



Rhode Island Mattress Recycling Program for Educational Institutions

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 educational institutions that dispose of used mattresses in Rhode Island to recycle them. Educational institutions located in the state may voluntarily participate in the program.

MRC will provide no-cost transportation and recycling services to educational institutions 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 \$10 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.

Participant Eligibility

Participating educational institutions no longer incur mattress recycling costs. MRC uses the collected recycling fees to pay for the transportation and recycling of the mattresses.

Recycling mattresses conserves natural resources and benefits the environment. Program participants divert mattresses from waste-to-energy facilities and landfills and allow materials like fiber, foam, steel and wood to be reused.

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
- 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 in Rhode Island are eligible for the recycling program. Mattresses from out of state sources 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, cribs, bassinets, dressing tables, strollers, and playpens or their pads
- Infant carriers, lounge pads, or crib bumpers
- Water beds or camping air mattresses
- Fold-out sofa beds
- Futons and furniture



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