



South Carolina State Agencies & Colleges/Universities
RECYCLING & BUYING RECYCLED
Annual Report • Fiscal Year 2022

Prepared for Gov. Henry McMaster
and the Members of the S.C. Legislature



Prepared by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control's
Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling

Edward Simmer, MD, MPH, DFAPA, Director

Introduction

The S.C. Solid Waste Policy and Management Act of 1991 (Act) – S.C. Code of Laws § 44-96-140 – requires state agencies and state-supported colleges/universities to:

- **Provide recycling programs for the collection of selected materials** including aluminum, cardboard, glass, lead-acid batteries, paper, plastic, tires and used motor oil;
- **Make necessary modifications to their programs** to ensure material is recycled to the maximum extent possible; and
- **Report the type and amount of material recycled** as well as all products purchased containing recycled-content material each year to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). The Act [Section 44-96-140 (E)] also sets a goal that at least 25 percent of all product purchases contain recycled-content material.

DHEC is required to submit a report on this information to the Governor and General Assembly by November 1 of each year. This

report reflects recycling and buying recycled activities for fiscal year (FY) 2022 (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022).

Data for this report is submitted directly from the state agency or college/university. DHEC quantifies the reporting from the completed annual survey or from vendors providing recycling services. As for FY22, state agencies and colleges/universities recycled 16,293.25 tons of material – a 30 percent decrease from FY21.

In recent years, the rising cost of recycling services and the COVID-19 pandemic have contributed to fluctuations in recycling totals. FY22 totals reflect state agencies and colleges/universities adjusting to post-pandemic operations.

A total of 64 state agencies independently reported, 2 state agency complexes (collectively 29 agencies) and 22 colleges/universities (a combination of public and private). The Act only requires public colleges/universities to report.

FY21 & FY22 Comparison for State Agencies

TOTAL FOR FY21		TOTAL FOR FY22	
MATERIAL	TONNAGE	MATERIAL	TONNAGE
Banned Items	577.28	Banned Items	363.86
Commingled Recyclables	127.10	Commingled Recyclables	112.62
Glass (containers & packaging)	9.21	Glass (containers & packaging)	85.18
Metal	764.14	Metal	2,486.51
Organics	3.45	Organics	0.25
Paper	1,540.76	Paper	1,322.97
Plastic	36.64	Plastic	32.98
Miscellaneous Items	481.74	Miscellaneous Items	471.66
TOTAL	3,540.32	TOTAL	4,876.03

FY21 & FY22 Comparison for Colleges & Universities

TOTAL FOR FY21		TOTAL FOR FY22	
MATERIAL	TONNAGE	MATERIAL	TONNAGE
Banned Items	265.01	Banned Items	331.13
Commingled Recyclables	439.58	Commingled Recyclables	482.75
Glass (containers & packaging)	24.38	Glass (containers & packaging)	57.96
Metal	642.02	Metal	630.23
Organics	2,274.15	Organics	3,318.38
Paper	2,492.05	Paper	5,376.34
Plastic	61.10	Plastic	29.70
Miscellaneous Items	13,576.63	Miscellaneous Items	1,190.73
TOTAL	19,774.92	TOTAL	11,417.22

About this report ...

“The State Agencies & Colleges/Universities Recycling & Buying Recycled Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2022” is submitted by DHEC in compliance with the Act – Section § 44-96-140 (C) – and is published by DHEC’s Bureau of Land and Waste Management (BLWM), Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling. In addition, Act 119 of 2005 mandates that agencies provide all reports to the General Assembly in an electronic format. *This report was published on November 1, 2022.*

BLWM Assistant Bureau Chief: Juli Blalock • **Editor:** Kayte B. Deal and Sallie Williams • **Layout/Artwork:** Gregg Glymph

SPECIAL THANKS – DHEC would like to commend those agencies and colleges/universities that maintained their recycling programs and reported. As always, even more so now, DHEC stands-by for training and technical assistance.

State Agencies

State agencies reported recycling 4,876.30 tons of material – 37 percent increase from FY21.

