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# Recycling Works

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## Shred-it and CompuTel Team Up to Combat Consumer Fraud

By Matt Ewadinger, RBAC Manager

At first glance, it would seem that a document destruction business and an electronics recycling company have little in common. But when you think about how information stored on computer hard drives and business-sensitive documents can be used for consumer fraud, it becomes clearer how the two companies could work together.

Shred-it Charlotte organizes community shred events in cities where it has facilities and specializes in providing secure on-site document destruction, while CompuTel IG specializes in electronics recycling. Earlier this year, the two companies teamed up with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department to recognize “National Consumer Protection Week” by holding a free document and hard drive shredding event for the public.

“Shredding an unwanted computer hard drive is the best way for people to ensure that their data is securely destroyed, so we were thrilled that so many people came out

to take part in this event,” said Brett Rhinehardt, vice president of CompuTel IG.

About 800 people attended the event at CompuTel where more than 34,680 pounds of documents were destroyed in Shred-it’s secure on-site mobile shredders and more than 1,000 hard drives and data tapes were shredded by CompuTel. Representatives from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department were also on hand to help direct traffic, collect documents to be destroyed, distribute identity theft brochures and answer questions.

“I want to thank CompuTel and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department for all their efforts to help us provide this invaluable service for the community and for joining us in this very successful event,” said Brook Hobgood, a certified identity theft risk management specialist and general manager of Shred-it Charlotte.

(See [Fraud](#), Page 5)



Mecklenburg County citizens line up for Document Destruction Day at CompuTel’s Charlotte facility.

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# Synergy Recycling Continues to Grow and Adapt in E-scrap Marketplace

by Matt Todd, Recycling Market Development Specialist



**Synergy Recycling's Bryan Spragling refurbishes a rack of CPU's.**

On the banks of the Mayo River in north-central North Carolina, [Synergy Recycling LLC](#) is located in the town of Mayodan. Despite its small-town surroundings, Synergy Recycling is becoming a large-scale model for e-scrap recycling companies.

Located in a 72,000 square foot warehouse in part of a former textile mill, Synergy Recycling has prospered. In as little as five years, the company has grown from recycling about 600 tons per year and employing four or five people, to recycling approximately 12,000 tons per year and employing more than 50.

The growth has not come by accident. Through the ability to adapt to changing markets and increasing customer demands, and by offering great customer service, Synergy has excelled.

“Over the past couple of years, we have completely reorganized our facility, expanding teardown operations as well as adding baling, shredding and sorting equipment,” says Brian Beinarauskas, operations manager. “This was critical to ensure our ability to keep up with growing volumes and to recover as much value

as possible from the materials we accept,” says Beinarauskas.

General Manager Joe Clayton is focused on business development. “As we have grown over the years, we have added many services for our clients, including data destruction through in-house shredding of hard drives, product destruction and asset recovery,” said Clayton. “Synergy Recycling also continues to focus on customer service and our clients’ needs, while maintaining the highest environmental standards at an economical price.”

Synergy Recycling became ISO - 14001 certified in 2007, a certification that shows it is serious about environmental management and is ready to compete for the growing number of clients that look for this certification among their vendors.

The company is also a [Goodwill Reconnect](#) partner. Goodwill Industries and Dell partnered to create a free program for consumers to reuse and responsibly recycle unwanted electronics. Goodwill Industries salvages, refurbishes and sells some of the electronics they collect, and Synergy Recycling recycles the remaining material from the participating Goodwill regions in North Carolina.

In addition to providing collection services to Fortune 500 companies, municipalities, school districts, universities, commercial clients and local residents, Synergy Recycling also participates as a Waste Management service provider for the [Sony Take Back Recycling Program](#). This program allows for the free recycling of any unwanted Sony products at participating Waste Management eCycling drop-off centers.

Synergy Recycling began operations in July 2000, to respond to the growing need for proper disposal of electronic products and other materials. Although Synergy Recycling’s base is in North Carolina, it handles customers’ needs throughout the eastern United States. For more information, please contact Joe Clayton at (336) 548-7014, by e-mail at [jaclayton@nc.rr.com](mailto:jaclayton@nc.rr.com), or on the Web at [www.synergyrecycling.com](http://www.synergyrecycling.com).

# RBAC Offers Scholarships for Recycling Professionals

by Tom Rhodes, Waste Reduction Specialist

The N.C. Recycling Business Assistance Center is offering scholarships to the NxLevel business planning course. The course, which is presented several times a year by the N.C. Small Business and Technology Development Center, is designed to help business owners and managers acquire skills in developing and growing their businesses. Scholarships for the course are available to recycling business professionals.

