This year, MRC’s Rhode Island Bye Bye Mattress program collected 93,021 mattresses and recycled 1,883 tons of material.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary & Definitions ........................................................................................................... 5  
Overview of Mattress Recycling Council Rhode Island, LLC ........................................................ 5  
Rhode Island Program Objectives .................................................................................................... 6  
Sixth Year Program Highlights ....................................................................................................... 6  
Report Overview .............................................................................................................................. 7  
Collection Network Overview .......................................................................................................... 11  
  Introduction ...................................................................................................................................... 11  
  Mattress Recycling Facilities ........................................................................................................ 12  
  Mattress Recycling Transporters .................................................................................................. 12  
Education & Outreach ...................................................................................................................... 15  
  Introduction ...................................................................................................................................... 15  
  Consumer Education .................................................................................................................... 15  
  Industry Communication .............................................................................................................. 25  
Performance Goals & Evaluation ...................................................................................................... 34  
  Evaluation of Performance Goals & Methods ........................................................................... 34  
  Recycling Program Metrics .......................................................................................................... 45  
Research ........................................................................................................................................ 47  
Recommendations For Change ........................................................................................................ 53  
Appendix A: Registered Producers and Brands ........................................................................ 55  
  Registered Producers .................................................................................................................. 55  
  Registered Brand Names and URNs ............................................................................................ 62  
Appendix B: Collection Sites ........................................................................................................... 69  
Appendix C: Stakeholder Outreach ................................................................................................. 73  
Appendix D: Public Education Materials .................................................................................... 75  
  Info Card ......................................................................................................................................... 75  
  Digital Badge ............................................................................................................................... 75  
  In-Store Poster ............................................................................................................................ 76  
  Consumer FAQs ............................................................................................................................ 77  
  Public Service Announcement ...................................................................................................... 79
The mattress industry created the **Mattress Recycling Council (MRC)**, a nonprofit organization, to develop and administer the Bye Bye Mattress program.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY & DEFINITIONS

Pursuant to Section 23-90-5(j) of Rhode Island General Laws (the law), the Mattress Recycling Council Rhode Island, LLC (MRC), submits to Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (RIRRC) this annual report, which provides the requested data on the results that MRC achieved in administering the Rhode Island mattress stewardship program (the program) during the state’s 2021-2022 Fiscal Year (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022) (the reporting period).

OVERVIEW OF MATTRESS RECYCLING COUNCIL RHODE ISLAND, LLC

The law requires that mattress producers form a “council” that develops a statewide program to collect mattresses and foundations (collectively units or mattresses) discarded in Rhode Island. The law also provides that the program will be funded through a visible fee collected from consumers and other purchasers on all mattresses and box springs sold in the state.

The International Sleep Products Association (ISPA) created the Mattress Recycling Council Inc. (the Council), a nonprofit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, to develop and administer mattress recycling programs in Rhode Island, as well as California and Connecticut. On July 1, 2015, the Council submitted a plan to RIRRC outlining how the program would meet the law’s requirements and proposed initial performance goals. RIRRC approved this plan on January 13, 2016, and the program officially began operating on May 1, 2016.

In 2017, the Council created separate LLCs to administer the Rhode Island, California and Connecticut programs. In each of these states, the LLCs have developed statewide networks of mattress collection and recycling locations, increased the number of units recycled and educated consumers, retailers and other stakeholders about that state’s mattress recycling program. Since 2015, these statewide programs have collectively recycled over 10 million mattresses.

To promote the program to a consumer audience, the “Bye Bye Mattress” brand and website was created to host a mattress recycling locator as well as important information about the recycling process and environmental benefits of the program.
RHODE ISLAND PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

MRC has designed the program to accomplish the following:

• Collect a mattress stewardship fee that funds the cost of operating and administering the program.
• Provide for no cost and accessible statewide opportunities for state residents to recycle their used mattresses.
• Provide transfer stations with suitable storage containers and transportation of discarded mattresses.
• Provide for MRC-financed end-of-life recycling of mattresses.
• Minimize public sector involvement in the management of mattresses.
• Establish a financial incentive for consumers that deliver their mattresses to recyclers.

