

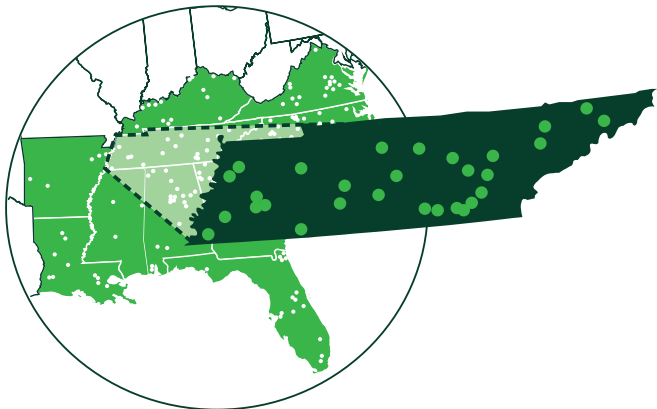
A PROFILE OF TENNESSEE'S RECYCLING ECONOMY

When communities invest in local recycling collection programs, they're supporting TN 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.

LOCAL INVESTMENT, REGIONAL RETURN

The Southeast is unique in its access to healthy recycling markets that feed regional manufacturing needs.



This map highlights key manufacturers who look to recycled materials to make their products.

Increased recycling rates help Tennessee manufacturers source good, affordable manufacturing feedstock.

A 2010 SERDC study determined that Tennessee is home to more than 30 manufacturers who rely on recycled content feedstock.

These companies:

- Generate more than **\$4.3 billion** in yearly sales
- Employ more than **6,500 Tennessee citizens** directly working in the manufacture of recycled content products

Source: Hoovers/OneSource Business Databases (SERDC)

RECYCLING IN TENNESSEE 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 ♻️

Tennessee is home to **11** pulp and paper mills paying an annual payroll of **\$1.4 billion** to **16,868** employees. With annual sales in excess of **\$5 billion**, these mills generate **\$123 million** in tax revenue for the state and local governments. **Twelve** more plants use steel and aluminum feedstock recovered in recycling programs and employ an additional **3,100** Volunteer State residents. These metal plants bring well over **\$3.1 billion** in annual sales to Tennessee.

Source: SERDC/State of Tennessee

Tennessee recycling and manufacturing sectors utilizing the top four recyclable commodities (paper, plastic, metal and glass) provide **77,200 jobs** with an **average salary of \$45,550**.

(TN Waste Reduction Task Force)

It is estimated that Tennessee could realize an additional **\$150 million per year** by not landfilling the “Top 4” easiest commodities to recycle (paper, metal, plastic, and glass). (This assumes a 75% recovery rate of landfilled commodity materials.)

Source: State of Tennessee

*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