

# WNC BREWERY RECYCLING CO-OP

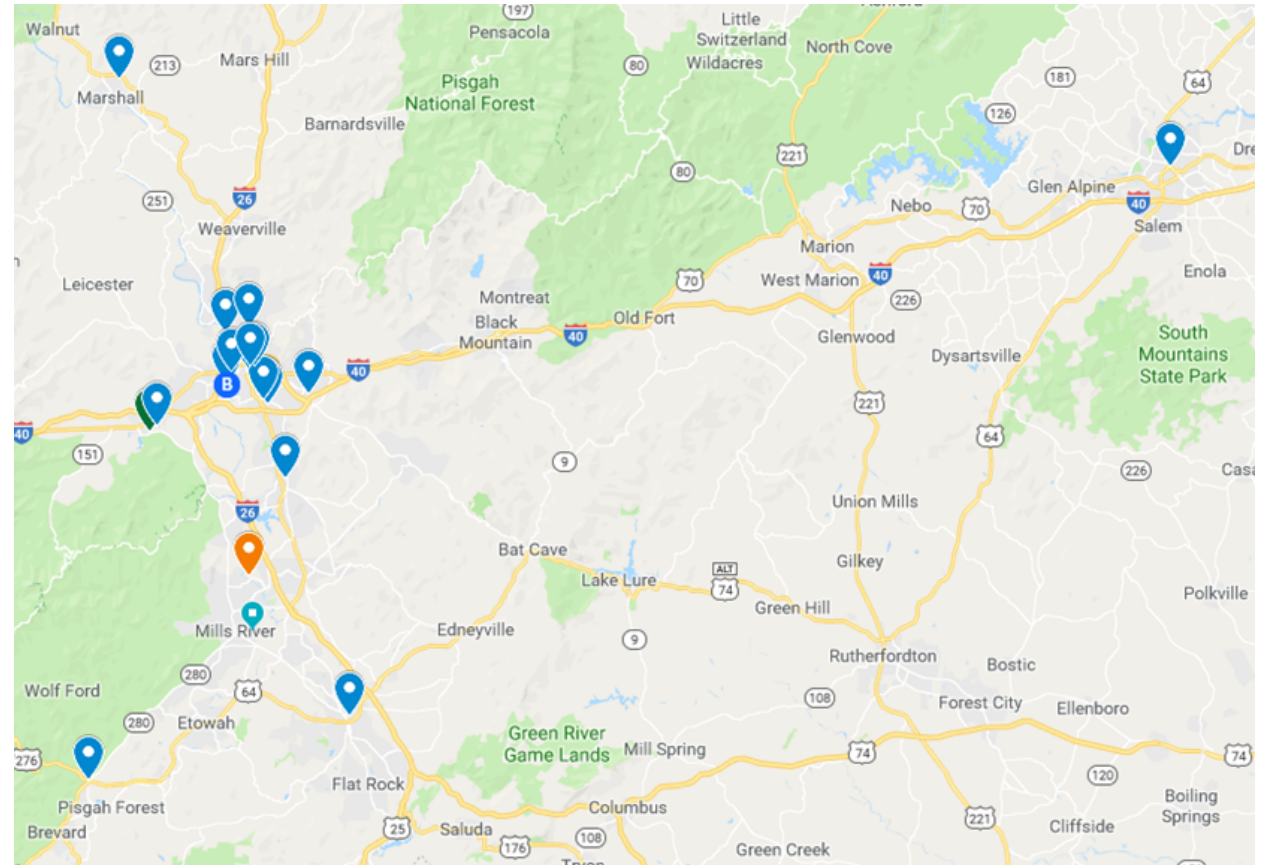


# The Problem

Many breweries in WNC who are committed to sustainability and zero waste do not have the ability to participate in bulk, source-separated recycling and are currently sending valuable commodities to the landfill.

# The Challenges

- Lack of infrastructure
- Low volumes of material
- No equipment to process or move bulk materials
- No place to store bulk materials
- Labor needed to process



# BUILDING DIVERSE PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUCCESS

*You won't be able to do this alone. In order to succeed, you'll want to **align with the right groups that share your vision and dedication**. Partnerships can spur knowledge exchange, workload sharing, funding opportunities, and fresh new ideas.*

## Find the Right Partners:

- Other breweries and businesses
- Recycling businesses and haulers
- Environmental nonprofits and interest groups
- Local and State Governments
- And more!





