1 Collect
When you place newspaper (and other recyclables) in a bin, it is taken to a material recovery facility (MRF), such as the Davidson County MRF. There the products are sorted by type and the paper collected is wrapped into tight bales.

2 Process
The bales are sent to a paper-pulp mill, such as VonDrehle Corp. in Cordova, N.C. There the paper is broken down and mixed with water and chemicals, creating pulp. The mills then clean and de-ink the pulp before spreading it, heating it, and rolling it to create paper. The large rolls of paper (sometimes as big as 20 tons; also called “parent rolls”) are shipped to a converting facility, like VonDrehle in Maiden, N.C. There the parent rolls are turned into tissues, paper towels, and toilet paper intended for commercial or institutional use.

3 Buy-Recycled
The paper products are shipped to various businesses & institutions for use.

Each year North Carolina throws away enough potentially recyclable Paper to fill more than 1,000 soccer fields three feet deep.