SIXTH YEAR PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The law requires MRC to establish goals to measure the program’s performance. During the reporting period, MRC achieved or nearly achieved most of these goals. Highlights of the program’s sixth year include:

• Collected 93,021 mattresses and recycled 1,883 tons of material.
• Provided program access in 37 of 39 Rhode Island municipalities.
• Added 11 new large volume sources to the program this reporting period - one retailer, one boarding school, two healthcare facilities and seven hotels - which increased the total number of covered entities to 220.
• Coordinated with 48 small waste haulers and 58 property managers to deliver their units directly to recyclers, therefore reducing the number of units handled by RIRRC Central Landfill staff.
• Solid waste service provider participation exceeded 90%, well above the 80% performance goal threshold. All providers from the previous reporting period remained in the program and MRC added a new private transfer station.
• Through a public process, MRC requested proposals from mattress recycling companies to provide recycling services to the Rhode Island program, resulting in the award of a new mattress recycling contract.
REPORT OVERVIEW

Pursuant to § 23-90-5(j) of the law, this annual report contains the following information:

- The weight of mattresses collected pursuant to the program from municipal and/or transfer stations, retailers and all other covered entities.
- The weight of mattresses diverted for recycling.
- Identification of the mattress recycling facilities to which mattresses were delivered for recycling.
- The weight of discarded mattresses recycled, as indicated by the weight of each of the commodities sold to secondary markets.
- The weight of mattresses, or parts thereof, sent for disposal at Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation and any other facilities.
- Samples of public education materials and methods used to support the program.
- A description of efforts undertaken, and evaluation of the methods used to disseminate such materials.
- Updated performance goals and an evaluation of the effectiveness of the methods and processes used to achieve performance goals of the program.
- Recommendations for any changes to the program.

The following terms defined in § 23-90-3 are relevant to the report:

“Covered Entity” means any political subdivision of the state, any mattress retailer, any permitted transfer station, any waste to energy facility, any healthcare facility, any educational facility, any correctional facility, any military base, or any commercial or nonprofit lodging establishment that possesses a discarded mattress that was discarded in this state. Covered Entity does not include any renovator, refurbisher or any person who transports a discarded mattress.

“Foundation” means any ticking-covered structure that is used to support a mattress and that is composed of one or more of the following: A constructed frame, foam or a box spring. “Foundation” does not include any bed frame or base made of wood, metal or other material that rests upon the floor and that serves as a brace for a mattress.

“Mattress” means any resilient material, or combination of materials, that is enclosed by ticking, used alone or in combination with other products, and that is intended for, or promoted for, sleeping upon. “Mattress” includes any foundation, renovated foundation or renovated mattress.
“Mattress” does not include any of the following:

- An unattached mattress pad or unattached mattress topper (including any item with resilient filling), with or without ticking, that is intended to be used with, or on top of a mattress;
- A sleeping bag or pillow;
- A crib, bassinet mattress or car bed;
- Juvenile products, including: a carriage, basket, dressing table, stroller, playpen, infant carrier, lounge pad, crib bumper or the pads for those juvenile products;
- A product that contains liquid- or gaseous-filled ticking, including any waterbed or air mattress that does not contain upholstery material between the ticking and the mattress core;
- Any upholstered furniture that does not contain a detachable mattress; or A fold-out sofa bed or futon.

“Mattress Stewardship Program” or “Program” means the statewide program described in § 23-90-5 and implemented pursuant to the mattress stewardship plan as approved by the corporation director.

“Producer” means any person who manufactures or renovates a mattress that is sold, offered for sale or distributed in the state under the manufacturer’s own name or brand. “Producer” includes:

- The owner of a trademark or brand under which a mattress is sold, offered for sale, or distributed in this state, whether or not such trademark or brand is registered in this state; and
- Any person who imports a mattress into the United States that is sold or offered for sale in this state and that is manufactured or renovated by a person who does not have a presence in the United States.

“Recycling” means any process in which discarded mattresses, components and by-products may lose their original identity or form as they are transformed into new, usable or marketable materials.

“Recycling” does not include as a primary process the use of incineration for energy recovery or energy generation by means of combustion.

“Renovate” or “renovation” means altering a mattress for the purpose of resale and includes any one, or a combination of, the following: Replacing the ticking or filling, adding additional filling, rebuilding a mattress, or replacing components with new or recycled materials.
“Renovate” or “renovation” does not include

- the: Stripping of a mattress of its ticking or filling without adding new material;
- Sanitization or sterilization of a mattress without otherwise altering the mattress; or
- Altering of a mattress by a renovator when a person retains the altered mattress for personal use, in accordance with regulations of the Department of Business Regulation.

“Renovator” means a person who renovates discarded mattresses for the purpose of reselling such mattresses in a retail store.

