

3 STEP RECYCLING THE LOOP

Recycling is a **three-step process** that converts waste into raw material to make new products.

1

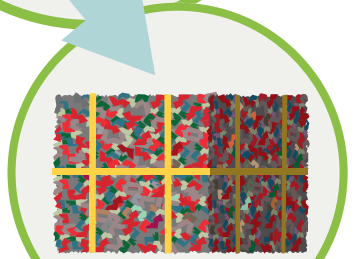
COLLECTION & PROCESSING

Items are collected either separately or together (single-stream). Then items are either ...

1. Taken to a **Material Recovery Facility** to be sorted, baled and sent to a **recycling market**; OR
2. Baled material is sent directly to a **recycling market**.



Recyclables are collected and processed for recycling vendors.



DO NOT BAG RECYCLABLES!

Plastic bags are the No. 1 contaminant. Reuse, recycle at a grocery store or give to a food bank.



Buying recycled-content products ensures the success and value of recycling.



Recyclables are sold to manufacturers to make new recycled-content products.



2

BUY RECYCLED!

- **Plastic bottles, jugs and jars** make new bottles, clothing, rulers and backpacks.
- **Glass bottles, jugs and jars** make new bottles, jars and fiberglass
- **Newspaper and cardboard** become paper, pens, boxes and insulation.
- **Steel cans** become bicycles, nails and even cars.
- **Aluminum cans** make new cans and lawn furniture.

MANUFACTURING

- **Plastic bottles, jugs and jars** are chipped, melted and remolded.
- **Glass bottles, jugs and jars** are ground into fine grains, melted and molded.
- **Newspaper and cardboard** are shredded, pulped, dried and flattened.
- **Steel and aluminum cans** are crushed, melted and flattened into sheets.

ONLY RECYCLE what is accepted in your program. Visit scdhec.gov/recycleheresc.