

# CITY OF RALEIGH SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS TOOLKIT



Raleigh



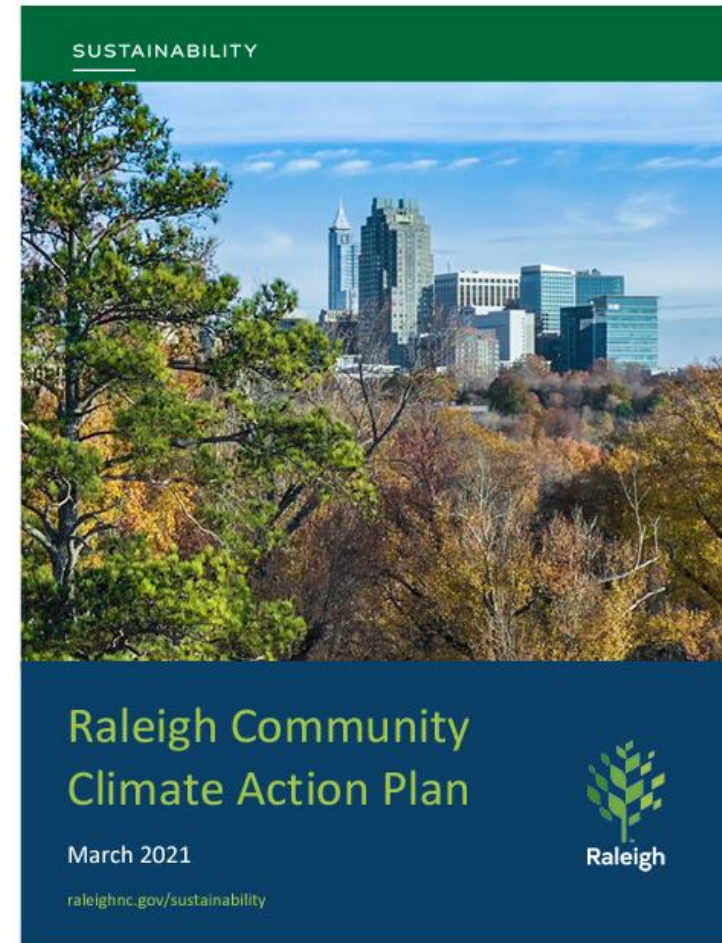
# Sustainability in Raleigh

The Community Climate Action Plan is a path to:

- Reduce GHG emissions from energy use, transportation and waste
- Build community resilience to the impacts of climate change
- Support climate equity

Working to address climate impacts will also:

- Create a more social and pedestrian-friendly city
- Improve community health and air quality
- Provide more housing options and support neighborhood-serving businesses





# About the Toolkit

Connections to existing programs that will help your business or organization:

- Reach or set new sustainability goals
- Save money
- Become more efficient
- Be recognized as a sustainable business by your staff and customers



# Not Just for Businesses!

Toolkit programs can benefit:

## Schools



Building efficiency  
Solar installations

## Apartments



Green roofs  
Real time transit information  
Recycling

## Homeowners



Rain gardens  
Commuting options



# Building Improvements and New Facilities





# Building Up-Fit Grant

- Grant program for commercial interior improvements to help you serve more customers or create more attractive and energy-efficient spaces
- Includes a range of improvements, such as HVAC, flooring, kitchen upgrades, or even rethinking spaces
- Pays up to 50 percent of project costs



# Façade Rehab Grant

- Funds new siding, awnings, signs, and other aesthetic improvements
- Funds up to \$5,000 or 50% of total improvement (whichever is less)
- Can include replacement windows and lighting upgrades that improve energy efficiency





# Green Raleigh Review

- Expedited and no cost review for site plans that include green stormwater infrastructure
- Examples include permeable pavement, green roofs, additional trees





# Commute and Transportation Options



# Commute Smart Raleigh

Help retain employees by providing commuting options. Staff will provide tailored assistance for on:

