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Application for 2008 Outstanding County Program Awards

County (if multi-county entry, list all): Pitt County

Submitted by: Paula Clark Title: Pitt County Recycling Coordinator

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The Association encourages electronic submissions. E-mail the application and project/program description to Todd McGee at todd.mcgee@ncacc.org. You can also fax your entry to (919) 733-1065 (attn. Todd McGee), or mail it to: NCACC, 215 N. Dawson St., Raleigh, NC 27603. Applications must be postmarked by **Friday, March 6, 2009**.

Projects/programs must have been implemented between Jan. 1, 2007, and Dec. 31, 2008. For additional information and category criteria, visit www.ncacc.org/awards/ocpa/about.html.

Project title: Shingle Recycling

Category (you may check more than one):

- General Government
- Human Services
- Public Information/Participation

Address each of the following questions in a typed program/project summary in a separate Word document attached to this application form. Limit your responses to two pages. Use single-spaced lines and 12-point, Times New Roman font. Supporting materials may be submitted, but due to time constraints, judges may not review the materials.

1. What are the purpose, history, timeline and budget of the program/project? Will the county realize any projected cost savings? (For public information/participation programs, please try to estimate participation levels).
2. What makes the program/project unique? How does it differ from similar projects in your county or in other counties?
3. How well did the program use available resources, given the limitations on such resources?
4. Can this project be duplicated in other counties? If another county wanted to do a similar project, what advice would you give them to minimize obstacles and problems?
5. How did the project involve collaboration with other agencies, jurisdictions, nonprofits, businesses, etc.? How well did this collaboration work and is it on-going?

**1. What are the purpose, history, timeline and budget of the program/project?
Will the county realize any projected cost saving?**

Pitt County Transfer Station primary goal was to reduce the construction and demolition waste stream. After identifying that shingles were about 16% of that waste stream and that the sheer weight of those shingles increased our construction and demolition disposal fee, we targeted the shingles as the item to eliminate from that waste stream. However, we decided to eliminate them from the waste stream by recycling them since shingles could be recycled, and by doing so, we would save landfill space and save disposal fees for our county. Thus the county partnered with a local paving contractor, Greenville Paving, Inc., and was able to establish a market for the shingles. Greenville Paving, Inc. will use the shingles in the production of asphalt. The Transfer Station will collect tear-off shingles from roofing contractors, and these shingles then will be transported to Greenville Paving to be recycled into their hot mix. The program required the Transfer Station to get permitted through the state Division of Waste in order to be allowed to collect the shingles on site and the Transfer Station worked closely with local roofing contractors to inform them of how the shingles will need to be brought into to the facility. Once all was in place, the program began on December the 2nd of 2008.

The projected cost saving to our county was estimated to be \$102,293.65 in disposal fees. This is estimated based on Fiscal Year 07-08 volume of 4,175.251 tons of shingles our facility disposed of last fiscal year. Since the beginning of the project on 12/02/08 (roughly 90 days), we have saved \$17,432.80 in disposal fees and recycled 663.92 tons of shingles thus far.

2. What makes the program/ project unique? How does it differ from similar projects in your county or in other counties?

Pitt County is the first in the state to be permitted to collect tear-off shingles for recycling in the state of North Carolina. Several counties have tried to push for shingles recycling, but because of the concern in the past about the possibility of asbestos in the shingles, they have not been successful in getting approved. The timing was just right for Pitt County. Everything came together for us and we got permitted. We had the market for the shingles located right here in Pitt County, and enough time had passed since the manufacturing of asbestos shingles, that those shingles with asbestos should be a moot issue at this point in time. As a result, we are first in the state to have a shingle recycling program and we hope to be the model for the state of North Carolina.

3. How well did the program use available resources, given the limitations on such resources?

This program did not cost the Transfer Station any monies. The equipment we use to collect the shingles and prepare them for transport is equipment we use in other areas of our operation. Also, no additional labor was needed to manage the program. The transportation and 20 yard boxes used to collect and transport the shingles are paid by Greenville Paving.

4. Can this project be duplicated in other counties? If another county wanted to do a similar project, what advice would you give them to minimize obstacles and problems?

Pitt County is proud to be first in the state, but we do not want to be the only County doing this type of activity in the state. It is important to secure the market for the shingles. Therefore, the Transfer Station, Greenville Paving, and the Division of Waste are working closely to reach out to all the counties to get them involved and promoting the program throughout North Carolina. If a county is within a 100-mile radius of Pitt County, there is an existing market for those shingles. The state just hosted a workshop with our department to highlight the program to surrounding counties, and we continue to promote the program every chance we get. The program is simple. Any county wanting to do this program will first need to get permitted through the Division of Waste and then contact Greenville Paving, Inc to get the details of getting the shingles to them for processing.

5. How did the project involve collaboration with other agencies, jurisdictions, nonprofits, businesses, etc? How well did this collaboration work and is it on-going?

This is a great example of a public-private partnership. It was a win-win for both parties. The cost of the disposal fees for the county decreased and the cost of operations decreased for Greenville Paving. Most importantly, we all win by protecting our environment and saving landfill space. Pitt County was fortunate to also have the support from our state offices /divisions in working with us to get this program developed. All parties recognize the benefits that a program such as this brings - not only to Pitt County but to all counties in our state.