The Southeast is unique in its access to healthy recycling markets that feed regional manufacturing needs. When communities invest in local recycling collection programs, they’re supporting GA manufacturers who use recycled plastic, glass, metal, and paper to make new consumer goods.

Recycling isn’t just about smart use of natural resources – it’s about delivering valuable commodities to some of our most important businesses. Increased recycling rates help Georgia manufacturers source good, affordable manufacturing feedstock.

A 2010 SERDC study determined that Georgia is home to more than 31 manufacturers who rely on recycled content feedstock.

These companies:
- Make more than **$4.5 billion** in yearly sales
- Employ more than **7,000 Georgians** directly in the manufacture of recycled content products

Source: Hoovers/OneSource Business Databases (SERDC)
RECYCLING IN GEORGIA a healthy industry poised to grow

Local commitment to recycling supports Southeastern companies who haul, recycle, and manufacture goods.

RECYCLING IS AN INVESTMENT THAT RETURNS AGAIN AND AGAIN 🔄

Georgia has the 2nd largest manufacturing infrastructure in the nation for using recycled materials. This robust infrastructure makes it cost-efficient to transport the state’s recyclables in lieu of landfilling the material.

Source: GRC

One-third of all plastic beverage containers recycled in North America are recycled into carpet in Georgia.

Source: GRC

Georgia’s Paper Industry recycles almost 8% of all paper consumed in the U.S. and is comprised of 16 paper mills using recycled content.

Source: GRC

One of the world’s largest aluminum recyclers, Novelis, is based in Atlanta, GA with a recycling plant in Greensboro, GA.

Source: GRC

It is estimated that Georgians pay $100 million to landfill roughly $300 million worth of recyclable materials per year.

Recycling just 10% of these discarded recyclables each year would have the potential of:

- over 1,234 new jobs
- over $58 million annual personal income
- $2.7 million annual state tax revenue

*Using the 1,000 ton metric from S.C.’s Economic Impact Study

Results from a 2010 SERDC study to map demand of recycled feedstock in the Southeast US