

Changes ahead at local landfill

[Times-News](#)

2009-08-19 15:13:20

Come Oct. 1, Alamance County residents and people throughout the state can no longer dispose of motor oil filters, plastic bottles and wooden pallets at landfills.

“This disposal ban ... recognizes that the recovery of these materials will contribute to the state’s environmental and economic development goals. North Carolina is home to a wide range of companies that collect, process and recycle the banned materials back into a wide range of products,” said Chris Frazier, a spokeswoman with the state Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Alamance County residents and businesses will no longer be able to dump the items in the county landfill, but can continue to take pallets and oil filters there for recycling.

Curbside plastic recycling is already available throughout the county.

The landfill, in the southeastern part of the county at 2701 Austin Quarter Road off N.C. 54, has recycling programs in place for the three banned items, said Emily Foeller, a landfill solid waste specialist.

The N.C. Division of Waste Management will enforce the bans chiefly at landfills and transfer stations, Frazier said.

“Depending on the type of violator and the severity of the violation, the Division of Waste Management may, at its discretion, assess a range of administrative and/or civil penalties for violation of the disposal bans. The law does allow for accidental or occasional disposal of small amounts of banned materials,” Frazier wrote in the press release.

“We encourage North Carolinians to help these disposal bans succeed by expanding and starting new recycling efforts,” said Dee Freeman, secretary of the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources. “Recycling is a proven job creator in North Carolina and if we do our best to recycle the newly banned materials, we will not only grow businesses in the state, but also protect disposal capacity, recover valuable resources, save energy and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.”

To help ensure the success of the disposal bans, DENR is urging those who generate the banned items to initiate recycling efforts.

Learn more at www.p2pays.org or by calling the state Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance at 800-763-0136 or 919-715-6500.