



# EPA Sustainable Materials Management Updates

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Alabama Recycling Coalition

Wednesday, August 28, 2024

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 4

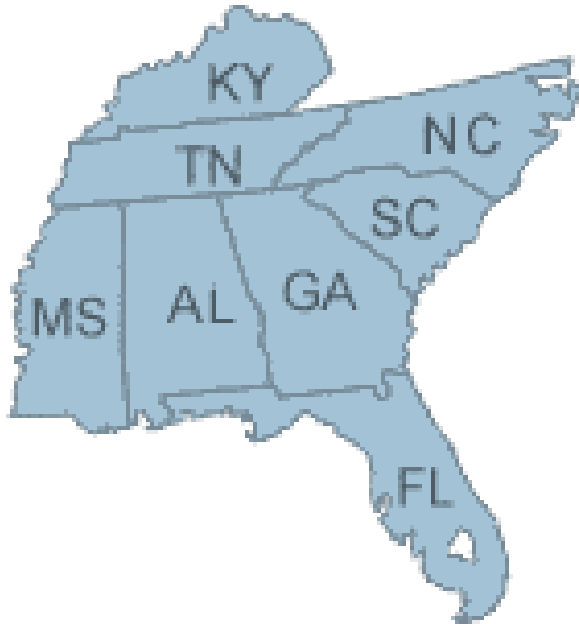
# Presentation Today

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- EPA Sustainable Materials Management Grant Updates
- Inflation Reduction Grants Open Now
  - Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants
  - Environmental Justice Communities Grantmaking Subgrants Program
- Applying for Federal Funding
- Circular Economy Strategies
- Resources



# Region 4 Grant Updates



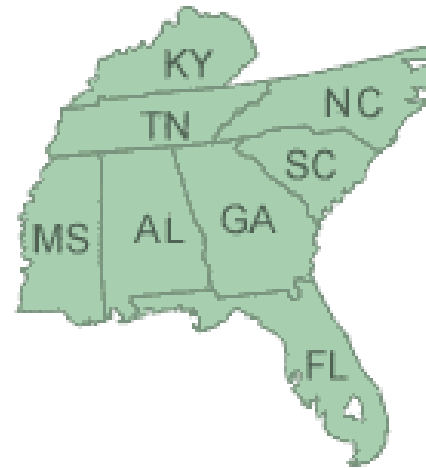
- SWIFR State Grants
- SWIFR for Tribes
  - Poarch Band of Creek Indians (\$787,397)
  - Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (\$941,600)
- SWIFR Community Grant Awards issued to:
  - Durham County NC (\$3.3M)
  - Nassau County FL (\$500K)
  - Lexington Fayette Urban County Government (\$1.8M)
- Society of St. Andrews awarded \$40K for educational gleaning videos
- Biomimicry Institute awarded \$40K for a regional textile study



# Region 4 SMM Competition!

## EPA Region 4 Sustainable Materials Management Grant

- **Deadline to Apply is October 31, 2024, 11:59 PM EST**
- We will be awarding approximately \$250,000 for:
  - addressing municipal recycling markets in Region 4
  - developing and implementing strategies for preventing food loss and waste in Region 4
- Awards will be between \$50,000 and \$125,000, subject to the availability of funds.
- Funding Opportunity Number: EPA-R4-LCRD-2024-11



To see the NOFO:



# New Rounds of SWIFR and REO

## EPA Provides Updates on the Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling and Recycling Education and Outreach Grant Programs



We're thrilled to share some exciting news about the Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling and Recycling Education and Outreach grant programs!

EPA is gearing up to release the next Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFOs) for SWIFR and REO in the fall of 2024 - specifically the SWIFR Grants for Communities, SWIFR Grants for Tribes and Intertribal Consortia, and REO Grants. This upcoming round of grants builds on the successes and lessons learned from our initial funding phase, aiming to further strengthen our nation's recycling infrastructure and advance circular economy initiatives, such as food waste prevention.

We're excited about the potential impact of these upcoming grants and can't wait to see the innovative solutions you'll bring to the table. Stay tuned for more updates, and let's continue working together towards a more sustainable, circular future!

Learn more about the [SWIFR grant program](#) and the [REO grant program](#).

## Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant Program

**NOTICE:** At this time, EPA anticipates releasing the next Notices of Funding Opportunity for the Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling grants for Political Subdivisions and the SWIFR grants for Tribes and Intertribal Consortia in the fall of 2024. Note that the information on the page below reflects the first round of BIL recycling grant funding. [Sign up for our listserv to stay connected](#) and we'll notify you when we post the NOFOs for the second round of funding on Grants.gov.

## Consumer Recycling Education and Outreach Grant Program

**NOTICE:** At this time, EPA anticipates releasing the next Notice of Funding Opportunity in the fall of 2024. Note that the information on the page below reflects the first round of Recycling Education and Outreach funding. [Sign up for our listserv to stay connected](#) and we'll notify you when we post the NOFO for the second round of funding on Grants.gov.



# Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants

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- EPA is accepting applications on a rolling basis for \$2 billion in funding available to support community-driven projects that build capacity for communities to tackle environmental and climate justice challenges, strengthen their climate resilience, and advance clean energy.
- Funded by the Inflation Reduction Act.
- **Deadline to apply is November 21, 2024.**



# Environmental Justice Communities Grantmaking (TCGM) Subgrants Program

- EPA has selected 11 Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmakers that will receive \$600 million to serve as passthrough entities nationwide through this program.
- Funded by the Inflation Reduction Act.
- Research Triangle Institute is the Grantmaker serving Region 4.
- **Key Dates:**
  - Summer 2024: Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) will be released
  - Fall 2024: Awards announced to apply is November 21, 2024.

## Types of TCGM Subgrants

### Assessment

Tier I

Fixed Amount

**\$150k**

Duration: 1-year

### Planning

Tier II

Up to

**\$250k**

Duration: 1-2 years

### Development

Tier III

Up to

**\$350k**

Duration: 2 years

### Capacity Building

Noncompetitive

Fixed Amount

**\$75k**

Duration: 1-year

Range of different environmental project activities, including (but not limited to) small local clean ups, local emergency preparedness and disaster resiliency programs, environmental workforce development programs for local jobs reducing greenhouse gas emissions, fence-line air quality and asthma related projects, healthy homes programs, and projects addressing illegal dumping.



# Applying for a Federal Grant

- Need access to apply in [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)
- 5-step registration process can take a month or more
- Register with SAM (the *System for Award Management*) at [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov)
  - If you are already registered with [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov), make sure your account is active
- Obtain a Unique Entity Identifier
  - a 12-digit alphanumeric ID, assigned in [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov) for your organization
- Complete an AOR (Authorized Organization Representative) profile
  - Create a username and password in [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov); using the correct UEI
- Become an authorized AOR by requesting approval from your organization's E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC).
- Track the AOR status by logging into [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)

This is a no cost process





# Federal Grant Application Materials

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## Mandatory

- [Application for Federal Assistance \(Standard Form 424\);](#)
- [Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs \(Standard Form 424A\);](#)
- [EPA Key Contacts Form 5700-54;](#)
- [EPA Form 4700-4 Pre-award Compliance Review Report;](#)
- Project Attachment Form (Summary Information Cover Letter + Narrative Proposal + Budget Table and Description)

## Optional

- Other Attachments (milestones, references, letters of support, etc.)



# Updates on EPA's Circular Economy Strategy Series



**PART 1:**  
National  
Recycling Strategy



**PART 2:**  
Plastics



**PART 3:**  
Food Waste



**PART 4:**  
Critical Minerals  
& Electronics



**PART 5:**  
Build Environment



**PART 6:**  
Textiles



# National Strategy for Reducing Plastic and Other Waste in Waterways and Oceans

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## Objectives (draft):

- **Reduce** production and consumption of plastic products, especially those that are single-use, unrecyclable, or frequently littered plastic products, and minimize pollution from plastic production facilities
- **Improve** post-use materials management
- **Prevent** trash and microplastics from entering waterways and remove escaped trash from the environment

- *Part of the **Circular Economy Strategy Series***



# National Strategy for Reducing Food Loss and Waste and Recycling Organics

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The four main objectives in the strategy are:

- **Objective 1:** Prevent food loss.
- **Objective 2:** Prevent food waste.
- **Objective 3:** Increase the recycling rate for all organic waste.
- **Objective 4:** Support policies that incentivize and encourage the prevention of food loss and waste and organics recycling.

