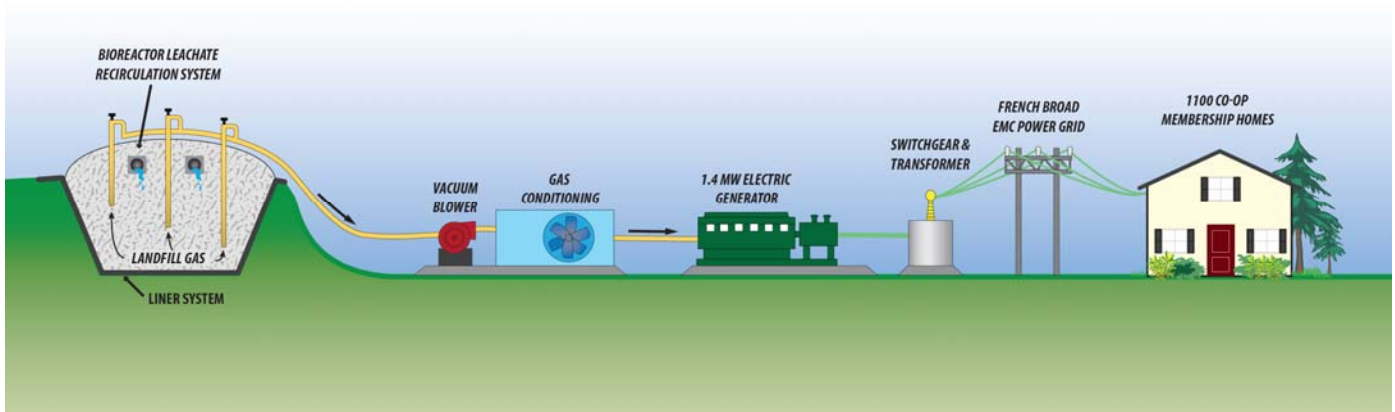




BUNCOMBE COUNTY STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

CLEAN & RENEWABLE ENERGY



PRIORITY: Implement the best fiscally and environmentally responsible energy solutions to reach the goal of 100 percent renewable energy sources for Buncombe County’s operations while helping to educate, equip and move our community toward practical renewable energy solutions.

BACKGROUND: Buncombe County controls 86 facilities, comprised of more than 2 million square feet, and annual utilities cost approximately \$1.87 million. In addition, the County maintains a fleet of more than 450 vehicles with approximately \$550,000 a year in fuel costs. In 2013, Buncombe County established a goal of reducing its carbon footprint by 80 percent to be achieved at a rate of 2 percent a year. A 2014 energy audit identified 26 energy reduction measures that when fully implemented can create both energy cost savings and reduction in emissions. Greater utilization of renewable energy improves air and water quality, reduces emissions that harm public health, reduces dependence on foreign sources of energy and creates jobs.

GOALS:

- Reduce cost and lower emissions by improving the energy efficiency of Buncombe County facilities and fleet.
- Promote renewable energy projects and utilize renewable energy sources such as solar and wind where feasible for Buncombe County facilities and fleet.
- Foster environmental sustainability within the community through education, resources and programs for the public and community partners.