Material with a significant increases include;

- Glass went from 9.21 tons in FY21 to 85.18 tons in FY22;
- Office paper increased from 327 tons in FY21 to 822.28 tons in FY22; and
- Metal increased from 764.14 tons in FY21 to 2,486.51 tons in FY22.

Total number of agencies reported in FY22 was 64 state agencies and one state agency complex (collectively 20 agencies). Due to the housing of state agencies within multi-office buildings and complexes, those located within the Capitol Complex (State House grounds) and the Capitol Center (Gervais Street) are reported under those titles. State agencies within these structures who reported numbers are listed as individual agencies.

CHART 1: Percentage of Recyclables Collected by State Agencies

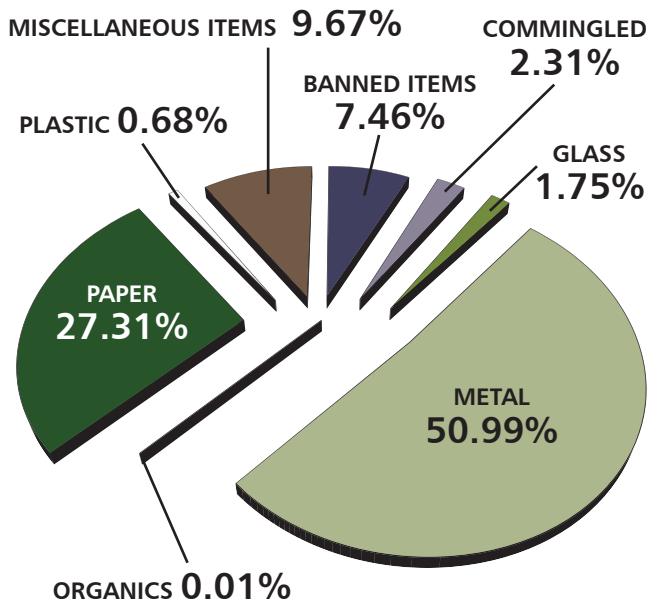


TABLE 1: Commodities Recycled in Tons by State Agencies in FY22			
COMMODITIES RECYCLED		AMOUNT	
Banned Items	Appliances	1.44	
	Electronics	33.01	
	Lead-acid batteries	65.92	
	Tires	103.04	
	Used motor oil	160.45	
TOTAL BANNED ITEMS		363.86	
Commingled Recyclables	May include: cardboard, paper, glass bottles, plastic, aluminum & steel cans	112.62	
TOTAL COMMINGLED RECYCLABLES		112.62	
Glass (containers & packaging)	Brown	78.88	
	Clear	2.36	
	Green	1.41	
	Other/mixed glass	2.53	
TOTAL GLASS		85.18	
Metal	Aluminum (cans, foil)	127.41	
	Ferrous metals	2,143.42	
	Steel cans	43.79	
	Other/mixed metal	171.89	
TOTAL METAL		2,486.51	
Organics	Food waste (composted)	0.00	
	Yard trimmings (composted)	0.00	
	Yard trimmings (mulched)	0.25	
	Yard trimmings (boiler fuel)	0.00	
TOTAL ORGANICS		0.25	
Paper	Beverage cartons (aseptic & gable-top)	0.00	
	Cardboard	299.88	
	Magazines	17.14	
	Newspapers and inserts	3.47	
	Office paper	822.28	
	Paperboard	1.73	
	Other/mixed paper	178.47	
	TOTAL PAPER		1,322.97
	Plastic	HDPE	1.17
PET		23.29	
Vinyl		0.00	
Other/mixed plastic		8.52	
TOTAL PLASTIC		32.98	
Miscellaneous Items	Antifreeze	8.91	
	* Wood includes furniture, cabinets & pallets	0.00	
	Carpet/carpet padding	0.01	
	** Other includes absorbents, alkaline batteries, ballasts, hydraulic hoses, non-hazardous sludge & oil rags	0.00	
	Clothing/textiles	0.01	
	C&D debris	0.00	
	Cooking oil	0.76	
	Fluorescent bulbs	3.13	
	Inkjet/toner cartridges	5.09	
	Paint (oil or latex)	0.58	
	Rechargeable batteries	0.40	
	Used oil filters	29.17	
	Wood*	334.06	
	Other**	89.55	
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS		471.66	
TOTAL FOR ALL		4,876.03	

For more information, visit scdhec.gov/environment/recycling-waste-reduction/state-agency-recycling.

