When communities invest in local recycling collection programs, they’re supporting SC 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 South Carolina manufacturers source good, affordable manufacturing feedstock.**

A 2010 SERDC study determined that South Carolina is home to more than 24 manufacturers who rely on recycled content feedstock.

These companies:
- Generate more than **$5.3 billion** in yearly sales
- Employ more than **5,300 South Carolina citizens** directly working in the manufacture of recycled content products

Source: Hoovers/OneSource Business Databases (SERDC)
RECYCLING IN SOUTH CAROLINA 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 🔄

The state’s recycling industry has a $6.5 billion impact on the state’s economy according to a study conducted by the College of Charleston. The study shows that the recycling industry is directly responsible for:

• more than 15,000 jobs;
• $1.5 billion in annual personal income;
• $69 million in tax revenue each year.

SOURCE: “The Economic Impact of the Recycling Industry in South Carolina”

The SC recycling industry announced $333 million in capital investment and the creation of over 800 jobs in 15 new or existing companies in 2011.

– SC Department of Commerce

Climax Global Energy in Barnwell County, Be Green Packaging in Jasper County, PolyQuest, Inc. and Sonoco in Darlington County, and Tire International in Berkeley County are just a few of the companies that announced investments in 2011.

– SC Department of Commerce

If South Carolina recycled just 10% more solid waste per year, the potential economic impact would equate to*:

• over 1,512 new jobs
• over $71 million annual personal income
• $3.3 million annual state tax revenue

*Using the 1000 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