- *RELEASED in JUNE!*
- *Part of the **Circular Economy Strategy Series***
- Helps us achieve our 2030 Goal of 50% reduction in food waste



# EPA's New Wasted Food Scale



## Wasted Food Scale

How to reduce the environmental impacts of wasted food



October 2023

- Created to prevent and divert wasted food from disposal. Tiers of the scale highlight different pathways for preventing or managing wasted food.
- Developed based on the 2023 report [\*From Field to Bin: The Environmental Impacts of the U.S. Food Waste Management Pathways.\*](#)



# Battery Collection Best Practices and Battery Labeling Guidelines

- As of March 2024, EPA is hosting working sessions for developing battery collection best practices and voluntary labeling guidelines.
- Distinct but related conversation tracks, organized by battery type
- While participation will vary between each track, there may be individuals or organizations that can contribute to more than one.



Battery Type	Topic	Date & Time	Format
Track 2: Mid-format – Labeling and Collection	Current Standards and Practices	September 2024	Virtual
Track 2: Mid-format – Labeling and Collection	Gaps, Challenges, and Safety Concerns	October 2024	Virtual
Track 2: Mid-format – Labeling and Collection	Messaging/Training	November 2024	Virtual
Track 3: Large format vehicle and motive – Labeling and Collection	TBD	TBD 2025	Virtual
Track 4: Large format stationary – Labeling and Collection	TBD	TBD 2025	Virtual



## Resources

All resource links can be found at the bottom of their respective slide.



# Creating Disaster Resilient Buildings to Minimize Disaster Debris



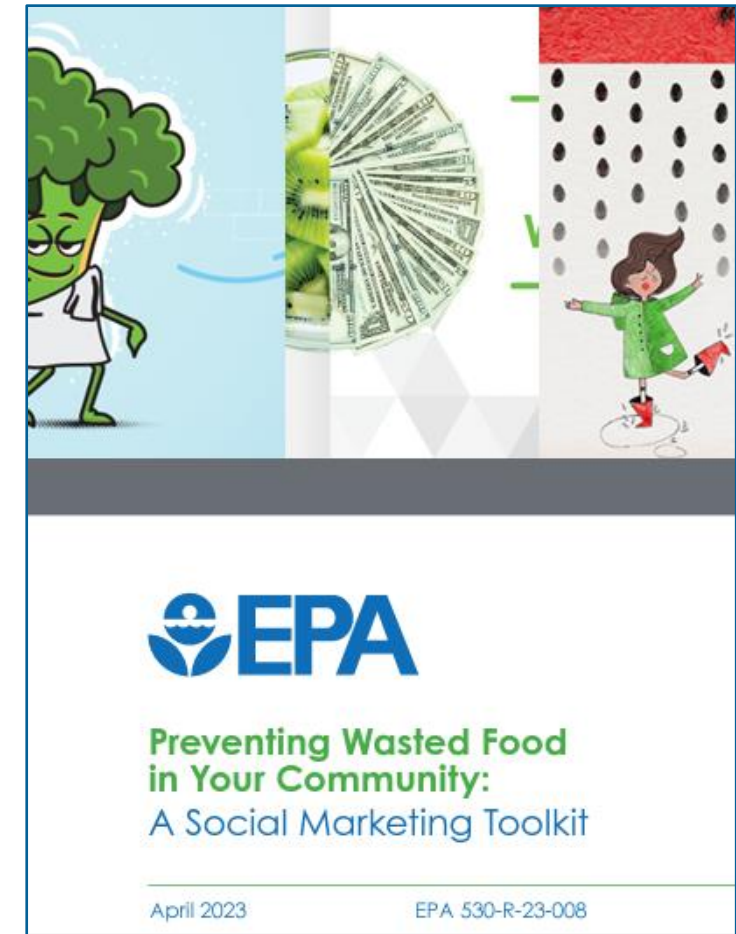
- This document provides practical actions for communities to plan, design, improve, and adapt new and existing buildings to withstand natural disasters today and in a changing climate.
- Community leaders and members, planners, designers, builders, and disaster response experts can use this information to increase the resiliency of homes, businesses, and other buildings to the impacts of natural disaster hazards, including flooding, fire, and high winds.