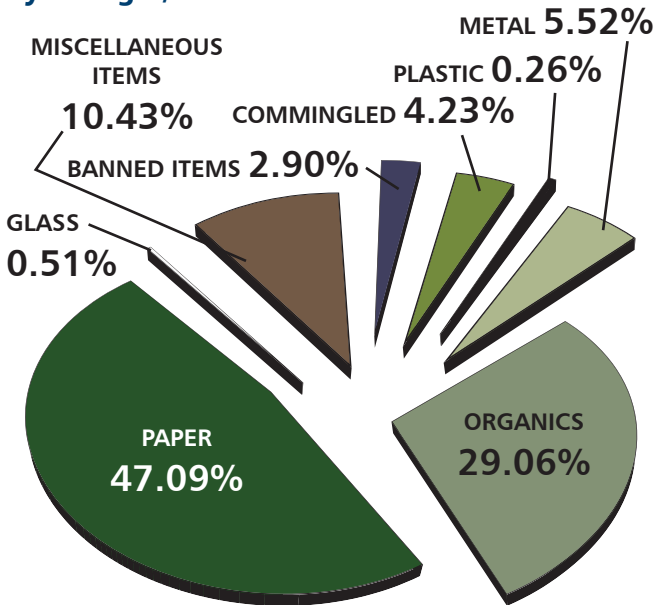
Colleges/Universities

Twenty-two colleges/universities (both public and private) reported recycling 11,417.22 tons of material – a 42.26 percent decrease from FY21.

Material with significant changes included:

- Glass – the amount recycled doubled from FY21 to FY22;
- Organics collection increased from FY21 to FY22; and
- C&D debris recycling decreased from FY21 to FY22.

CHART 2: Percentage of Recyclables Collected by Colleges/Universities



RecycleU

RecycleU is a comprehensive program that provides technical assistance, best management practices and outreach material to South Carolina colleges/universities in order to improve waste reduction, recycling and composting programs on campus. Please visit scdhec.gov/recycleu for details.



TABLE 2: Commodities Recycled in Tons by State Colleges and Universities in FY22

COMMODITIES RECYCLED		AMOUNT	
Banned Items	Appliances	16.00	
	Electronics	287.07	
	Lead acid batteries	14.37	
	Tires	4.54	
	Used motor oil	9.15	
TOTAL BANNED ITEMS		331.13	
Commingled Recyclables	May include: aluminum cans; cardboard; glass; paper; steel cans and/or plastic bottles	482.75	
TOTAL COMMINGLED RECYCLABLES		482.75	
Glass (containers & packaging)	Brown	0.00	
	Green	57.96	
	Other/mixed glass	0.00	
TOTAL GLASS		57.96	
Metal	Aluminum (cans, foil)	9.78	
	Ferrous metals	319.02	
	Steel cans	0.00	
	Other/mixed metal	301.43	
TOTAL METAL		630.23	
Organics	Food waste (composted)	1,020.74	
	Yard trimmings (composted)	2,154.54	
	Yard trimmings (mulched)	143.10	
TOTAL ORGANICS		3,318.38	
Paper	Cardboard	1,422.36	
	Magazines	11.51	
	Newspapers and inserts	0.40	
	Office paper	343.96	
	Paperboard	0.00	
	Other/mixed paper	3,598.11	
TOTAL PAPER		5,376.34	
Plastic	HDPE	2.41	
	LDPE	0.00	
	PET	10.20	
	Other/mixed plastic	17.09	
TOTAL PLASTIC		29.70	
Miscellaneous Items	Antifreeze	1.60	
	* Wood includes furniture, cabinets & pallets	17.00	
	Carpet	1.30	
	Carpet padding	6.36	
	** Other includes alkaline batteries, non-hazardous sludge & oil absorbents	896.32	
	Construction and Demolition (C&D) debris	26.87	
	Cooking oil	18.84	
	Fluorescent bulbs	11.08	
	Inkjet/toner cartridges	32.61	
	Mattresses/Box Springs	1.83	
	Paint (oil or latex)	3.31	
	Rechargeable batteries	0.49	
	Used oil filters	171.68	
	Wood*	1.44	
	Other**		
	TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS		1,190.73
	TOTAL FOR ALL		11,417.22

