



# bye bye mattress

A Program of the Mattress Recycling Council

## ANTICIPATED CONSUMER QUESTIONS

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### **Why do I have to pay the fee and what does it pay for?**

The state law requires retailers to collect a recycling fee on each mattress and box spring that is sold. The state approved the amount of the fee, which is not set or controlled by individual retailers.

The fee funds the state's recycling program, which is administered by the Mattress Recycling Council. Visit [www.byebyemattress.com](http://www.byebyemattress.com) to learn more or contact the Mattress Recycling Council via the information provided with your receipt.

### **Who is the Mattress Recycling Council?**

The Mattress Recycling Council is a nonprofit organization that operates mattress recycling programs in states that have passed mattress recycling laws.

Our state's mattress recycling program is similar to the recycling programs that a number of states have for other products like paint, tires, carpet and batteries.

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### **If I don't plan to discard a mattress now, why do I have to pay this fee?**

The state law requires retailers to collect this fee on any mattress and box spring sale to fund the state's mattress recycling program.

Even if you aren't discarding a mattress right now, a mattress doesn't last forever, and will eventually be discarded. The program creates a network of participating cities, towns, retailers, recyclers and other organizations that you may rely on when that time comes to properly recycle your old mattress.

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**If I decide to take my old mattress to a recycler myself, do I still pay the fee?**

Yes, state law requires retailers to collect this fee on any mattress and box spring sale to fund the state's mattress recycling program.

You may receive a modest financial incentive if you drop off your used mattress or box spring at a designated recycling location. Visit [www.byebyemattress.com](http://www.byebyemattress.com) to find the location nearest you.

**I didn't pay this fee on my old mattress, so will it be accepted for recycling?**

Yes, mattresses that we take back from our customers are recycled through the state's mattress recycling program regardless of when they were purchased. Visit [www.byebyemattress.com](http://www.byebyemattress.com) for more information.

**You didn't take back my old mattress because you deemed it unacceptable. Can you refund my recycling fee?**

No, state law requires retailers to collect this fee on any mattress and box spring sale to fund the state's mattress recycling program. The law does not force retailers to accept every mattress for recycling out of concern for employee health and safety. Our store's policy in addition to the recycling program's guidelines determines what we will and won't accept.

If your mattress is unacceptable for recycling, contact your city or town to learn what disposal options are available.

**What are the benefits of mattress recycling?**

More than 90 percent of a mattress can be recycled and made into a new product. Recycling provides a number of important benefits:

- Conserves resources by making used steel, foam and other materials available for use in new products
- Reduces reliance on incinerators and landfills by diverting mattresses from the waste stream
- Reduces the number of illegally dumped mattresses
- Creates recycling jobs

Visit [www.byebyemattress.com](http://www.byebyemattress.com) to learn more about mattress recycling.

**Now that we have this new program, what happens to my old mattress or box spring?**

Recyclers dismantle old mattresses and/or box springs, separate the steel, foam, fabric and wood, and sell these materials to manufacturers that will use them to make new products. Visit [www.byebyemattress.com](http://www.byebyemattress.com) to learn more about mattress recycling.