



## N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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### **Business and Industry Recognized for Environmental Protection Accomplishments**

#### **POLLUTION PREVENTION PAYS: North Carolina companies reduce wastes by 290,313 pounds, save more than \$22.8 million**

RALEIGH — Bill Holman, Secretary of the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources, recognized 18 North Carolina companies for their environmental protection accomplishments at an awards ceremony Tuesday, Sept. 21.

The ceremony for the 1998 Governor's Award for Excellence in Waste Reduction recognized these companies' successes in pollution prevention and their commitment to economic and environmental efficiency. The awards focus on industrial and government facilities that have reduced waste through innovative source reduction methods, reuse and recycling programs, and energy recovery systems. The awards also recognize companies' commitment to public health.

During 1998, these companies have collectively saved more than \$22.84 million; diverted nearly 300,000 tons of organic, solid, and hazardous wastes from landfills; reduced hazardous air pollutants, hazardous waste and solid waste by 58 percent; and more than 10 million gallons of water have been conserved.

"These companies have raised the bar for sustaining North Carolina's environment," Holman said. "Their pollution prevention efforts in source reduction, reuse, recycling and resource recovery show that protecting the environment can be good also for business and the state's economy."

The Governor's Award is important because North Carolina industries invest significant time and resources to protect the environment. This year's awards include six categories of facilities: large business, medium business, small business, federal facility, state agency, and local government. Six companies will receive "Outstanding" awards, the highest award; six companies will receive "Significant" awards; and six finalists will receive the "Exceptional Steward" award. These companies represent nearly 60,000 North Carolina employees.

Finalists for the 18th annual 1998 Governor's Award for Excellence in Waste Reduction and descriptions of their pollution prevention activities and successes are listed on the following pages.

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**Large Business Exceptional Steward:**

**ALCOA**, located in **BADIN**, is a primary aluminum smelter and produces 120,000 metric tons of aluminum, annually. Alcoa implemented pollution prevention applications that include process modification, material substitution, water conservation, reuse, and recycling. Its reductions include 1.35 million pounds of hazardous waste, 273 tons of solid waste, and 125,000 gallons of water per day. Combined annual savings were more than \$972,780.

**Large Business Exceptional Steward:**

**BAYER CORPORATION's CLAYTON** facility is the largest human blood plasma fractionation facility of its kind in the world. Bayer works around the clock to provide life-giving plasma-derived medical products to the world. Bayer's Waste Reduction and Management Program has resulted in a 33% reduction of waste generation and conservation of 10 million gallons of water annually. Bayer's annual savings exceeded \$42,000 in 1998.

**Large Business Outstanding Achievement:**

**COMMSCOPE INCORPORATED**, located in **CLAREMONT**, is the world's largest producer of coaxial cable used in the television industry. In 1991, COMMSCOPE pioneered a reel return program with its customers. A total of \$961,000 has been saved from this reuse program. Other innovative waste reduction projects include reprocessing of plastic scrap and recycling of PVC, metals, and off-spec cables. In 1998, 18,770,000 pounds of materials were recycled which generated \$4,960,000 in revenues.

**Large Business Significant Achievement:**

**CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY, or CP&L**, in **ROXBORO** generates electricity by burning millions of tons of coal annually, which generates 500,000 tons of fly ash per year. In 1998, 167,000 were diverted from CP&L's on-site landfills for use in concrete. CP&L has already noticed a savings of \$900,000 in reduced landfill costs from this diversion.

**Medium Business Exceptional Steward:**

**APOLLO CHEMICAL CORPORATION** of **BURLINGTON** is a specialty chemical manufacturer that supplies chemicals to the textile industry. Its operations consist mainly of mixing and blending chemicals to produce more than 100 formulations. Apollo implemented pollution prevention applications to reduce its water usage from 35,000 to 6,000 gallons of water per day. Additionally, 4,000 gallons are now reused in manufacturing operations. Annual savings total \$44,500.

**Medium Business Significant Achievement:**

**HOLT SUBLIMATION PRINTING & PRODUCTS** is a graphic arts company located in **BURLINGTON**. Holt develops a broad range of artful designs and prints for transferring onto fabrics, plastics, and wood. These items are then converted to items such as children's pajamas, NASCAR jackets, NBA uniforms, and Star Wars memorabilia. Their pollution prevention efforts have resulted in a reduction of 86% air emissions and 100% of reactive inks. Holt has had an excellent financial return on new equipment and waste reduction project investments.

**Medium Business Outstanding Achievement:**

**HIGHLAND INDUSTRIES** in **KERNERSVILLE** produces coatings for textiles and other specialized fabrics. Products include coatings for vehicle airbags, tire fabrics, airline and marine safety fabrics, and textiles for space vehicles. Highland's pollution prevention practices reduced hazardous air pollutants by 50% and hazardous waste generation by 30%. Annual savings exceeded \$160,000.

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**Small Business Exceptional Steward:**

**CHARLOTTE PLATING INCORPORATED** is a family-owned business that performs decorative and hard chrome electroplating and electroless nickel plating. Pollution prevention has been adopted as both an environmental and economic goal since the company's beginning in 1989. Activities include water and energy conservation and reuse programs.

