



## **BCDCOG PILOT PROGRAM SPURS CHARLESTON COUNTY GLASS COLLECTION, PROVIDING COST OFFSETS AND REDUCED LANDFILL WASTE**

*Locally owned and operated Fisher Recycling offers increased frequency curbside glass pickup*

**NORTH CHARLESTON (Dec. 27, 2017)** – Thanks to a [Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments](#) pilot program, Charleston County businesses now have the opportunity to access more frequent curbside glass collection and additional glass recycling services. That combination will translate into cost offsets for companies and reduced landfill waste for all residents.

Charleston County Environmental Management has endorsed [Fisher Recycling](#) efforts to collect and recycle glass, and the company is now providing business curbside glass collection up to six times per week. About 20 percent of the glass collected will be repurposed as high-quality, custom countertops.

The move comes as part of a statewide mandate to reduce waste in landfills, and Charleston County's recently unveiled plan for an efficient recycling program includes a 57,000 square-foot recycling center set to come online in 2018. The county will continue trucking recyclables out of its jurisdiction in the interim and Fisher Recycling curbside collection will dramatically reduce the amount of glass being transported.

Commercial curbside glass collection through Fisher Recycling is for glass materials only to ensure proper handling and processing. The company is committed to recycling 100 percent of all glass collected, with a portion set for reuse in their locally manufactured GlassEco products, which have been featured on [Houzz](#) and [Charleston Home + Design](#).

There is a convenience charge for curbside glass collection and businesses can register by calling (843) 554-6099 or emailing [info@fisherrecycling.com](mailto:info@fisherrecycling.com). The collection services include easily identifiable wheeled carts, cans for in-house use and education for business owners and staff.

### **Origins**

The Fisher-Charleston County partnership was aided by the COG's BCD Tri-county Glass Recovery Project pilot program. The effort, which kicked off in 2016 with funding from the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control, was aimed at promoting awareness of dedicated glass donation and recycling as ways to direct waste from landfills in the region.

“Large employers, institutions and food and beverage establishments were targeted

throughout the region, as they are among the largest glass waste generators and have the ability to make a high waste diversion impact," said Jeff Hajek, a planner with the BCDCOG.

A five-month investigative period to determine interest in glass recycling was followed by an initial three-month glass-collecting test phase during which 52 tons – or 104,000 pounds of glass – were gathered. With state grant funds from SCDHEC, BCDCOG purchased 161, bright green, 65-gallon recycling carts for commercial business participants to separately recycle glass waste.

### **About BCDCOG**

*The Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments is a three-county regional agency that offers a variety of planning, economic development and social services to grow and develop the tri-county area. BCDCOG's purpose is to strengthen the individual and collective power of local governments and to help them recognize regional opportunities, eliminate unnecessary duplication, and make joint decisions. For the latest on BCDCOG, visit [www.bcdcog.com](http://www.bcdcog.com), like us on [Facebook](#) or follow on Twitter at [@BDCCoG](#).*

### **About Fisher Recycling**

*Fisher Recycling began as a one-man operation in 1992. Since that time, the company has recycled over 8.5 million pounds of aluminum, glass, plastic and tin in addition to 18,000 tons of paper and cardboard. Fisher Recycling serves restaurants, offices, business parks, hotels and resorts throughout Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties and accepts paper, cardboard, glass and used electronic equipment. In 2005, Fisher Recycling became South Carolina's only full-circle glass recycling vendor by launching the GlassEco product line. Visit [FisherRecycling.com](http://FisherRecycling.com) to learn more about commercial recycling services, and visit [GlassEcoSurfaces.com](http://GlassEcoSurfaces.com) to learn more about recycled glass surfaces.*

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