



*Guide to waste and recycling*

# OUTREACH & EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Wake County Solid Waste Management Division

**FIELD TRIPS • PRESENTATIONS • EVENTS • TOURS**



2016 - 2017

Wake County's Solid Waste Management Division provides an array of waste disposal and recycling services. The division manages 17 waste facilities, including a municipal solid waste landfill, a waste transfer station, eleven residential waste and recycling convenience centers, two household hazardous waste drop-off facilities and two multi-material recycling drop-off facilities.

Within the Solid Waste Management Division, the outreach and education team provides a series of educational experiences and programs to encourage waste reduction, recycling and environmental stewardship throughout the community. Experiences include facility tours, community presentations, recycling and litter cleanup events, interactive displays and environmental education in the schools. The outreach and education team has implemented 3 nationally recognized programs: 86it Anti-Litter Campaign, Feed the Bin School Recycling Program and the Public Landfill Tour Program. This guide outlines many of the programs and services which are available to the Wake County community.

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For more information about the Solid Waste Management Division's outreach and education programs, visit [www.wakegov.com/recycling](http://www.wakegov.com/recycling) or contact us.

## OUTREACH AND EDUCATION TEAM



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## 86it Anti-Litter Campaign

The 86it Anti-Litter Campaign is Wake County's award-winning, innovative approach to litter reduction. The 86it Anti-Litter Campaign emphasizes the importance of personal responsibility in the reduction of litter in our community. Stopping old litter habits is about starting new positive behaviors, so 86it focuses on celebrating positive behavior and the act of "86ing" litter.

The goal of 86it is to change littering behavior and to instill a sense of community pride and responsibility by encouraging a culture that believes:

- Littering is unacceptable to me and those around me.
- Every piece of litter hurts the image of my community and is harmful to the environment.
- I'm responsible for my own trash.

### PLEDGE TO GET 86it SWAG

The 86it Anti-Litter Campaign is on a mission to end littering behavior while creating a sense of community pride. Pledge not to litter and request 86it swag such as car litter bags, desktop trash cans, magnets and stickers at [www.86it.com](http://www.86it.com).

### CHECK OUT A LITTER CLEANUP KIT

If you clean it, we will supply it. Check out a litter kit and we will provide you with all the fixings to conduct a DIY litter cleanup. From garbage bags to safety vests we've got you covered with everything you need. Simply fill out the form and we'll deliver the kit to you and pick it back up when you're done. Take some pictures and send them to us – we love bragging about our 86ers on social media.

### IN-SCHOOL PROGRAMMING

86it is available to talk to students about the impact that litter has on the community and the environment. We can also assist with conducting litter cleanup activities on school property. Contact us to request 86it programming in your school.

### 86it IN THE COMMUNITY

86it participates in various local events promoting the anti-litter message with our interactive outreach display. Contact us to request 86it at your next festival, community or school event. **For more information about 86it contact Chelsea Arey at [chelsea.arey@wakegov.com](mailto:chelsea.arey@wakegov.com) or call 919-856-6776.**



# Feed the Bin School Recycling Program

Feed the Bin is a county-sponsored paper recycling program that provides mixed paper recycling at Wake County Public Schools and public charter schools. It also provides complimentary educational resources for students and teachers. Since its inception in 2004, the program has recycled over 12 million pounds of paper from Wake County schools. The success of the program is attributed to the service learning component for students to be actively engaged in the program.

**For more information about Feed the Bin, contact Becky Dunstan at [feedthebin@wakegov.com](mailto:feedthebin@wakegov.com) or call 919-856-6006.**

## IN SCHOOL PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS

### Feeding the Bin

Grades K-5 | 30 minutes | Assembly-style

Review how to recycle materials with the Feed the Bin Program and how recycling is sorted at the recycling facility. Includes the prize wheel or a visit from our mascot!

N.C. Curriculum Standards: K.G.1; 1.L.1.3; 1.G.2.1; 2.G.2.2; 3.G.1.3; 4.P.1.1; 4.L.1.3; 5.G.1.2

### Closing the Loop

Grades K-5 | 30 minutes | Assembly-style

Ties in animal life cycles to the recycling process as a “closed-loop cycle”. Looks at how plastic, paper, & aluminum are recycled. Includes the prize wheel!

N.C. Curriculum Standards: K.P.2.2; 2.L.1.1; 2.L.1.2; 3.L.2.3; 4.L.1.3; 1.G.2.1; 5.G.1.2

### Starve the Landfill

Grades 4-5 | 30 minutes | Assembly-style

Participate in an echo response poetry reading and learn how a landfill is engineered to protect human health and the environment. Includes the prize wheel!