# The Solution

Create a co-operative for committed breweries to pool their materials at a single drop off location where they can be processed for recycling by Sonoco Recycling.

## BIG Thank You!

To The Businesses Who Contributed Matching Funds





# Our Goals

- Meet the needs of participating breweries
- Minimize the burden of participation including upfront & ongoing costs
- Build robust, diverse partnerships to foster ongoing collaboration within the region
- Leave room to grow
  - Materials
  - Business members
  - Ongoing partnerships



# HOW TO PARTICIPATE:



The image shows a 'New Supplier/Vendor Set Up Form' from Sonoco Recycling. The form is titled 'SONOCO RECYCLING' in blue and green. Below the title, it says 'New Supplier/Vendor Set Up Form' and 'WNC Brewery Recycling Co-operative'. The form is divided into two sections: Section A and Section B. Section A is titled 'Section A: Send completed form to [carol.james-gilchrist@sonoco.com](mailto:carol.james-gilchrist@sonoco.com). Please return at least one week prior to shipments.' and contains fields for 'Company Name (full legal entity)', 'Full Address', 'Contact Name', 'Phone', and 'Email'. Section B is titled 'Section B: To be completed by Customer Service.' and contains fields for 'Vendor ID / Eimos' and 'Date Completed By:'. A disclaimer at the bottom of Section A states: 'By submitting this form to Sonoco Recycling, the participating business agrees to abide by all material handling and safety requirements detailed in the co-operative participation process. Sonoco Recycling reserves the right to refuse service to any business that consistently fails to meet these requirements.'

## Formally Join the Co-operative

- Request co-op form and participant information from Sonoco Recycling
- Breweries may access these documents on the ABA's member website
- All completed vendor forms should be emailed to Sonoco Recycling

**\*\*No Fees to Participate\*\***



# MATERIALS INCLUDED



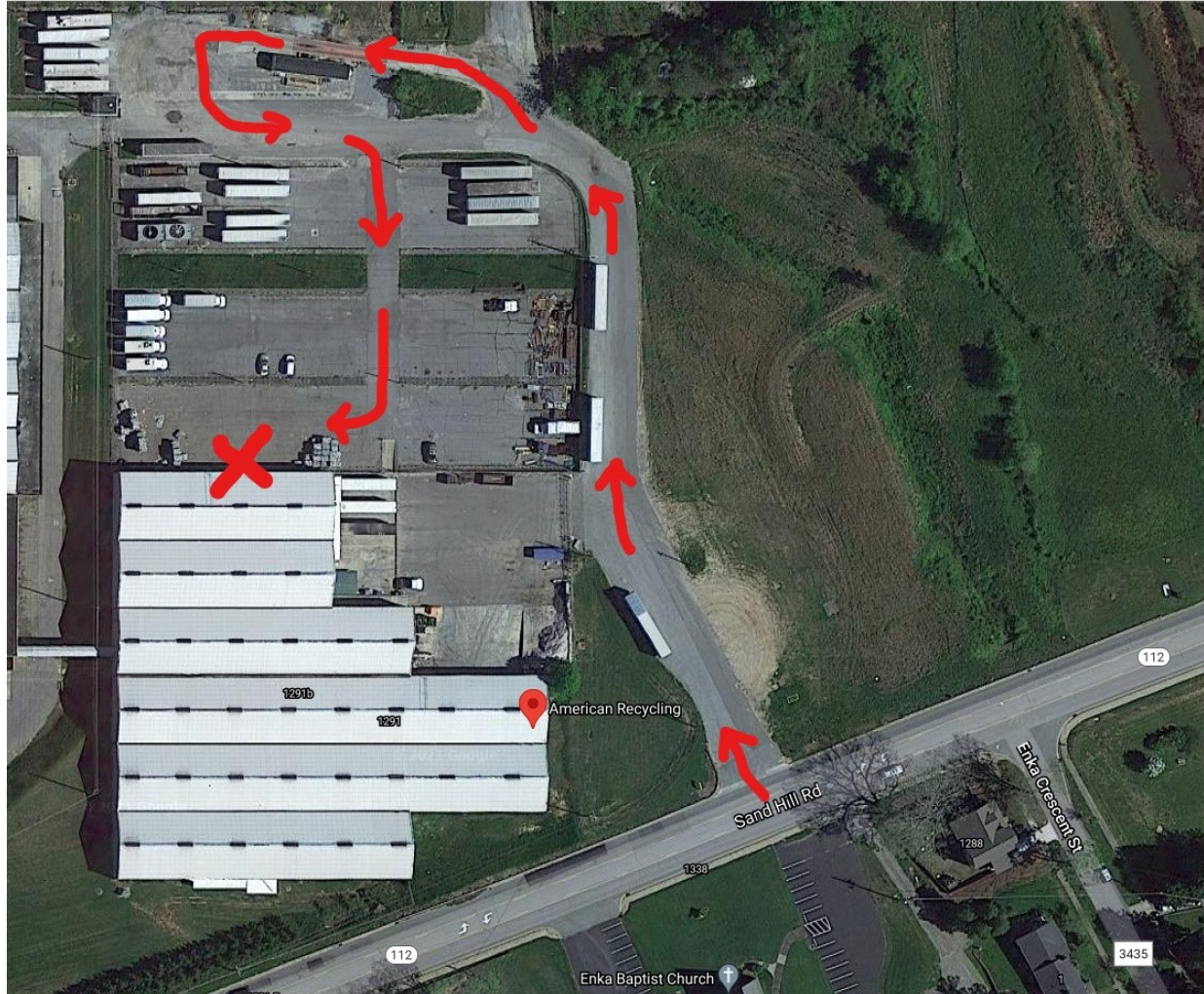
- PP woven plastic films
- Clear LDPE plastic film
- Colored LPDE plastic film
- PET green plastic strapping
- Keg caps, PakTechs, & rigid PP closures
- HDPE buckets & drums
- Cardboard
- Aluminum cans
- Steel drums
- Glass bottles & jars
- Mixed paper
- Comingled recycling
- Pallets (full size and in decent repair)