# Social Marketing Toolkits

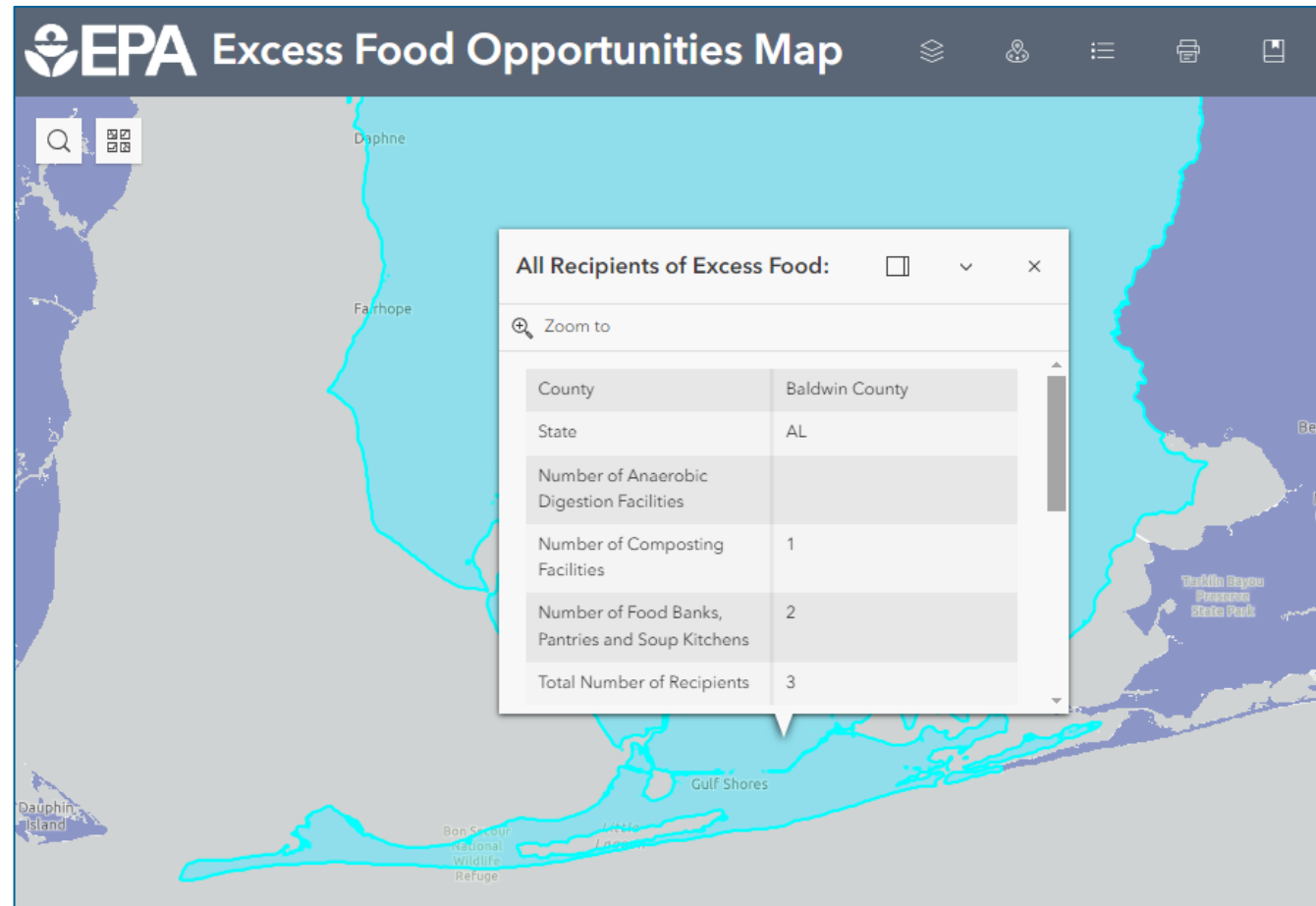


- These toolkits help:
- (1) launch a new food scrap composting program,
  - (2) increase participation in an existing food scrap composting program, or
  - (3) reduce contamination in their compost collection stream. The toolkit is accompanied by composting campaign materials created by municipalities and organizations that are available for use and customization by any community.
  - (4) Provides downloadable, customizable campaign materials to move the public from awareness to action



