

# Sustainability Plan For Haywood County

## *Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!*

### **Why Waste Reduction Is Important**

- Landfill capacity is reaching its limit locally and new landfills are getting more difficult to permit in North Carolina
- As much as 60 percent of the materials that go in the landfill could be recycled, thus extending the life of the landfill and reducing the costs associated with waste disposal
- Landfills compete with other land uses, such as residential, business and industry, transportation and recreation
- Extraction of raw materials to manufacture new goods is threatening natural ecosystems around the world. Many of these raw materials could come from recycled goods
- By taking immediate steps to begin reducing waste, and by increasing the efforts of all citizens to reuse and recycle materials, Haywood County citizens could extend the life of the landfill by at least 10 years

### **Where Haywood County waste comes from**

- ◆ 53 percent comes from 3,200 commercial businesses (approximately 31,800 tons a year)
- ◆ 47 percent comes from 32,000 households (approximately 28,200 tons a year)