“Retailer” means any person who sells mattresses in this state or offers mattresses in this state to a consumer through any means, including, but not limited to, remote offerings such as sales outlets, catalogs, or the Internet.
MRC collects mattresses from nearly every municipality in Rhode Island as well as 220 public and private entities that dispose of large volumes of discarded mattresses.
COLLECTION NETWORK OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

The success of Rhode Island’s program relies largely on MRC obtaining discarded units from the existing statewide infrastructure of “covered entities” that collect discarded mattresses as part of their ongoing operations. The law defines covered entities to include any political subdivision of the state, mattress retailer, permitted transfer station, waste-to-energy facility, healthcare facility, educational facility, correctional facility, military base or commercial or nonprofit lodging establishment, which possess a discarded mattress that was discarded in the state, as well as other entities that may be eligible to participate in the program. Of these entities, town municipal transfer stations handle the largest volume of discarded mattresses.

During the reporting period, MRC’s collection network included no-cost options to discard a mattress in 37 of Rhode Island’s 39 municipalities. These options consisted of curbside collection of discarded mattresses, a site where residents could drop off their units (either at a solid waste facility, recycler, etc.) or a collection event. Some collection sites limit access to their town’s residents. Throughout the reporting period, all state residents could drop off units at one of the statewide drop off sites, which included, Ace Mattress Recycling in East Greenwich, Tough Stuff Recycling in Coventry and also the Central Landfill in Johnston. See Appendix B for a complete list of participating collection sites and events.

In addition to these consumer collection options, 220 other entities (including mattress retailers, lodging establishments, educational facilities and others that dispose of large and small volumes of discarded mattresses) recycled their units through the program.

These entities either drop off their units directly at an MRC recycler, or if they have at least 50 units available for recycling, MRC will pay to transport them to a recycler.

Covered entities contact MRC if they want to host a collection site or one-day collection event, or to drop off units at a recycling facility. MRC reviews these requests on a rolling basis.
MATTRESS RECYCLING FACILITIES
During the reporting period, MRC contracted with the following recyclers to dismantle and recycle units collected by the program:

**Ace Mattress Recycling, LLC**
14 Clyde Street
West Warwick, RI 02893

**Ace Mattress Recycling, LLC**
1950 South County Trail
East Greenwich, RI 02818

**GM Framingham, LLC**
12 Industrial Road
Milford, MA 01757

**Tough Stuff Recycling, LLC**
145 Authority Drive
Fitchburg, MA 01420

**Willimantic Waste Paper Co. Inc.**
185 Recycling Way
Willimantic, CT 06226

MATTRESS RECYCLING TRANSPORTERS
During the reporting period, MRC contracted with the following transporters to haul units to the mattress recycling facilities above:

**Ace Mattress Recycling, LLC**
14 Clyde Street
West Warwick, RI 02893

**Ace Mattress Recycling, LLC**
1950 South County Trail
East Greenwich, RI 02818

**Mobile Storage Inc.**
81 Pilsudski Street
Providence, RI 02909

**Willimantic Waste Paper Co. Inc.**
185 Recycling Way
Willimantic, CT 06226
MRC’s education and outreach efforts are designed to inform consumers, mattress retailers and other stakeholders about the Bye Bye Mattress program, that the fee is mandated by state law, why the fee is needed, what the fee funds, how to recycle through the program, and that some parties have obligations.
EDUCATION & OUTREACH

INTRODUCTION

MRC’s education and outreach efforts inform consumers, retailers, the mattress industry and other stakeholders about mattress recycling in Rhode Island by explaining:

- How MRC operates and its accomplishment and impact in Rhode Island.
- How and where to recycle discarded mattresses and why recycling is beneficial.
- What the recycling fee funds.
- The mattress industry’s legal obligations.

To reach these audiences and disseminate this information, MRC uses a wide array of communications and marketing methods, including targeted direct mail and printed collateral, advertising and media relations, digital marketing and social media. MRC also participates in community and industry events and visits retailers, recyclers and other collection locations to learn how to collaborate on residential outreach.

This approach aligns with the following education and outreach performance goals:

- Continue to educate the mattress industry and consumers about the benefits of recycling, the fee and the law and encourage use of the program.
- Continue to provide samples of public education materials as required in the law.
- Measure consumer awareness every year and provide explanations for any variability.

An evaluation of MRC’s achievement of these goals is discussed in further detail in the Performance Goals & Evaluation section (see Page 31).

This section provides a full description of the methods MRC uses to communicate to consumers and the industry.