Santee Cooper

The recycling activities of Santee Cooper, a state-owned electric utility, are separated from traditional state agency reporting.

This is done due to the significant differences between the company’s recycling and that of other state agencies. For example, Santee Cooper recycles traditional commodities but also has recovery programs for gypsum ash/pond ash/fly ash – items that are recovered in significant amounts. Given that, this separation from other agency numbers provides a more realistic picture of the recycling of conventional state agencies.

Santee Cooper recycled 1,729,385.05 tons of material in FY22 – compared to 1,676,332.25 in FY21, reflecting a 3 percent increase.

Material with significant increase for FY22 include:

- **36.60 tons of used motor oil filters;**
- **1.35 tons of fluorescent bulbs;** and
- **1,246,779.62 tons of other material** – including bottom ash, fly ash and pond ash.

The No. 1 material recovered by the state-owned utility was bottom ash/pond ash/fly ash which comprised 72 percent of its recycled materials.

CHART 3: Percentage of Recyclables Collected by Santee Cooper

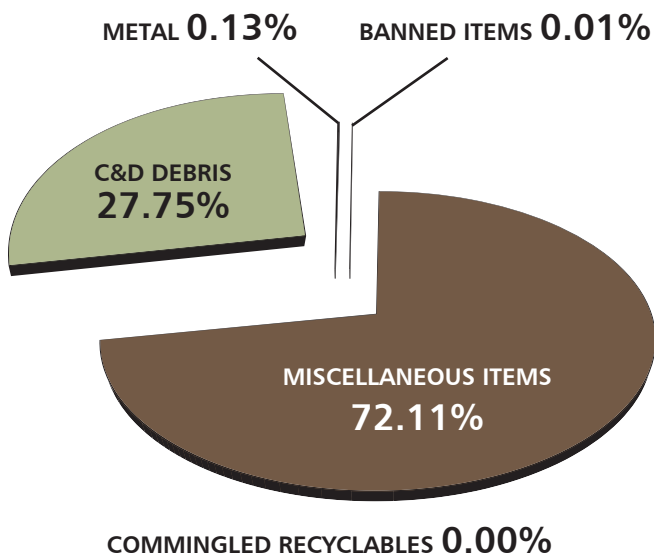


TABLE 3: Commodities Recycled in Tons by Santee Cooper in FY22		
COMMODITIES RECYCLED		AMOUNT
Banned Items	Electronics	2.62
	Lead-acid batteries	8.82
	Tires	14.81
	Used motor oil	90.86
	Other banned items	3.20
	Used motor oil	263.64
TOTAL BANNED ITEMS		120.31
Commingled Recyclables	Aluminum cans, office paper, mixed paper	24.77
TOTAL COMMINGLED RECYCLABLES		24.77
Metal	Ferrous metals	2,108.59
	Other/mixed metals	94.25
TOTAL METAL		2,202.84
Miscellaneous Items * Other includes bottom ash, fly ash & pond ash	Mixed Wood	268.51
	Fluorescent tubes	1.35
	Rechargeable batteries	0.06
	Used oil filters	36.60
	Other*	1,246,779.62
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS		1,247,086.14
Construction & Demolition (C&D) Debris	Gypsum drywall	479,951.00
TOTAL C&D DEBRIS		479,951.00
TOTAL FOR ALL		1,729,385.05

Green Government Initiative

The Green Government Initiative assists state agencies in meeting their recycling requirements and helps South Carolina meet its recycling goals. The objective of the initiative is to encourage state agencies to lead by example.