**Small Business Significant Achievement:**

**NELSON CANDLE AND BEESWAX COMPANY** in **HAVELOCK** provides its customers with candles that are 100% recyclable and manufactured from organic wax. A portion of Nelson's organic wax is received from a local textile manufacturer that originally landfilled the material. Through reuse and recycling, Nelson Candle has reduced its solid waste by 5 tons per year and has saved more than \$8,000 in virgin organic wax purchases. Nelson's candles are said to be the "best candles made in North Carolina."

**Small Business Outstanding Achievement:**

**INTER-FAITH FOOD SHUTTLE** in **RALEIGH** is a food rescue program that feeds 3,800 people per day. More than 46,000 pounds of food are donated weekly from 250 donor agencies including restaurants, grocery stores, and the State Farmer's Market. Inter-Faith Food Shuttle also finds uses for food items not fit for human consumption and participates in a reuse program for non-food items. 1,100 tons of food waste are diverted from local landfills saving \$27,500 annually. With reusable food containers, \$13,000 is also saved annually.

**Federal Facility Exceptional Steward:**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS BASE, CAMP LEJEUNE**, has a diverse pollution prevention program that encompasses several separate facilities. The program includes hazardous waste reductions, air emission reductions, solid waste diversion and recycling, and hazardous material control and substitution. Camp LeJeune's waste reduction includes 55 tons of hazardous material, 37,000 tons of solid waste. Its annual savings for pollution prevention activities were \$1,763,534.

**Federal Facility Significant Achievement:**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS AIR STATION, CHERRY POINT**, manages regulatory compliance and pollution prevention abatement activities at the at its Cherry Point facilities as well as several tenant commands and Marine Corps facilities in other locations. The Marine Corps Air Station developed comprehensive recycling and pollution prevention programs for waste minimization, pollution prevention, and resource recovery and recycling programs. It has reduced hazardous waste generation by 53%, and its pollution prevention and recycling initiatives have produced a total of \$11,750,292 in income and cost avoidance.

**Federal Facility Outstanding Achievement:**

**UNITED STATES COAST GUARD SUPPORT CENTER, ELIZABETH CITY**, is one of the largest Coast Guard bases in the nation. Its industrial nature of aircraft rework mission has historically resulted in significant emissions of hazardous air pollutants and the generation of large quantities of hazardous waste. Through inventory control, material substitution, and process modifications, the Coast Guard has reduced its hazardous air pollutants by 83.6% and its hazardous waste by 70%. Its implementation of pollution prevention initiatives has saved \$22,199 annually.

**State Agency Outstanding Achievement:**

The Department of Correction's **BROWN CREEK CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION** operates an 852-bed

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facility in Polkton. Wanting to help North Carolina meet its 40% waste reduction goal as well as its own environmental goals, Brown Creek conducted an analysis of its waste stream. Findings from this analysis led the prison to pursue source reduction, reuse, recycling, and vermi-composting as its chief waste reduction strategies. Implementing these activities has reduced Brown Creek's solid waste by 67% and has saved \$60,672 annually.

**State Agency Significant Achievement:**

The **NORTH CAROLINA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE's GUILFORD COUNTY** center is the county's home for the extension agents, volunteer programs, and base for cooperative scientific endeavors with North Carolina A&T State University. Reuse and recycling events and efforts have resulted in the recycling of 6.5 tons of tires and 50 tons of white goods above those captured by traditional county programs. Also, 4.8 tons of nursery pots have been diverted. Total reduction is 61.3 tons of solid waste.

**Local Government Exceptional Steward:**

**CRAVEN COUNTY's** local government implemented a Pay-As-You-Throw program in November 1991 in response to the rising cost of solid waste management and the growing pressures to reduce dependence on landfills as a solid waste disposal option. The Pay-As-You-Throw program is used for Craven County's curbside collection as well as its drop-off centers. The county's pollution prevention applications have reduced solid waste by 45%.

**Local Government Significant Achievement:**

**CITY OF RALEIGH SOLID WASTE SERVICES** is one of North Carolina's largest cities and home for state government. Its pollution prevention applications include the Raleigh Recycling Program, a comprehensive yard waste program, a methane gas recycling program, and land application of wastewater sludge. The City of Raleigh's recycling and reuse programs have reduced sludge by 47,000 tons and solid waste by 24,000 tons. The City also has saved nearly \$1.1 million in sludge diversion projects.

**Local Government Outstanding Achievement:**

**CHATHAM COUNTY** has made a tremendous investment of time and resources to create an integrated waste management program oriented towards solid waste reduction and recycling. It has become a leader in the state in creating and refining programs, many of which have served as models for other counties in North Carolina. Chatham County provides the public with 12 solid waste and recycling collection centers. To reduce waste generation, the county implemented several reuse and recycling programs and began to promote environmental education. These programs have allowed for 63,000 pounds of hazardous waste and 1.4 tons of latex paint to be properly managed and diverted from the landfill. Its efforts have resulted in a 22% per capita waste generation reduction.

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