South Carolina
Carpet Recovery Coalition

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To maximize the economic and environmental benefits of carpet recycling in South Carolina.
Steering Committee

* Ed Marr-Greater Greenville Sanitation Commission
* Larry Cook-University of South Carolina
* John Votaw-Southeastern Plastics Recovery
* Glenn Odom-Wellman Plastics Recycling
* Fred Davis-Georgetown County
* Stacey Washington-South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
* Tonya Lott-South Carolina Department of Commerce
About the Coalition ...

The S.C. Carpet Recovery Coalition (CRC) encourages post-consumer carpet recycling by cities, counties and businesses in the state.

South Carolina is a leader for carpet recycling in the Southeast — with several hundred million pounds of carpet recycling capacity.

Why recycle carpet?

Carpets are bulky and will stay in landfills forever. Recycling carpet saves natural resources, conserves landfill space, reduces the dependency on fossil fuels and can save money through reduced disposal costs. Recycling allows a product at the end of its useful life to become a new resource.

We can do more. Encouraging the recovery of carpet in your community will save landfill space and provide economic benefit through the production of value-added goods for the automotive and construction industries.

Carpets are also crushed and converted into new carpet, carpet padding, automotive components and construction material.

Carpets fiber also can be converted into pellets and used in many products including furniture and automotive components — like car covers manufactured for Ford and other automotive industries.

South Carolina Department of Commerce
Just right for business.
www.RecyclinginSC.com

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
www.scdhec.gov
S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
Printed on RECYCLED-CONTENT Paper
DHEC OR-1073 8/13

Want to learn more?
1-800-768-73
Carpet Recycling Guidelines...

S.C. carpet recycling companies accept post-consumer and post-industrial carpet. If starting a collection program at a retail business or local government, please contact a coalition partner for recovery guidelines. For a list of coalition partners, visit www.scdhec.gov/carpet.

**ACCEPTED**
- dry carpet and padding
- rolled residential carpet

**NOT ACCEPTED**
- commercial carpet
- rubber backing
- carpet tile
- tack strips
- nails or other sharp objects
- rocks, trash or other debris
- wet carpet and padding

Things to Consider....

When setting up a carpet recycling program, consider these steps.

- Train staff on the proper methods of carpet recovery.
- Make sure that the carpet is free of debris, dry and rolled.
- Place the collection trailer in a convenient location.
- Work with the S.C. carpet recycling industry on how to manage carpet.

Carpet Recycling in Your Area....
Carpet Recovery Survey
Carpet Recovery Roles

Role in the Recovery of Carpet and Carpet Padding

- Carpet Padding (PC): 3
- Carpet (PI): 1
- Carpet Padding (PI): 1
- Total: 5

- Collector
- Processors: 2
- Manufacturers: 2
- Total: 5

Number of Companies
Landfill Diversion

Tons Diverted from Landfill in 2013

- Carpet (PC): 37,479 tons
- Carpet Padding (PC): 1,261 tons
- Carpet (PI): 641 tons
- Carpet Padding (PI): 50 tons
Landfill Diversion Totals

Combined Tons Diverted from Landfill in 2013

- Carpet: 38,120 tons
- Carpet Padding: 1,311 tons
South Carolina has 4 times more jobs in recycling per capita than California and Massachusetts
Carpet Recycling Jobs

Total Employed: 1,280
- 224 Part Time Employees
- 1,056 Full Time
Nearly 40,000 tons of carpet and carpet padding processed by South Carolina companies in 2013

Average size of the companies is 183 employees

Strategy ranking by survey respondents:
- Education/outreach and carpet recovery grants most effective in helping increase recovery
- Disposal bans least effective strategy
- Lack of infrastructure is a common challenge
Horry County - recycled almost 210 tons of carpet and almost 38 tons of padding in first six months of FY14

Union County - about 51 tons of carpet collected since program began

Pressley’s Recycling - collected 97 tons

Lexington County - collected nearly 4 tons of carpet padding for FY2014
Recycling Fuels Manufacturing