State government has the unique opportunity to:

- Reduce its environmental footprint (and perhaps save money);
- Buy recycled-content products; and
- Support the state’s recycling industry.

Visit scdhec.gov/recycle or call 1-800-768-7348 for more information.

State Agencies Reporting for FY22

- Commission for the Blind
- Commission on Higher Education
- Commission on Indigent Defense
- Criminal Justice Academy
- Department of Administration – Surplus Property
- Department of Consumer Affairs
- Department of Corrections
- Department of Education
- Department of Employment and Workforce
- Department of Health & Environmental Control
- Department of Juvenile Justice
- Department of Mental Health
- Department of Motor Vehicles
- Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism
- Department of Public Safety
- Department of Revenue
- Department of Social Services – Laurens County Office
- Department of Transportation – Multiple Offices
- Education Lottery
- Emergency Management Division
- Forestry Commission
- Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission
- Human Affairs Commission
- Legislative Audit Council
- Office of the Adjutant General
- Office of the State Auditor
- Patriots Point Development Authority
- Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA)
- Public Service Commission of South Carolina
- SCETV
- School for the Deaf & Blind
- Sea Grant Consortium
- Secretary of State

- State Ethics Commission
- State Law Enforcement Division (SLED)
- State Library
- State Museum
- State Supreme Court
- Technical College System
- Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School
- Workers' Compensation Commission

*** The following state agencies are located within the Capitol Complex.**

- Administrative Law Court
- Board of Financial Institutions
- Commission on Prosecution Coordination
- Commissioner of Banking
- Department of Administration - Executive Budget Office
- Department of Administration - Office of Executive Policy and Programs
- Department of Children's Advocacy
- Department of Public Safety - Bureau of Protective Services
- Department of Veteran Affairs
- Education Oversight Committee
- House of Representatives
- Judicial Department
- Legislative Services Agency
- Office of the Attorney General
- Office of the Governor
- Office of the Lieutenant Governor
- Office of the State Treasurer
- Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office
- State Board of Financial Institutions
- State Procurement Review Panel
- State Senate

**** The following state agencies are located within the Capitol Center.**

- Department of Commerce
- Department of Insurance
- Jobs-Economic Development Authority

- Retirement System Investment Commission
- Rural Infrastructure Authority
- S.C. Conservation Bank
- State Fiscal Accountability Authority

Colleges/Universities Reporting for FY22

- Aiken Technical College
- Charleston Southern University
- Clemson University
- Coastal Carolina University
- College of Charleston
- Florence Darlington Technical College
- Francis Marion University
- Greenville Technical College
- Horry-Georgetown Technical College
- Medical University of South Carolina
- Northeastern Technical College
- Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College
- Piedmont Technical College
- Presbyterian College
- South Carolina State University
- Southern Wesleyan University
- Spartanburg Community College
- Technical College of the Lowcountry
- The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina
- University of South Carolina – Aiken
- University of South Carolina – Columbia
- University of South Carolina – Beaufort
- University of South Carolina – Lancaster
- University of South Carolina – Upstate
- Williamsburg Technical College
- Winthrop University
- Wofford College
- York Technical College

OR-2437 10/22

Buying Recycled

The percentage of state purchases that contain recycled material cannot be determined because no statewide system to track those purchases exists. Still, reporting state agencies and colleges/universities confirmed purchasing recycled-content products during FY22. The recycled-content products purchased most frequently by reporting state agencies and colleges/universities were office paper, bathroom paper products, inkjet/toner cartridges and business cards.



Food is the No.1 item Americans throw away. Each year up to 40 percent of the U.S. food supply is never consumed – an annual loss of \$218 billion – while more than 38 million Americans are food insecure. Your institution can make a difference.

Visit scdhec.gov/dwfsc for more details.