N.C. Curriculum Standards: 4.G.1.2; 4.G.1.3; 4.L.1.3; 5.G.1.2; 4.PCH.1.2; RL.4.10, RL.5.10

### Compost and Soil I

Grade 3 | 45-50 minutes | Class or small groups

The foundation for learning about compost is presented. Looks at what it is, how it works, and the beneficial use of it. Briefly look at the 3 basic soil types and its relation to compost. N.C. Curriculum Standards: 3.L.2.1; 3.L.2.2; 3.L.2.3; 3.L.2.4; 3.P.3.1; 3.G.1.3



### Compost and Soil II

Grade 5 | 30-45 minutes | Class or groups

In-depth look at the decomposers that live within compost. Hands-on activities with vocabulary word-study and a connection to food webs.

N.C. Curriculum Standards: 5.P.3.1, 5.P.3.2; 5.L.2.2, 5.L.2.3

### All About Plastic

Grades 4-5 | 30-45 minutes | Class or small groups

Students learn hands-on about the 7 types of plastics, the origin and uses of plastic and the importance of recycling. Inference and mathematical graphing are used.

N.C. Curriculum Standards: 4.P.2.1, 5.P.2.3, 4.G.1, 5.G.1.2; 3.MD.3

### Litter-Be-Gone!

Grades 1-2 | 45 minutes | Class or small groups

Students interact with a story using improvisation on how people impact the environment in positive and negative ways. Vocabulary covered: natural resources, pollution, conservation, litter. This presentation also suitable for special needs classes.

N.C. Curriculum Standards: 1.G.2.1; 2.G.2.2; 1.L.1.1; 1.L.1.3; 1.C.1.1; 1.C.2.1; 1.C.2.2; 2.C.1.1; 2.C.2.1; 2.C.2.2

### Race-to-Recycle

Grades K-2 | 30 minutes | Class or small groups

An indoor or outdoor recycling relay race in which students sort clean “trash” that can be recycled into the proper bin. Teaches the basics of what can be recycled.

N.C. Curriculum Standards: K.G.2.2; 1.G.2.1; 2.G.2.1, 2.G.2.2; PE.K.PR.4.1, PE.K.PR.4.2; PE.1.PR.4.1, PE.1.PR.4.2, PE.1.PR.4.3; PE.2.PR.4.3

### Enviroscape® Landfill Model Activity

Grades 4-12 | 20-30 minutes | Class or small groups

Hands-on, interactive model of how a landfill is built and designed to work in order to protect human health and the surrounding environment.

Also looks at how a landfill is a man-made land form that must consider erosive weathering forces from water runoff. Small groups of 8 or less is recommended for using the model with a facilitator. N.C. Curriculum Standards: varies

### Recycling Adventure

Grades 6- 12 | 45-60 minutes | Class or groups

Students will learn about the recycling process: how materials are sorted by a system of engineered mechanical and electrical machines and how

## SCHOOL FIELD TRIP TOURS

### Wake County South Wake Landfill Tour

Grades 4-12 | 60 minutes | Groups or clubs

View an active working landfill; learn about landfill design and waste management; view recycling collection facilities; learn how electricity is made from landfill gas-to-energy. Requires a signed waiver form by legal guardian to attend tour.

### Sonoco Recycling Center (MRF) Tour

Grades 1-12 | 45 minutes | Groups or clubs

Watch collected curbside materials be sorted using various mechanical technologies and prepared for shipping to manufacturers for raw feed stock to make new products. View a real-time camera feed of the facility’s technology and processing. Younger students will do a hands-on game/activity before the start of the tour.

### Stream Testing for Water Quality

High School Environmental Science & Earth Science Classes Only

Out-in-the-field learning environment that requires students to take water samples and perform chemical strip and biological tests (i.e. macro-invertebrate collection) on a stream near the South Wake Landfill Facility in Holly Springs.

**For more information about Feed the Bin programming, contact Becky Dunstan at [feedthebin@wakegov.com](mailto:feedthebin@wakegov.com) or call 919-856-6006.**

recycling benefits the environment and the local economy.

N.C. Curriculum Standards: 6.P.3.2, 7.P.1.2, 7.P.2.4, Phy.3.2.1-3.2.2, PSc.3.1.4, PSc.3.3.1, PSc.3.3.4-3.3.5

### Landfill Adventure

Grades 6-12 | 45-60 minutes | Class or groups

Students will go on a virtual tour of Wake County’s South Wake Landfill to learn how it was constructed to protect the health of citizens & the environment, how it’s used to generate electricity, and how they can dispose of banned items properly. A hands-on interactive activity is included in the discussion along with the review of their school’s recycling efforts.

