

The Western North Carolina (WNC) Brewery Recycling Co-operative is an ongoing effort to improve recycling in the region. The co-operative has partnered with [Sonoco Recycling](#) to create infrastructure for recycling bulk, source-separated industry waste that would otherwise go to landfill. While the co-operative was created with brewery hard-to-recycle materials in mind, it is free and open to all businesses interested in participating!

How to Join the Co-operative

The co-operative is open to any business that is interested in participating. However, you must opt-in to the program before dropping off materials. Fill out the Co-op Vendor Form and email to carol.james-gilchrist@sonoco.com to formally join the co-operative.

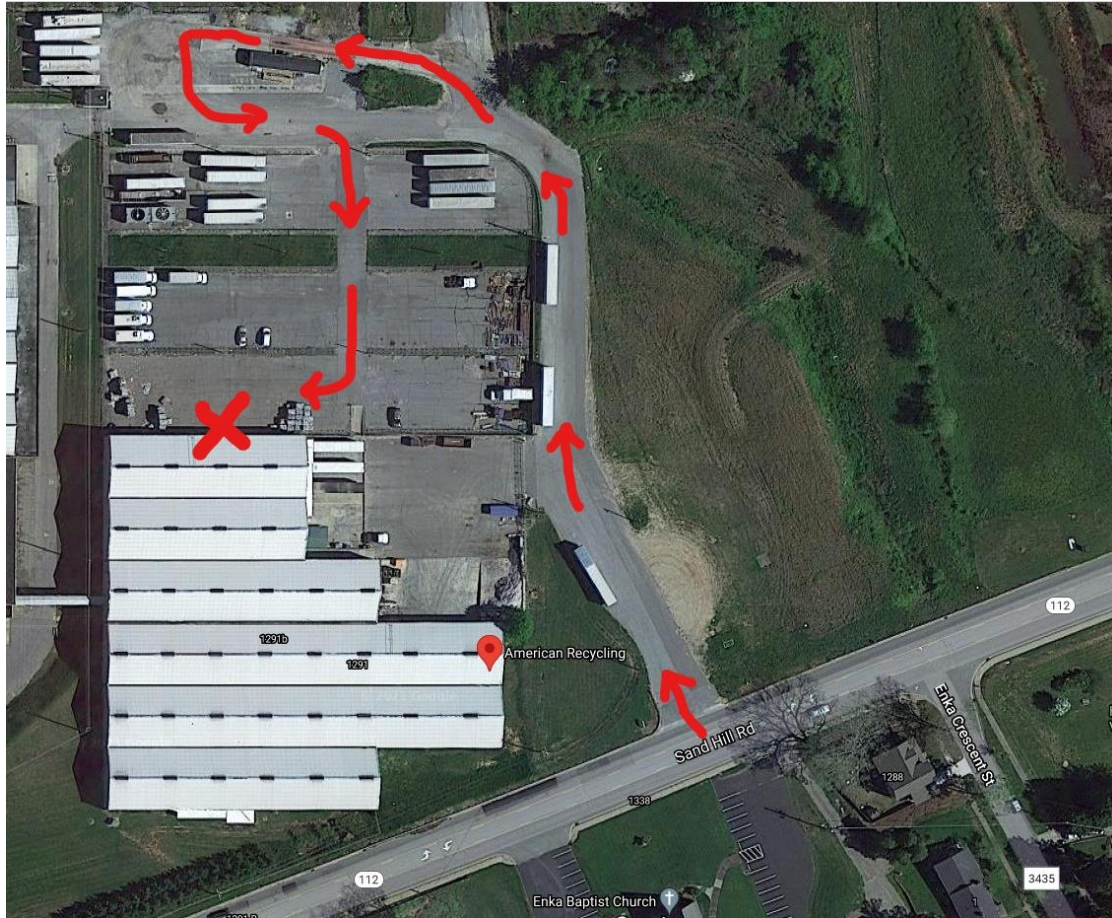
Materials Recycled Through the Co-operative

Materials must be source separated into the below categories, clean, and free of contaminants.

Material Type	Material Details & Examples	Collection Method
Polypropylene woven plastic films (PP #5)	Supersacks, malt bags, dunnage bags, etc.	Stacked in a pile on a pallet or in a gaylord
Low density polyethylene films (LDPE #4) - clear or colored	Shrink wrap, plastic films, bubble wrap, etc.	Separated by color and collected in clear bags, or gaylords
Polyethylene terephthalate strapping (PET #1) - green	Strapping, often used to hold materials onto pallets	Zip tied in a bundle to prevent any knotting or tangling
high-density Polyethylene (HDPE #2) rigid can toppers	PakTech 6 & 4-pack holders	Collected in clear bags, or gaylords
Flexible polypropylene caps (PP #5)	Keg caps only	Collected in clear bags, or gaylords
Rigid polypropylene closures (PP #5)	Colored bottle caps of various sizes	Collected in clear bags, or gaylords
High density polyethylene buckets (HDPE #2)	Food grade 5 gallon buckets – triple-rinsed	Collected in gaylords, nestled and stacked neatly
High density polyethylene (HDPE # 2) and steel drums	Food safe or triple-rinsed chemical drums	Minimum of 4 per delivery
Corrugated cardboard	Corrugated boxes, dunnage, etc.	Collected in clear bags or gaylords
Mixed paper	Office paper, carrier stock, magazines, label backing, etc.	Collected in clear bags or gaylords. Source separate office paper if possible
Aluminum cans	Cans with sticker or shrink wrap label are accepted	Collected in clear bags or gaylords
Scrap metals	Stainless steel, copper, etc.	Collected in clear bags or gaylords.
Glass bottles and jars	Clear or colored, accepted with labels	Collected in clear bags or gaylords. Source separate brown glass bottles if possible
Comingled recycling	Cans, plastic bottles, glass bottles and jars	Acceptable if source separation is not an option. Collect in clear plastic bags or gaylords
Pallets	Full size and in decent repair	Stacked in a pile

Where to Drop Off Materials

The drop off location is staged at Sonoco Recycling of WNC at 1291 Sand Hill Rd, Candler, NC. Materials should be taken to the co-operative dock, which is separated from Sonoco's commercial receiving dock. The below map illustrates how to find the co-operative drop off



How to Drop Off Materials

The co-operative drop off is self-serve and open during Sonoco's normal business hours, Monday to Friday, 6:00am – 4:00pm. When dropping off your materials, co-op members are asked to fill out the sign-in sheet located at the drop off area with your business name and a brief description of what you dropped off. If you need assistance or are swapping out gaylords, you must call ahead to (828)418-0777.

Expectations for Participants

By participating in the WNC Brewery Recycling Co-operative, you agree to follow all program guidelines, including the material handling and safety requirements highlighted below. If a business repeatedly fails to comply with the co-operative's guidelines, they will be removed from the program at the discretion of American Recycling.

- Only drop off materials during business hours
- Collect materials in the manner specified above – avoid contamination.
- Only drop off materials included in the co-operative.