# HOW TO COLLECT MATERIALS

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

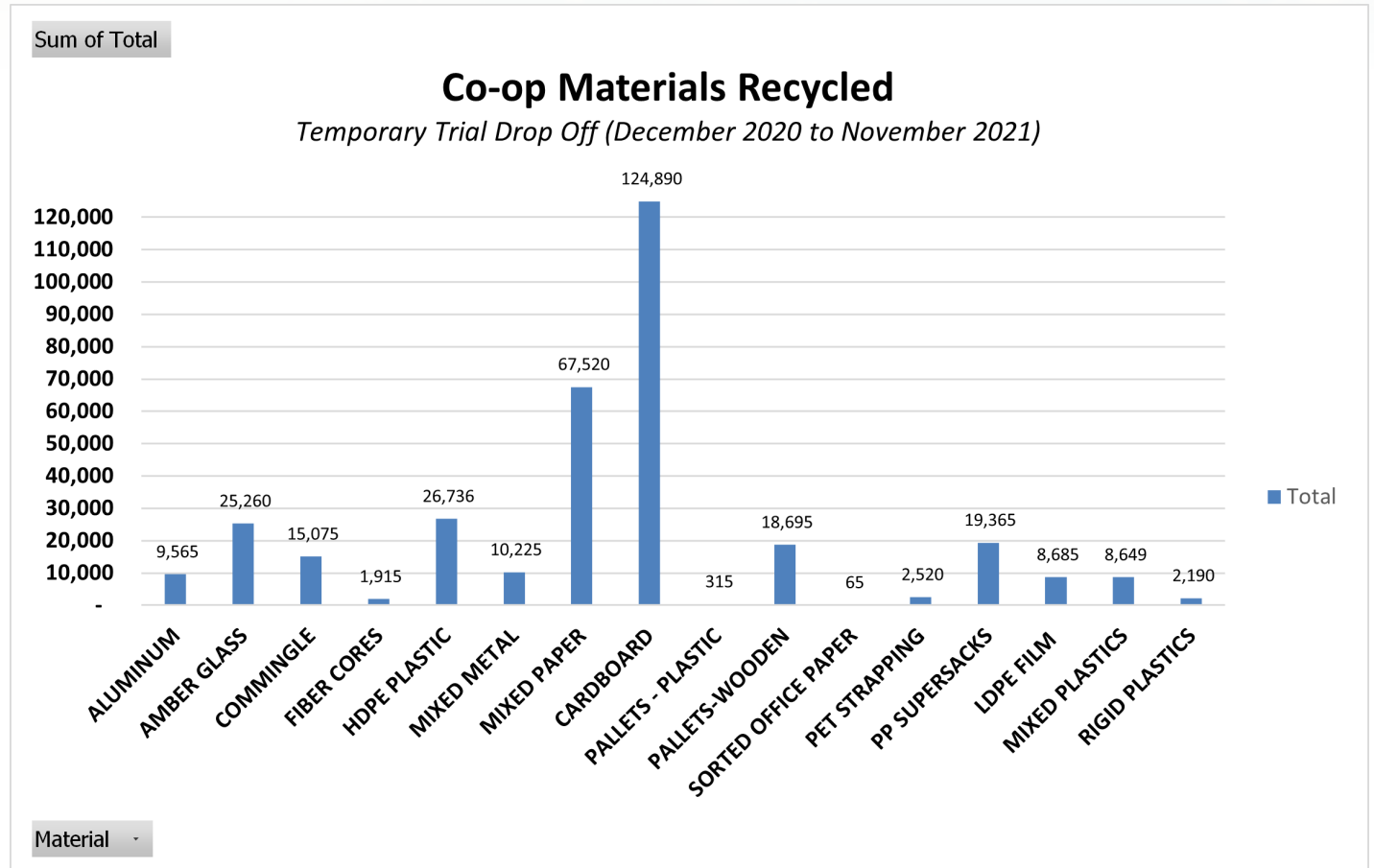
# WHERE TO DROP OFF MATERIALS



- Self-serve, drop off location at Sonoco Recycling (Monday – Friday, 6am and 4pm)
- Fill out the sign in sheet located at the drop off location
- Call ahead if you need assistance or are swapping out gaylords

# The Co-op So Far

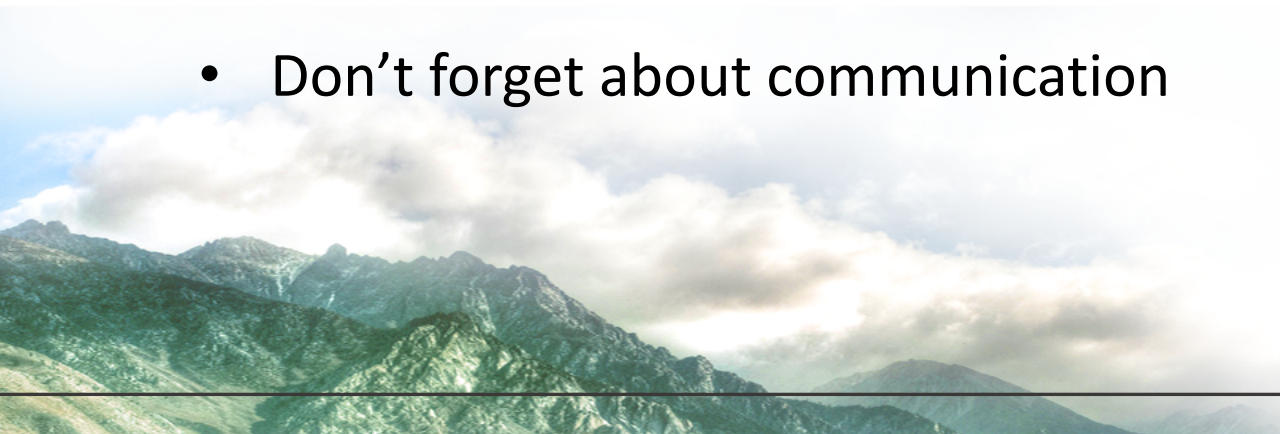
- 11 businesses participating
- 157 tons recycled
  - 8,685 lbs shrink wrap
  - 2,520 lbs PET strapping
  - 19,365 lbs of malt bags





# LESSONS LEARNED

- One size does not fit all. Develop a co-op with your communities needs and limitations in mind.
- Identify and engage a variety partners early on to collaboratively shape the structure of your co-op and share the workload
- Think outside the box and consider how best to maximize value and reduce burden
- Keep it simple but leave room to grow
- Don't forget about communication





**THANK YOU!**