N.C. Curriculum Standards: 6.E.2.4, 7.E.1.6, 8.E.1.4, 8.P.2.2, Bio.2.1-2.2, EEn.2.5.5, EEn.2.7.3, EEn.2.8.1, EEn.2.8.4

### Environmental Club/Recycling Team

Grades 3-12 | 45-60 minutes | Groups or clubs

Ideal for students that work on collecting the recyclables in the school or have an interest in a particular topic area of recycling. (Note: Modifications can be made to this presentation to meet the needs of OCS student groups involved with the recycling program).



## Community Presentations

Wake County offers a series of presentations about solid waste and recycling to various groups, clubs, private schools and/or organizations in Wake County. Listed below are the presentations available. The content of the presentations can be adjusted to meet the learning needs of various audiences. **For more information or to schedule a presentation contact Sara Davarbaksh at [sara.davarbaksh@wakegov.com](mailto:sara.davarbaksh@wakegov.com) or call 919-856-7412.**

### Wake County Solid Waste Management Division

30 minutes | Powerpoint Presentation | Ages 12+  
The Solid Waste Management Division manages the safe disposal of one million people's trash, as well as 17 waste and recycling facilities. Last year the Solid Waste Management Division landfilled over 419,000 tons of garbage, recycled 32,000 tons of materials collected at Convenience Centers, Multi-Material and Household Hazardous Waste Facilities and generated enough energy using landfill gas to power up to 12,000 homes. This presentation provides an overview of the solid waste facilities, programs and services.

### Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

30 minutes | Powerpoint Presentation | Ages 8+  
From most preferred to least preferred, "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle", in that order, each process forms an important part of the most effective way we know to minimize the waste we generate. According to our data the average Wake County resident throws away 5lbs. of trash every day! This presentation provides an overview on how we can all do our part to help lower that number. With a quiz to test your knowledge and the chance to win some waste reduction prizes, this presentation provides up to 20 useful tips to help residents "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle" more of their waste.

### The Journey of Trash

30 minutes | Powerpoint Presentation | Ages 8+  
Have you ever wondered what happens to your trash? When we leave our trash carts at the

**For more information or to schedule a presentation contact Sara Davarbaksh at [sara.davarbaksh@wakegov.com](mailto:sara.davarbaksh@wakegov.com) or call 919-856-7412.**

curb on collection day it doesn't just disappear, but many of us never give it a second thought. Some of the waste we make today will remain in existence long after most of our legacies have faded from our great grandchildren's memories. This presentation provides an overview of what happens to the residents of Wake County's trash after we've rolled our carts to the curb.

### They Don't Build Landfills Like They Used To

30 minutes | Powerpoint Presentation | Ages 12+  
The South Wake Landfill is the only active Municipal Solid Waste Landfill left in Wake County. It disposes of approx. 400,000+ tons of trash from Wake County residents and businesses each year and is expected to last until 2048. This presentation provides an overview of how Wake County safeguards the environment and public health by safely disposing of one million people's trash, from the planning stages through to post-closure maintenance, residents can learn all about how modern day landfills are made.

### Recycling Demystified

30 minutes | Powerpoint Presentation | Ages 12+  
What happens to our recycling after it gets collected? Should we wash our recycling before throwing it in the recycle bin? Why can't all plastic containers be recycled if they have a number on the bottom? Learn the answers to all these questions and how to recycle up to 40% of your household trash. This presentation provides an overview on the what's, the why's and the how's of recycling your household waste.



## Preschool Programs

It's never too early to talk to kids about the importance of waste reduction. Wake County has developed environmental education programs designed for preschool aged children to learn about recycling, litter, composting and landfills through crafts, activities and even vermicomposting worms!

### Vermicomposting

45 minutes | Class or Small Group | Ages 3+

Students will learn the basics of vermicomposting through a variety of hands-on activities. Students will study real worms up close to view their anatomy and also write a worm biography. The "What Does Squirm the Worm Eat?" activity will help students understand what worms like to eat and what isn't healthy for them. Students will have the opportunity to get their hands dirty and touch actual worm castings. We will bring a worm bin to the presentation. If assistance is needed in starting a classroom bin, we would be happy to help!



### Littering

45 minutes | Class or Small Group | Ages 3+

Preschoolers will go on a "litter journey" to learn what happens to trash when it becomes litter and how it affects the environment. Students can take part in a fun craft and listen to a book read-aloud about litter. Students interact with the story using improvisation on how people impact the environment in positive and negative ways.



