



## Rhode Island Mattress Recycling Program for Healthcare Facilities

Rhode Island's General Law 23-90 requires the mattress industry to create a recycling program for mattresses and box springs used and discarded in the state.

The new law does not require healthcare facilities that dispose of used mattresses in Rhode Island to recycle them. Those located in the state may voluntarily participate in the program.

MRC will provide no-cost transportation and recycling services to healthcare facilities discarding 50 or more mattresses at one time.

The Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) is a non-profit organization established by the mattress industry to plan and manage the Rhode Island mattress recycling program.

Beginning May 1, 2016, retailers and other businesses selling mattresses will collect a \$16 recycling fee on each mattress and box spring that is sold to a Rhode Island consumer. These fees will be remitted to MRC and used to recycle mattresses.

### Benefits of Participating

**Participating healthcare facilities no longer incur mattress recycling costs.** MRC uses the collected recycling fees to pay for recycling mattresses.

**Recycling mattresses conserves natural resources and benefits the environment.** Program participants divert mattresses from landfills and allow materials like fiber, foam, steel and wood to be made into other useful products.

### What MRC Provides

- Transportation from your collection site to the contracted recycler
- No-cost recycling services

### Participation Requirements

- Must accumulate a minimum of 50 units prior to MRC providing transportation services
- Must register with MRC Program Coordinator for no-cost recycling services
- Keep mattresses dry
- Staff must load accumulated mattresses into the provided collection truck upon its arrival
- Complete required paperwork to track outgoing shipments

### Which items are accepted and not accepted by the program?

**Most mattresses and box springs discarded by Rhode Island retailers are eligible for the recycling program. Mattresses from out of state stores are ineligible.**

We are unable to accept:

- Severely damaged, wet, twisted, frozen or soiled mattresses or box springs
- Items infested with bed bugs
- Mattress pads or toppers
- Sleeping bags
- Pillows
- Car beds
- Juvenile products such as carriages, baskets, bassinets, dressing tables, strollers, and playpens or their pads
- Infant carriers, lounge pads, or crib bumpers
- Water beds or camping-style air mattresses
- Fold-out sofa beds
- Futons and furniture



FOR MORE INFORMATION  
**Justine Fallon**  
 Northeast Program Coordinator  
[jfallon@mattressrecyclingcouncil.org](mailto:jfallon@mattressrecyclingcouncil.org)  
 Phone: (860) 904-0981

[www.MattressRecyclingCouncil.org](http://www.MattressRecyclingCouncil.org)

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