- How to use transit, connect with carpool options, and explore other travel choices to create a commute plan
- Creative ways to reduce parking demand and treat employees who don't drive equitably





# Real Time Transit Information

- Provide screens in your business or apartment lobby that provide information on upcoming transit arrivals and other mobility options
- Can help reduce parking expenses and encourage low-carbon modes of transportation



# EV Ready Playbook

- A guide to planning, siting, and permitting charging stations
- Can help to provide an amenity for customers and staff





# Energy Efficiency, Cost Savings, Recognition



Raleigh



# Duke Energy Business Energy Saver Program

- Begins with a free energy assessment and recommendations. Duke then pays up to 80% of the cost of identified efficiency improvements
- Can fund installation of energy efficient lighting, HVAC, chillers, refrigeration equipment, and more





# Waste Reduction Partners

- No-cost technical assistance for businesses that want to save money and become more sustainable
- Retired engineers provide personalized, on site assistance with energy, waste, and water use reduction and with goal setting and tracking





# Solarize the Triangle

- Local government-supported group purchasing program for solar installations
- By buying in bulk, the contract creates lower prices for participants than would be the case otherwise





# NC DEQ Environmental Stewardship Initiative

- Provides recognition of sustainable businesses
- Access to networking events, free training and webinars, and annual awards

