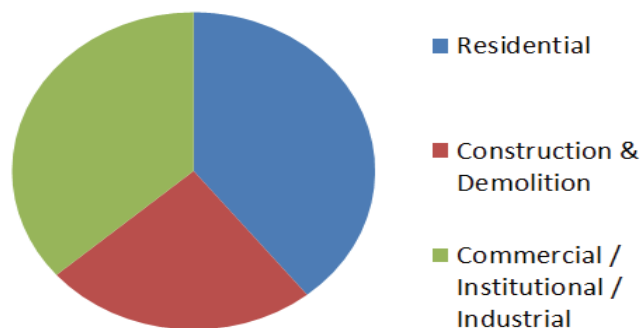
After completion of the draft plan, DENR will hold several public hearings across the state. This provides interested parties an additional opportunity to comment on the plan.

Plan Components and Goals

The plan presents a progress report of achievements made during 2003-2013 cycle. Initiatives included ensuring long-term environmental protection through improving landfill technology, increasing recycling and composting state-wide, reducing litter and illegal disposal, implementing policies and procedures to ensure public participation and access to information, and assuring adequate landfill capacity in the state.

Additionally, the plan reports on the status of current materials management in the state, including disposal rates, facility capacity and siting, sources of discarded

material, commodities, recycling infrastructure, and key issues and trends.



Waste disposal estimates, as shown above, are one example of the data utilized to shape the focus areas for the 2014-2024 plan.

Disposal, Permitting, and Compliance: Ensure continued stewardship of landfills and all other solid waste management activities with the goal of protecting the environment and public health while promoting economic viability.

Materials Management: Maximize material recovery, program efficiencies, and the expansion of new markets through education, funding, and policy initiatives.

Special Wastes Management: Promote, educate, and regulate for the safe management and disposal of special wastes with the goal of increased re-use/ recovery of these materials.

Public Engagement: Increase external training and outreach with a focus toward customer service, public awareness, and environmentally sustainable solid waste and materials management.

Please see the portal site for current information and updates.