CONSUMER EDUCATION

MRC communicates with consumers using the “Bye Bye Mattress” brand, which is supported by a multichannel strategy consisting of ByeByeMattress.com, point-of-sale materials, public service announcements, media relations and social media.
BYEBYEMATTRESS.COM

On ByeByeMattress.com, consumers easily can find information about participating drop-off locations and municipalities that offer at least one free curbside collection each year. Consumers are also reminded to ask their retailer about picking up a discarded unit when a new mattress is delivered. Businesses and organizations that meet the definition of covered entity can find information on how MRC works with their industry and how to contact MRC to recycle mattresses.

In addition to helping consumers and covered entities learn what to do with their old mattress, ByeByeMattress.com also educates visitors about the mattress recycling process and its environmental benefits and provides information for deterring and reporting illegal dumping.

Overall, 432,387 users visited the site during the reporting period. This is a 16% decrease from the previous reporting period and can be explained by consumers having less interest in or need for mattress recycling. Decreased consumer interest in mattress
recycling is supported by the decreased use of internet search terms and phrases that lead consumers to ByeByeMattress.com. Meanwhile the ongoing effects of COVID-19 and inflation have decreased the behaviors most likely to lead to mattress disposal such as mattress sales and home buying, therefore consumer need is not as high as in previous years.

MRC regularly monitors website analytics to optimize the user experience and gauge performance of our outreach methods. Based on this data and feedback from residents and business owners, MRC is rebuilding ByeByeMattress.com to create a user experience that is better tailored to consumers versus businesses. To date, the website primarily uses a visitor’s location to determine what information to provide. Moving forward, the website will capture additional user details to decide whether to provide content that is more relevant to consumer or business users. Consumers will enjoy a seamless, single screen experience that presents information about drop off locations, available curbside programs and retail take back information. This should be more efficient than the current silo experience, which requires consumers to click away from the recycler locator to find curbside or retail take back information. The improved website will also make it easier for visitors to find information about mattress care and how MRC is discouraging illegal mattress dumping. Likewise, the improved website will provide a less-cluttered experience to business visitors.

CONSUMER EDUCATION MATERIALS FOR RETAILERS

MRC provides retailers no-cost point-of-sale materials to help them explain mattress recycling and the fee to their customers. These materials include:

**Bilingual Informational Card:** This card can accompany the consumer’s invoice or receipt. In its standard format, English is on one side and Spanish on the other. Chinese, Korean, Tagalog and Vietnamese versions are available on request.

**In-Store Posters:** MRC offers posters in two sizes to provide retailers flexibility in how and where they display them in-store. Versions in Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog and Vietnamese are available on request.

**Digital Badge:** Retailers can use this image on their websites, social media content or in other digital communications to raise the consumer’s awareness of the fee and program. The image links directly to ByeByeMattress.com.
**Public Service Announcements**

At the end of 2021, MRC retired the “Stop Illegal Dumping” PSA campaign which generated more than 15 million cumulative impressions in California and Connecticut. Rhode Island media were not receptive, despite multiple outreach efforts to PSA directors and other station executives.

MRC launched a new PSA campaign titled, “Break Up The Right Way With Your Old Mattress,” to coincide with America Recycles Day on November 15, 2021. To create the PSA’s messaging and tone, MRC referenced the education and outreach recommendations presented in its commissioned white paper (Best Practices in Addressing Illegal Dumping of Durable Waste – A Guide For Policy Makers), as well as insight gained from MRC’s work to address illegal dumping of mattresses in California. Rhode Island media indicated an interest in using the ad but cautioned that healthcare PSAs remained top priority.

The new campaign consists of 15-second and 30-second video and radio spots. MRC also created Spanish and Mandarin translations.
MRC will attempt to increase PSA airings by persuading stations to run them during the lead up to Earth Day and America Recycles Day. MRC will also encourage additional viewership by asking city leaders and community-based organizations to share the PSA on their social media and other communication channels. Campaign materials are available in the Bye Bye Mattress media center.

**MEDIA RELATIONS**

During the reporting period, MRC issued a press release about Rhode Island’s program surpassing 500,000 recycled mattresses and a separate press release about MRC surpassing a cumulative total of 10 million recycled mattresses in all three states. MRC also responded to reporter inquiries. Notable national media placements included Glamour, Martha Stewart Living and CNET.
PUBLICITY TOOLKITS

To promote collection sites, MRC provides a template news release and suggested content that municipalities can use to publicize their participation in the program through online outlets and social media platforms. The template allows municipalities to customize community messaging by including hours of operations, directions and residency restrictions. They may also use the suggested content on their city websites, community newsletters and social media. Event hosts are provided similar materials, including a media alert template, flyer template, event day signage kit and suggested social/online content.