This year, NxLevel is being offered at a discounted cost of \$150 (normally \$425). RBAC will pay \$100 of the cost, leaving scholarship recipients paying only \$50 out-of-pocket for the course.

Courses offered this year begin in Raleigh on Sept. 5 and Oct. 7. The classes will be held on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Fall classes will also be held in Chapel Hill beginning on Sept. 10.

According to statistics, 40 percent of NxLevel participants start a business within one year of completing the course. Another 20 percent continue to work on developing business concepts. When surveyed after three

years, more than 93 percent of businesses were still in operation, while the national average is a mere 16.5 percent for the same time period.

To learn more about the NxLevel business planning course, visit the SBTDC NxLevel Web site online at: <http://www.sbtdc.org/events/nxlevel/nxlevel-Raleigh.pdf>.

Recycling business owners and managers may apply for the scholarships before classes begin by contacting Tom Rhodes at [tom.rhodes@ncmail.net](mailto:tom.rhodes@ncmail.net) or (919) 715-6516.



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## SCHOLARSHIPS

### For Recycling Entrepreneurs

**Register now** for the next course offerings. These exciting, business-building courses are designed to give entrepreneurs the skills needed to grow their recycling businesses.

**To apply for your scholarship, call:**  
**(919) 715-6516 (RBAC), or**  
**(919) 424-4452 (SBTDC)**

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*Recycling Works* is published by the N.C. Recycling Business Assistance Center, a program of the Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance of the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources. For more information call (919) 715-6500 or (800) 763-0136, or write to DPPEA, 1639 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1639.

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# RecycleNet Recycling Offset Credit Program

by Matt Todd, Recycling Market Development Specialist

In June 2008, Utah's [RecycleNet Corporation](#) announced the creation of the Recycling Offset Credit program. This program provides a certified measurement system to recognize and reward companies for their recycling efforts. RecycleNet will issue ROCs for each ton of material recycled by participants.

RecycleNet offers a platform for companies to buy and sell ROCs to acquire a more carbon neutral state and become more environmentally friendly. The ability to trade ROCs provides a potential new revenue stream for recycling companies.

## Earn Recycling Offset Credits – ROCs

Participation in RecycleNet's ROCs program is open to companies that volunteer to report materials recycled. When participants voluntarily report tons of materials recycled, RecycleNet awards ROCs for each ton recycled. RecycleNet operates the program as a free service and does not charge a fee for issuance of ROCs.

## Report Material Recycled

To earn ROCs, recycling companies simply report material recycled electronically via RecycleNet's secure Web

site. Once a company reports material recycled, this report must be verified by the counter party in the transaction. Counter parties will be contacted by RecycleNet to confirm the authenticity of the report.

RecycleNet will award one ROC for each ton of material recycled to both the principle and the counter party. The ROCs program makes no attempt to track a single ton of material through the reverse distribution supply chain and is not a measurement of the total tons of material recycled; therefore, there is no concern about double counting of tonnage.

## Potential New Revenue Stream for Recyclable Commodities

Once earned, the company may redeem or trade their ROCs, providing a potential new revenue stream for recycling companies. ROCs can be bought and sold using an order matching system, similar to a traditional stock exchange. Upon completion of an order, the funds will be transferred from the buyer's RecycleNet ROCs account into the seller's ROCs account and the ROCs will be deposited into the buyer's RecycleNet ROCs account.

## Start Banking ROCs Today

The environmental impact of recycling a ton of material can result in the reduction of multiple tons of carbon as calculated by measurement tools such as the U.S. EPA WARM. (See "Energy Savings from Recycling," in the [Recycling Works, Winter 2006 issue](#)). The trading of ROCs may see a free and fair market value equal to or greater than the current price of some scrap commodities themselves, resulting in a windfall in the economic impact of recycling.

According to Tom Hattle of Recycle Net, "It is RecycleNet's hope that the ROCs program will provide an economic incentive to increase the sustainability and strength of the recycling industry."

For more information and to participate in the Recycling Offset Credits program, please contact Tom Hattle at (801) 531-0404 or visit [www.recycle.net/offsetcredits](http://www.recycle.net/offsetcredits).

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**Fraud, from page 1**

Sgt. Walter Bowling of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department Fraud Unit added that it was good to see the community respond and take advantage of this opportunity to shred documents and keep them out of the hands of identity thieves.