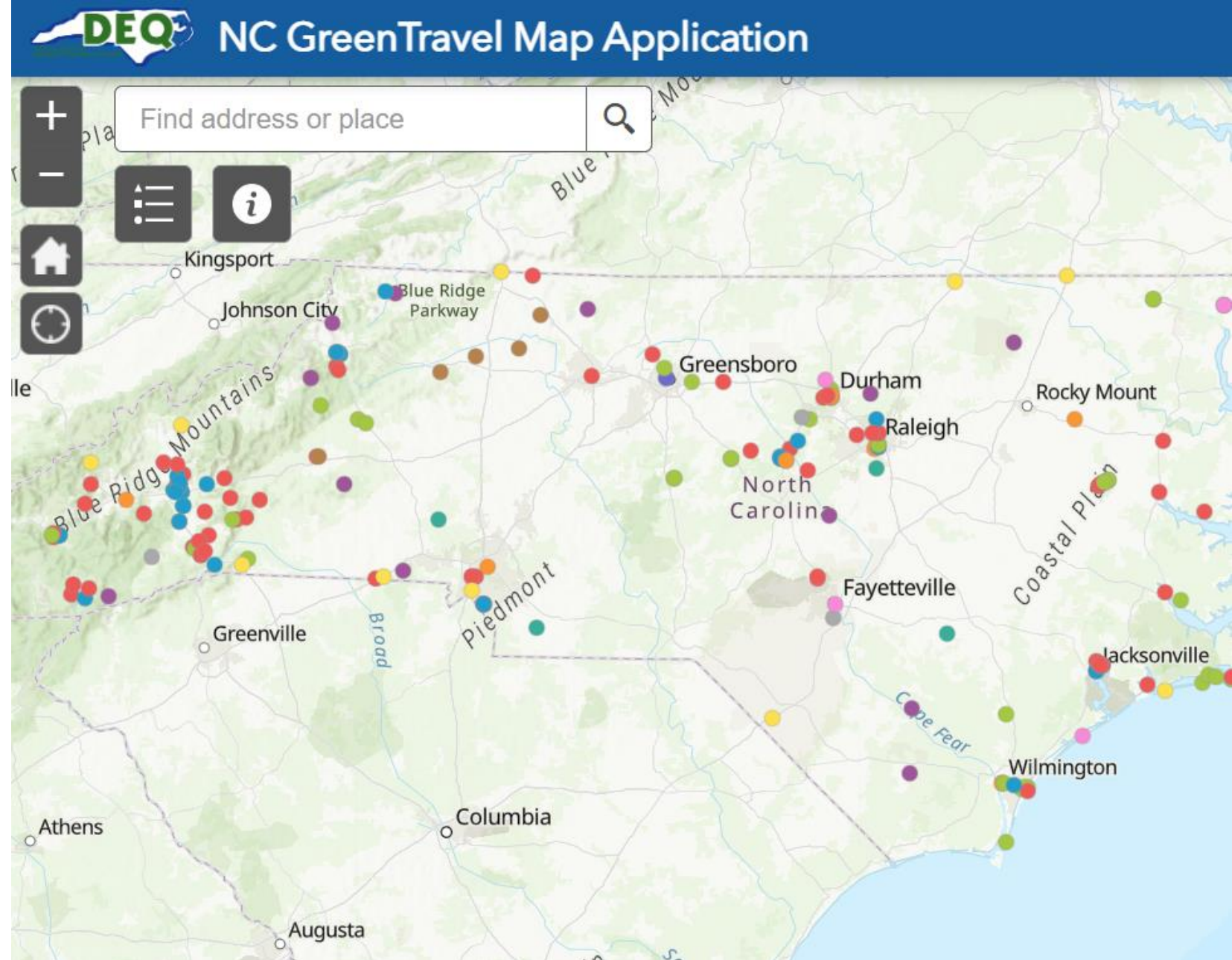


Image: Thomas Built Buses factory, High Point NC



# North Carolina Green Travel Program and Recognition

- No-cost program that recognizes businesses that incorporate sustainability
- Listing on state travel map and materials to include at your business
- For hotels, restaurants, attractions, festivals, more





# Raleigh Environmental Awards

- Annual awards celebrating Raleigh's environmental superstars!
- Showcase your sustainable business and climate action work by nominating your business, organization, or non-profit!



# Waste Reduction





# Raleigh freeFILL

- Anyone can bring a reusable water bottle to community centers and other participating facilities for a free refill
- Reduces the number of single-use plastics that end up in landfills or as litter
- Become a participating business!



# Business Recycling Program

- The city offers recycling pickup services to businesses and multi-unit residential properties
- This can reduce waste headed to the landfill and cut the cost of garbage collection





# Wake County Waste and Recycling

- Waste management and educational resources for businesses including construction and demolition, recycling, reuse, and e-waste
- Waste Reduction Grant program offers up to \$10,000 to businesses and nonprofits to fund projects that reduce waste production



# Stormwater and Water Quality





# Raleigh Rainwater Rewards

- Funding for projects that capture and clean rainwater before it goes into local waterways – up to 90% reimbursement
- Cisterns, green roofs, rain gardens, pavement removal, permeable pavement, and more!
- Staff will meet on your property for a consultation
- Can lower utility fees