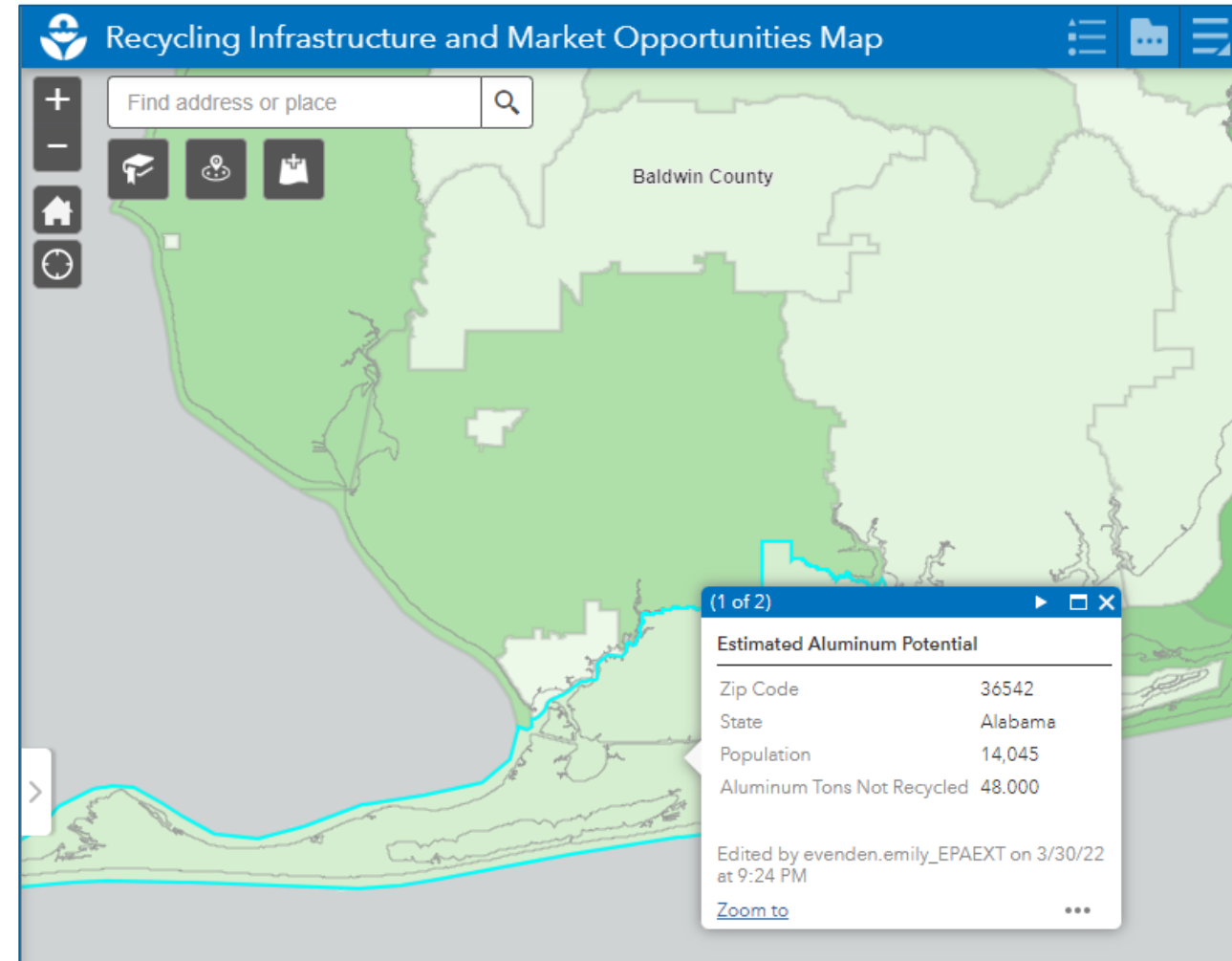
# Excess Food Opportunities Map

- Supports nationwide diversion of excess food from landfills.
- The map displays the locations of nearly 950,000 potential excess food generators. These include:
  - correctional facilities, educational institutions, farmers markets, food banks, healthcare facilities, hospitality industry, food manufacturing and processing facilities, food wholesale and retail, restaurants and food services.
- The map also displays the locations of communities with source separated organics programs, refrigerated warehousing and storage facilities, and about 6,500 potential recipients of excess food. These include:
  - anaerobic digestion facilities, composting facilities, food banks.