**Fraud Detectives Tawanda Garrison (left) and Vivian Vance (right) of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department assist Brett Rhinehardt of CompuTel and Brook Hobgood of Shred-it with Document Destruction Day activities.**

**LOANS FOR RECYCLING COMPANIES**

A Project of the N.C. Environmental Loan Fund

Commercial & SBA Loans from \$10,000 to \$2.5 million for Collection, Processing, Composting, Reuse, Organics, Recycling Equipment & End-Use Manufacturing.

Need a loan with reasonable interest rates and flexible underwriting standards? We may have the answer! Self-Help has the expertise and programs to help recycling businesses throughout North Carolina. Call today to learn how a Self-Help loan can strengthen your enterprise.



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N.C. Environmental Loan Fund: Self-Help established the N.C. Environmental Loan Fund to provide financing to small businesses and other organizations that preserve our natural resources. Projects that are targeted for financing include recycling firms, land conservancies, environmental consulting and services, environmental equipment firms, and sustainable development products and services. Self-Help has extended more than \$6 million in financing to this growing and important segment of our economy.



**Southeast Recycling Development Council  
Recycling Summit 2008**

**Program Measure of Success**

**Nov. 12-14  
Point Clear, Ala.**

**A summit of southeast recyclers, environmental industry executives and policy makers.**

**Natural Capital Investment Fund**

NCIF makes loans and investments in the \$35,000 to \$250,000 range, primarily to expanding businesses.

**Recycling businesses interested**

**in NCIF funding should contact**

**Rick Larson at [rlarson@conservationfund.org](mailto:rlarson@conservationfund.org) or by phone at (919) 967-2223.**

NCIF targets recycling businesses

*NCIF is an affiliate of The Conservation Fund, a national non-profit with a unique commitment to balanced land and water conservation solutions that emphasize the integration of economic and environmental goals.*



# Solid Waste Disposal Tax Effective July 1

By Sherry Yarkosky, Recycling Business Development Specialist

Effective July 1, 2008, a tax of \$2 per ton of waste will be assessed on the disposal of municipal solid waste and construction and demolition debris in a permitted landfill, or on the transfer of waste and debris to a permitted transfer station for disposal outside North Carolina.

The owner or operator of each landfill is liable for paying the tax to the N.C. Department of Revenue. The solid waste disposal tax is to be reported separately to the Department of Revenue on the [Solid Waste Disposal Tax Return, Form E-500K](#). For additional information on the solid waste disposal tax, refer to the [Frequently Asked Questions, Sales and Use Tax Tech-](#)

[nical Bulletin 29-4](#) and [Estimated Revenues and Distribution of the N.C. Solid Waste Disposal Tax fact sheet](#).

Don't forget Oct. 1, 2009  
Disposal Ban for  
the following items:



- Plastic Bottles
- Oil Filters
- Wooden Pallets



The Recycling Business Assistance Center is a program of the N.C. Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance.

Call (919) 715-6500 or (800) 763-0136 for free technical assistance and information about preventing, reducing and recycling waste.



## North Carolina market prices for recyclables

Prices current as of July 16, 2008

Item	Western Region	Central Region	Eastern Region
<b>METALS</b>			
Aluminum Cans, lb. loose	\$1	\$1.03	\$1.025
Steel cans, gross ton baled	\$450	\$357	\$300
<b>PLASTICS</b>			
PETE, lb. baled	\$0.2025	\$0.18	\$0.20
HDPE, lb. baled	Natural	\$0.38	\$0.34
	Colored	\$0.25	\$0.21
<b>PAPER</b>			
Newsprint, ton baled	\$150	\$140	\$147.55
Corrugated, ton baled	\$122.50	\$110	\$121
Office, ton baled	\$215 (SOP)	\$200 (SOP)	\$305 (white ledger)
Magazines, ton baled	*	\$110	**
Mixed, ton baled	\$100	\$95	\$105
<b>GLASS</b>			
Eastern Region sells glass F.O.B. origin			
Brown, ton crushed delivered	\$18	\$19	\$17
Clear, ton crushed delivered	\$25	\$29	\$21
Green, ton crushed delivered	\$3	\$2	(\$7.50)

\*Markets with mixed paper.

\*\*Markets with newsprint.

Note: Prices listed above are compiled by RBAC and are for reference only. These prices are not firm quotes. RBAC obtained pricing information from processors for each category and developed a pricing range.

Visit RBAC online at <http://www.p2pays.org/rbac>