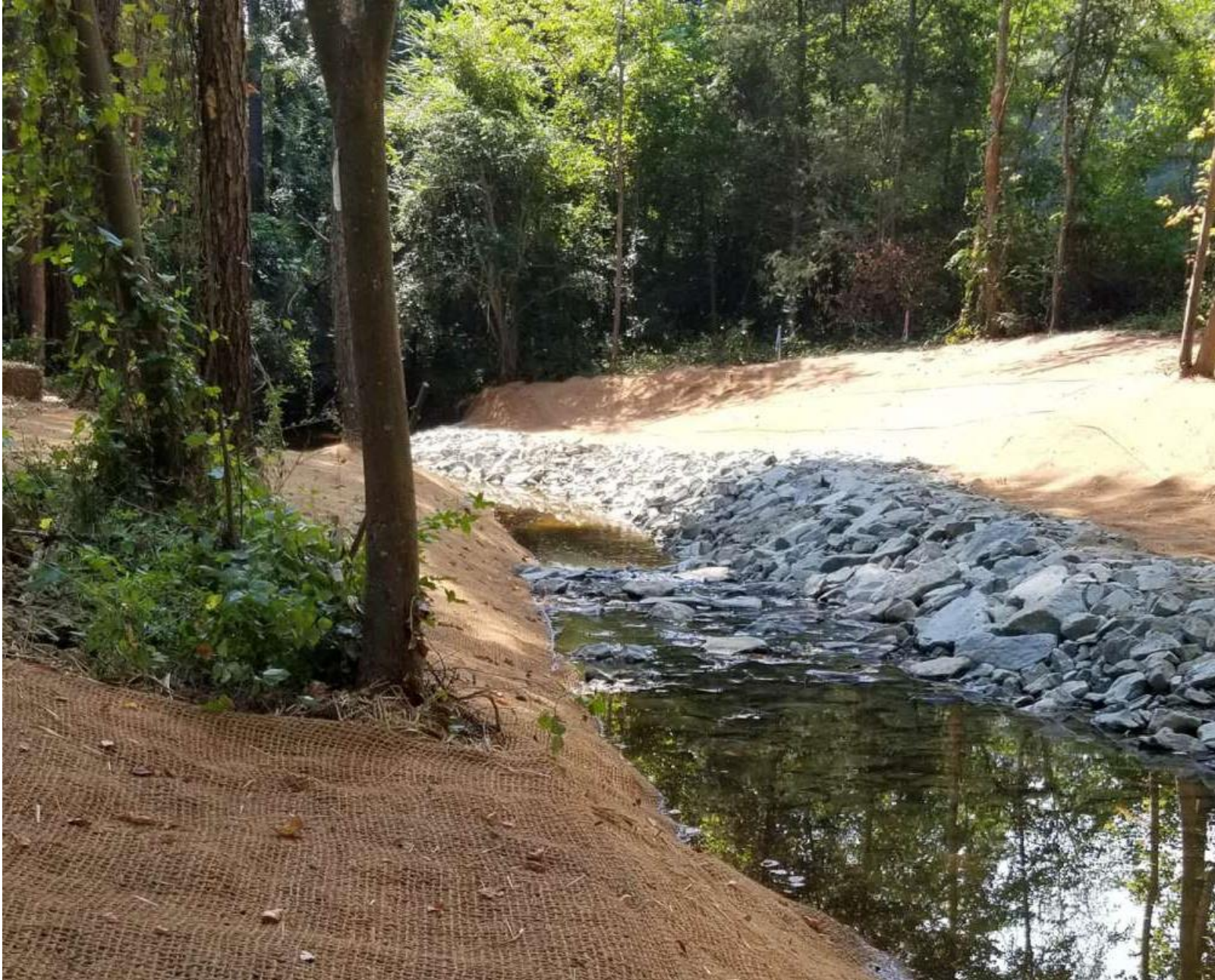
Image: Rain cistern at Longleaf Hotel on Dawson Street





# Drainage Assistance Program

- Are you experiencing severe flooding or erosion at your home/building? This program pays for issues caused by runoff from public streets.
- We'll help with flooding, severe erosion, and blocked pipes impacting your home/building. Benefits include:
- Addressing flooding on your property.
- Understanding stormwater improvements in your area.





# (GSI) Green Stormwater Infrastructure

- GSI is the use of natural elements, such as plants and soil, to store water and absorb pollution when it rains
- Replaces pipes and drains, resulting in less and cleaner runoff into streams and lakes
- Examples include rain gardens, cisterns, permeable pavement
- City is including GSI in street and other projects and will partner on projects
- Code has incentives for including GSI infrastructure



Image: Rain garden, St. Ambrose Episcopal Church



# Additional Resources

## Offices/Links

City of Raleigh Office of Sustainability: **[raleighnc.gov/sustainability](https://raleighnc.gov/sustainability)**

Raleigh Community Climate Action Plan: **[raleighnc.gov/climate-action](https://raleighnc.gov/climate-action)**

North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality: **[deq.nc.gov](https://deq.nc.gov)**

Wake County Solid Waste: **[wakegov.com/departments-government/waste-recycling](https://wakegov.com/departments-government/waste-recycling)**

## Staff contacts

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# Sustainable Business Toolkit

