

North Carolina residents have shown little interest in improving traditional recycling habits, according to an analysis released last week by the state Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Collection of traditional recyclables such as aluminum cans and newspapers, was stagnant last year, even though overall recycling increased 4 percent. This rise may be attributed to increases in collection of scrap tires and yard waste, according to the Department. While North Carolina recycled 1.2 million tons of material, it threw away 11.7 million tons in 2006.