

Nan Kirlin
704-922-7729
awards@cra-recycle.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**VSQG Hazardous Waste Collection Program of Mecklenburg County
Wins Award from Carolina Recycling Association**

*Collection Events Help Protect Our Environment by Providing a Financially Viable Option
for Businesses to Dispose of Hazardous Waste*

CHARLESTON, SC – The Carolina Recycling Association honored the VSQG Hazardous Waste Collection Program of Mecklenburg County with a 2019 Annual Recycling Award during the Annual Conference and Trade Show on March 19 in Charleston, SC.

Each year, the Carolina Recycling Association honors top performers that advance waste reduction and recycling in the Carolinas. The awards are open to individuals, companies, governments, schools, organizations, non-profits, and councils – projects and programs large and small. Nominations are reviewed and winners are selected by a committee of industry peers, and scored in a variety of categories including amount of waste reduced, recycled or diverted, level of difficulty, and contribution to the industry as a whole.

In North Carolina, all businesses must responsibly dispose of their hazardous waste. Many businesses are at a disadvantage because they must contract with licensed private-sector companies to meet their legal obligation. Unfortunately, these services can be expensive. To maximize efficiencies, Mecklenburg County Solid Waste choose to provide this on-site service through a third-party permitted hazardous waste handling and disposal company: ECOFLO. VSQG Hazardous Waste Collection Program organized these events. Participating businesses varied from a school, church, news station, to small manufacturers. Collected materials ranged from drums of acid to fluorescent tubes. In total, the event collected 4,933 pounds of hazardous waste, at an average total disposal price of \$457.98.

This program helps protect our environment by providing a financially viable option for businesses to dispose of hazardous waste. Participating businesses reported a 20% - 25% savings over quotes received from comparable hazardous waste disposal companies.

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