

## Looking Ahead

Roane County has embarked on a very ambitious recycling program which is planned in five (5) phases. With the acquisition and operation of the new baler, four (4) phases are complete. Information about Roane County's five -phase plan can be found on the county website at [www.roanecountytn.gov](http://www.roanecountytn.gov). We plan on continuing to expand our recycling efforts through **reusing, repurposing and re-marketing** our waste products.,

As Roane County continues to improve our recycling effort, we anticipate seeing much more community involvement. Roane County Government plans to continue to



Harris badger LSOS baler in place at the Roane County Recycling Hub.

invite more of our schools to participate in the recycling effort. The county would like to see 100% participation from the county school system.

More and more industries are recycling and we will work to see additional business partners added to our recycling partnership. We will continue to work closely with our cities to encourage citizens to start recycling or to increase their recycling efforts. Roane County is looking for ways to partner with our surrounding counties, as we recognize the importance of regional cooperation in the effort of conserving our natural heritage.

Roane County plans to apply for the next Hub and Spoke grant to continue to improve our recycling program.

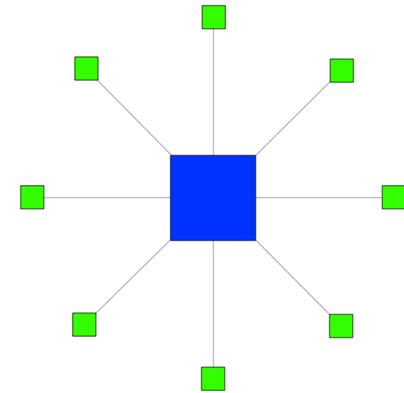


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## Roane County Recycling Hub & Spoke Grant Baler Acquisition, Installation and Operation



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## Acquisition

Roane County applied for and received a TDEC Hub and Spoke grant in 2013. Roane County was awarded \$265,000 in order to “increase recycling between counties and municipalities by promoting greater regional cooperation.” Roane County has partnered with the cities of Harriman, Kingston, Oliver Springs and Rockwood, along with nine (9) county schools and Roane State Community College to begin to develop a comprehensive recycling program for Roane County.



After much research, Roane County decided the Harris Badger L50S baler would best fit both current and future needs of our recycling program. The county decided that additional investments, outside the grant money, were necessary for the success of the Hub and Spoke initiative. Roane County purchased a recycling collection trailer for each of the cities. The county had already provided recycling bins for the schools and Roane State Community College. Site development was another area of county investment. The site work was largely provided by the Roane County Highway Department, another cooperative effort.

## Installation

After the bid for the baler was accepted, planning for the installation started in early 2014. Close contact was maintained with the vendor for construction time lines and delivery date. Internal logistics included every aspect of the county’s recycling processes, including training for convenience center operators, adjustments to employee schedules, transportation, crane operations for removal of old baler and installation of new baler, electrical connections, finances and site preparation.



Roane County was able to sell the old baler to Anderson County in order to help facilitate the development of an enhanced recycling program in Anderson County.

The installation process included pouring a large concrete pad in the rear of the baler building and provid-

ing more convenient access to recycling boxes for the community. A larger area has been devoted to recycling electronics.

## Operations

Current operations at the Roane County Recycling Hub are constantly being reviewed and assessed for efficiency and cost-effectiveness. The county partnership with the cities and the schools has the potential to result in the diversion of thousands of tons of waste from the waste stream each year. In 2014, 22,000 lbs. of waste were diverted through recycling efforts with the schools.

Our thirteen (13) convenience centers have recycling containers which accept a variety of household recyclables on a daily basis. As a community, Roane County is just starting to approach recycling as a community effort instead of an individual effort.