# Recycling Infrastructure and Market Opportunities Map

- The map provides locations of 15 different types of recycling and other municipal solid waste infrastructure. These include:
  - Material recovery facilities, Anaerobic digesters, Composting facilities, Electronics recyclers, Glass recycling facilities, Glass secondary processors, Municipal solid waste landfills, Metals recycling facilities, Paper recycling facilities, Plastic recycling facilities, Textile recycling facilities, Tire recycling facilities, Transfer stations, Wood recycling facilities, Wood secondary processors.
- The map also includes estimated tons of generated and recycled material by ZIP code and material type. There are 16 types of recyclable material included:
  - Aluminum, Cardboard, Electronics, Food Waste, Glass, High-density polyethylene Bottles #2, Polyethylene terephthalate Bottles #1, Polyethylene terephthalate, Other Rigid #1, Polypropylene Containers #5, Rigid Plastics #3 to #7, Steel Cans, Tires, Paper, Textiles, Yard trimmings, Wood.



# Region 4 Environmental Finance Centers

## Southeast Sustainability Directors Network

- Aims to accelerate, scale, and implement sustainability best practices by helping communities build capacity to effectively access and manage multi-media environmental federal funding opportunities.



## University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill

- Aims to expand outreach and engagement to better reach disadvantaged communities and provide technical, engineering-based assistance that precedes environmental finance questions to better serve disadvantaged communities.



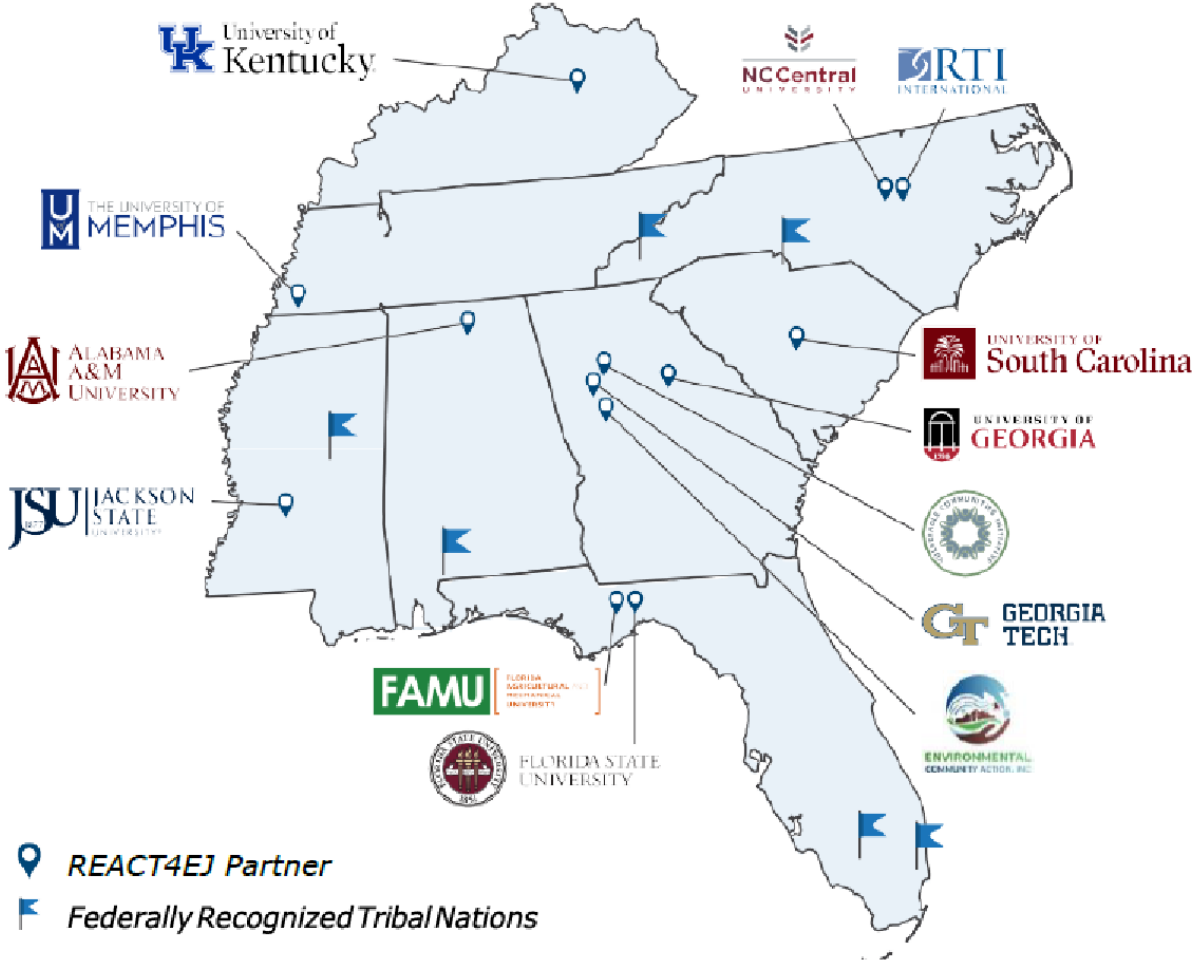
THE UNIVERSITY  
of NORTH CAROLINA  
at CHAPEL HILL