### Recycling

45 minutes | Class or Small Group | Ages 3+

Preschoolers can participate in a recycling relay race in which students must sort clean trash items from those items that can be recycled. This activity can be done inside or outside if there is a good location and weather allows. The race is a great form of exercise and for teaching children the basics of how to recycle at home or school. Students will learn about reuse during the Trash to Treasure activity by creatively making something new out of pieces of recycling.

**For more information about preschool programs contact Chelsea Arey at [Chelsea.arey@wakegov.com](mailto:Chelsea.arey@wakegov.com) or 919-856-6776.**

## Outreach Events

Wake County can regularly be found out and about in the community participating in local events with our 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' interactive display. We regularly attend science festivals, career days, Earth Day events, and other local environmental education events.

Visit our table at community events for the opportunity to:

- Learn more about waste and recycling services
- Sign up to take tours, join with us on Facebook or take part in pilot waste-reduction initiatives
- Participate in games to learn the benefits of waste reduction and recycling and win prizes that can help reduce waste
- Take home recycled-content products that demonstrate the benefits of recycling.



**If you are interested in having us at your next outreach event, please contact Sara Davarbaksh at [sara.davarbaksh@wakegov.com](mailto:sara.davarbaksh@wakegov.com) or call 919-856-7412.**



## Public Tours

### SOUTH WAKE LANDFILL TOUR

Wake County offers public landfill tours for residents to learn what happens to their waste. The tour provides participants with the opportunity to learn where they can recycle additional household items too large to collect at the curb, what common household items are harmful to the environment if placed in the garbage, where residents can dispose of hazardous household items safely, and how Wake County is recycling hazardous household items and turning household garbage into a renewable energy source.

In addition to touring the South Wake Landfill, participants will get to ride through a Multi-Material Recycling Drop-off Facility, a Convenience Center, a Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Facility, and a Landfill Gas-to-Energy Facility.

The tours take place at the South Wake Solid Waste Management Facilities, 6000 Old Smithfield Road, Apex. Tours last approximately one hour and participants are required to ride in a multi-passenger vehicle around the 700+ acre facility. Space on the tours is limited and registration is required.

**To learn about the tours including upcoming dates, visit [www.wakegov.com/recycling/outreach](http://www.wakegov.com/recycling/outreach) or contact Sara Davarbakhsh at [sara.davarbakhsh@wakegov.com](mailto:sara.davarbakhsh@wakegov.com) or call 919-856-7412.**



### SONOCO RECYCLING FACILITY TOUR

Have you ever wondered what happens to your recyclables once you put them in your recycling bin? They go to a sorting facility or Material Recovery Facility or MRF (pronounced merf). This is the place where all the materials are sorted – both by people and machines. Once sorted, each material type gets baled and is shipped to a manufacturer to be made into new products.

Wake County offers free tours to groups of 8 to 25 people to see this process firsthand. We recommend that participants be at least 8 years old.

**To schedule a Recycling Facility Tour contact Chelsea Arey at [chelsea.arey@wakegov.com](mailto:chelsea.arey@wakegov.com) or call 919-856-6776.**



## North Wake Landfill

Between 1996 and 2008, the North Wake Landfill accepted most of the trash generated by Wake County residents. As disposal operations ceased, it was apparent there was a good opportunity to turn the site into a community asset. Beginning in 2004, a group of residents and Wake County staff formed the North Wake Landfill Citizens Committee as part of the post-closure planning process to seek ideas from local residents as to how the site would ultimately be used after the active landfill closed. In 2008, the North Wake Landfill reached capacity and closed. The closed landfill hill covers 73 acres, holds 4.8 million tons of waste, and rises over 190 feet above the concrete road that encircles the landfill.

### NORTH WAKE LANDFILL DISTRICT PARK

North Wake Landfill District Park, located at 9300 Deponie Drive in Raleigh, provides a variety of recreational activities for all ages, including hiking, mountain bike skills area, playground, picnic shelters and more. Hike to the top of the hill trail for beautiful views of Wake County. The park is open daily, 8 am to dusk and closed Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Day



### NORTH WAKE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Wake County provides customized on-site educational activities at North Wake for school and community groups. Below are some example programs.

#### What is a Landfill?

10-15 minutes | K - 8

Learn about active and closed landfills through observation and activities. Learn what items can be recycled and composted.

#### Build a Landfill

45 minutes | K - 8

Students will construct a model landfill using objects to symbolize the different layers of the liner system. Learn the difference between an active and a closed landfill.

#### Recycling Obstacle Course

30 minutes | K - 5th

Divide into teams and determine what materials go in the recycling bin versus the trash. Students may hop through hula hoops, crawl under yarn

tied between two cones, weave around cones, balance on a wooden board lying on the ground, and army crawl under rope/yarn tied to stakes to get to the bins.

