



## New Service Allows NC Businesses To Access Biomass Market for Free Anytime

North Carolina, the “Saudi Arabia of biomass,” now has a new free service available for businesses to search for bio-based materials needed in the manufacturing process or to list materials available for purchase.

NC BiomassTrader is a Web-based service that allows companies to “self-list” bio-based materials on the Internet at [www.ncbiomasstrader.org](http://www.ncbiomasstrader.org). This Internet trading service takes advantage of an increasing interest in bio-related feedstocks and residues as new business opportunities seek replacements for fossil fuel-based products and fuels.

Examples of typical bio-based materials include pallets, wood waste from industrial processes, urban trimmings, crop residues, animal waste products, mulch, and food processing wastes and oils.

“North Carolina has an abundance of biomass-based materials that are underutilized,” notes Bob Leker, renewable energy program manager at the State Energy Office, NC Department of Administration. “BiomassTrader offers an ideal way to develop markets for bio feedstocks and products.”

Users of the service will be pleased with the ready market access for biomass, says Steve Cockman of McGill Environmental Systems, a company that manufactures and markets compost. “I look at the NC BiomassTrader Web site two or three times a week. I have found several cost-effective supplies of feedstocks such as yard waste and sheet rock that we now incorporate into our compost.”

### *How NC Biomass Works*

Convenient to use, NC BiomassTrader is available anytime for the ultimate in user ease and access. To use the service, visit NC BiomassTrader at [www.ncbiomasstrader.org](http://www.ncbiomasstrader.org). Companies can either list an item wanted or available for sale. There is no cost for listing materials, and no finder’s fee is collected. Negotiations and trading are handled directly between interested parties. Any business, industry, or organization seeking biomass materials or those with surplus biomass materials can use NC BiomassTrader.

The Web service was created through the joint efforts of the State Energy Office, NC Department of Administration, and the NC Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance. NC BiomassTrader was developed to promote the free exchange of organic materials that might end up in landfills and to stimulate the market for bio-based products.

For more information, contact Richard Burke with Waste Reduction Partners at 828-286-8079 or Bob Leker at the State Energy Office at 919-733-1907.