# Region 4 EJ TCTAC

- REACT4EJ is the EPA Region 4 Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center (TCTAC).
- REACT4EJ is a network of partners. **RTI International** and the **Environmental Protection Network** are regional partners who work closely with our state partners.
- They help communities find funding and support for environmental justice work.

• Scan here for REACT4EJ's Contact Page:











# Library of Frequently Asked Questions

- **Library of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**
- EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment frequently updates this tool for grant applicants and recipients.
- The Community Library of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) is a comprehensive resource based on questions asked by participants of EPA's grants webinars. Use the library to quickly find answers to questions about applying for grants, executing grants, and complying with EPA grants policies and requirements. In many cases, the answers provide links to more details and additional training materials.
- You can filter questions by topic (for example, Budget, Certification and Compliance, Drawdowns, among others) or use the search control to find questions based on a keyword. The library of FAQs will be updated with new questions and answers as EPA grants webinars are held.



# Model Recycling Toolkit

- Was created to help communities in developing and enhancing recycling, reuse, and composting programs

Resource Title	Description	More Info	Like
<a href="#">5 Reasons to Recycle — And How You Can Recycle Right from San Jose, CA</a>	Page with list of reasons to recycle and link to a guide for recycling correctly. Website allows for viewing in Spanish and various other languages.		
<a href="#">Approaches to Encourage Private Sector and Organizations to Buy Recycled Content Products</a>	Products made of recycled content make the recycling system viable. These non-profit organizations and governments have created mechanisms to purchase recycled content at reduced costs.		
<a href="#">Assessments of Market Development Opportunities</a>	Assess the state of existing local and regional markets for materials across the waste stream; study service voids for missed opportunities to recover commodities. Shape strategic action plans around the findings.		
<a href="#">Basic Information on How and Why to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle (EPA Website)</a>	Learn how reducing, reusing, and recycling can help you, your community, and the environment by saving money, energy, and natural resources.		





# For More Information

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Sign up to **Stay Connected** to learn more about grants, future strategies and reports:

<https://www.epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/forms/stay-connected>

**The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Transforming the U.S. Recycling and Waste Management**

<https://www.epa.gov/rcra/bipartisan-infrastructure-law-transforming-us-recycling-and-waste-management>

**Training for Grant Applicants:**

<https://www.epa.gov/grants/recipient-training-opportunities>

**SWIFR and REO:**

<https://www.epa.gov/rcra/grants-political-subdivisions>

<https://www.epa.gov/rcra/consumer-recycling-education-and-outreach-grant-program>





# Questions

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