#### How Much Waste Do I Make?

20 minutes | K - 5th

Students will learn how much waste one person creates in a day, week, month and a year using objects that demonstrate the weight of trash. Students can visualize and understand the significance of waste reduction.

#### Recycle Robots

30 minutes | K - 3rd

Students will use creativity to make their own robot made from recyclables all while learning the importance of waste reduction, reuse and recycling.

**For more information about North Wake Landfill programs, please contact Chelsea Arey at [chelsea.arey@wakegov.com](mailto:chelsea.arey@wakegov.com) or call 919-856-6776.**



## Commercial Waste Reduction

### COMMERCIAL WASTE REDUCTION GRANTS

Wake County offers commercial waste reduction grants to local organizations looking to increase their involvement in waste prevention efforts and decrease the amount of waste sent to landfills. Up to \$10,000 is available for innovative commercial waste reduction projects. Applications are accepted until 5 p.m. on the last working day of November. Visit [www.wakegov.com/recycling/division/grants](http://www.wakegov.com/recycling/division/grants).

**For more information about Commercial Waste Reduction grants, contact Meghan Baldwin at [meghan.baldwin@wakegov.com](mailto:meghan.baldwin@wakegov.com) or call 919-856-5698.**

### START RECYCLING AT WORK

Reduce, reuse and recycle is the basis of a comprehensive waste reduction program. By reducing waste through waste reduction and recycling, your business may be able to offset the cost of waste disposal and reduce operational costs.

Most businesses use materials that are easily recyclable, such as paper, plastic, glass and metal. Often all you need to do to get a recycling program is a designated container, some basic recycling policies and a recycling collection service or someone willing to drop-off the materials at a recycling facility. Wake County has 2 drop-off locations for businesses to recycle: North Wake Multi-Material and South Wake Multi-Material.

For more information about starting a recycling program at work, download a Waste Reduction Guide for Businesses at [www.wakegov.com/recycling/recycle](http://www.wakegov.com/recycling/recycle).

**For more information about commercial waste reduction contact Meghan Baldwin at [meghan.baldwin@wakegov.com](mailto:meghan.baldwin@wakegov.com) or call 919-856-5698.**

## Volunteer Opportunities

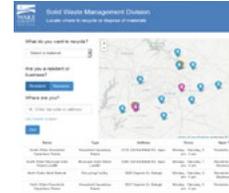
The Trash Pack is a group of volunteers that help Wake County at various events throughout the year. Volunteers can assist at recycling events, outreach events, landfill tours or litter cleanup events.

**If you are interested in joining the Trash Pack contact Chelsea Arey at [chelsea.arey@wakegov.com](mailto:chelsea.arey@wakegov.com) or call 919-856-6776.**



## Educational Resources

Wake County Solid Waste provides free resources to local residents and businesses to encourage recycling and the proper disposal of waste in our community. Visit [www.wakegov.com/recycling](http://www.wakegov.com/recycling) to download our waste guides.



### Waste Facility Locator

Use our search-able database to locate the nearest Wake County facility to recycle or dispose of items.

<http://maps.wakegov.com/sw>



### Quick Reference Waste Guide

A listing of acceptable items at Convenience Center, Multi-Material Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste Facilities.



### Wake County Solid Waste Management Guide

Comprehensive guide to Wake County solid waste management programs, facilities and services.

### Follow us on Social Media



### Waste & Recycling on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/wakecountywasteandrecycling](http://www.facebook.com/wakecountywasteandrecycling)



### 86it Anti-Litter Campaign on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/86itDotCom](http://www.facebook.com/86itDotCom)



### Feed the Bin School Recycling on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/wakefeedthebin](http://www.facebook.com/wakefeedthebin)



### Outreach & Education

The Outreach & Education team provides an array of educational opportunities to encourage waste reduction, recycling and environmental stewardship in the community. We provide facility tours, conduct community presentations, coordinate recycling and litter cleanup events, host informational booth at events, provide environmental education in the schools, and more!



Visit Wake County Solid Waste Management Division's outreach page at [www.wakegov.com/recycling/outreach](http://www.wakegov.com/recycling/outreach)

**For more information about Wake County Solid Waste Management Division programs, please contact Meghan Baldwin at [meghan.baldwin@wakegov.com](mailto:meghan.baldwin@wakegov.com) or call 919-856-5698.**



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Solid Waste Management Division

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919-856-7400



***We hope you will keep this guide as a reference. If not, please share it with another or recycle it.***