MRC also makes these materials available to nonprofits, civic groups, city council members or others that will distribute MRC’s information to residents.
Click Below To View

COLLECTION SITE PROMOTION TOOLKIT

COLLECTION EVENT PROMOTION TOOLKIT
COMMUNITY EVENTS

MRC engages with the public through collection events and public appearances. Collection events help MRC serve areas that might not have a facility capable of, or willing to be, a permanent collection site, or target a specific need (such as a neighborhood cleanup). Meanwhile, public appearances help MRC boost awareness of the program and educate residents about the benefits of mattress recycling and how to access sites in their area.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued, MRC was selective about collection events and withheld public appearances.

During the reporting period, MRC provided mattress collection and recycling at the following community collection events:

- Town of Middletown
- Town of Smithfield
- City of Providence Mattress Drives

As for public appearances, restrictions on large in-person gatherings remained in place for much of the reporting period. As a substitute for public appearances, MRC focused on leveraging media opportunities and increasing social media engagement during America Recycles Day (Nov. 20, 2021) and Earth Day (April 22, 2022). MRC also encouraged cities and towns to promote recycling during these observances and asked public service directors to run our PSA.

MRC is reengaging with event organizers and determining how to proceed for 2023 events.
SOCIAL MEDIA

MRC created Twitter and Facebook profiles for Bye Bye Mattress to connect with consumers. Currently, nearly 2,000 people follow Bye Bye Mattress on these platforms.

MRC has found Bye Bye Mattress’ social media most useful in announcing community collection events, promoting new collection sites and pointing visitors to ByeByeMattress.com for additional information. To maintain a regular rhythm of publishing content, Bye Bye Mattress likes and shares stories related to recycling, other recyclable household items, sustainable living topics and environmentally friendly activities.

During the reporting period, Bye Bye Mattress’ national social media content received more than 3 million impressions on Facebook and Twitter. The brand also experienced a 14% increase in followers from the previous reporting period.

FOLLOW & LIKE
@BYEBYEMATTRESS
CONSUMER AWARENESS

In April/May 2022, MRC contracted with KB Insights, a 30-year marketing consultant and experienced analyst, to create and implement a survey of consumers across the entire state of Rhode Island (N=108). The objectives of this research were to understand and improve consumer outreach and education. All responses were collected online.

The survey measured consumer awareness of mattress recycling, the fact that recycling is free, how to dispose of a mattress so it can be recycled and Bye Bye Mattress program name recognition (we refer to these as our Key Performance Indices or KPIs).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 1: MRC’s Consumer Awareness Key Performance Indices 2022</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge that a mattress can be recycled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge that recycling is free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge of how to dispose of a mattress so it can be recycled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recall of Bye Bye Mattress program name</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*margin of error: +/-7.8% at a 90% level of confidence

The survey also provided MRC the opportunity to monitor mattress purchasing and disposal behavior. In 2022, 16% indicated they acquired a mattress in the last year. Similarly, 19% said they disposed a mattress in the last year. A third (33%) of those who had disposed of an old mattress said their retailer took it back. The next most common mattress disposal methods Rhode Islander’s used were junk removal services, trash/dumpster disposals and curbside pickups.

Over half of respondents (59%) said they were “extremely likely” to recycle a mattress in the future. When asked to select the top three reasons for choosing to recycle, “Convenience – it’s easy to do” topped the list (52%). “Protecting the environment” ranked second (37%) and “Receiving a small payment for each mattress you recycle” ranked third (33%). Perceived barriers to recycling are lack of knowledge, not having a vehicle sufficient to haul a mattress and the perceived cost/time required to recycle. MRC will continue to address the motivating factors and perceived barriers in communications going forward.

MRC’s survey strategy in 2023 will include another annual behavioral/awareness study to gauge success against the 2022 survey.
INDUSTRY COMMUNICATION

To inform retailers, producers and other industry stakeholders about Rhode Island’s mattress recycling law and their legal obligations, as well as to encourage participation in the program, MRC uses direct mail, phone calls, websites (MattressRecyclingCouncil.org and MRCreporting.org), industry events, industry media relations and social media.

See the Performance Goals & Evaluation section for further details on MRC’s efforts to communicate with the industry and stakeholders about recycling mattresses with the program and its benefits.

COMPLIANCE OUTREACH

MRC’s database of potential retailers, manufacturers, distributors and renovators is compiled from information sources including holders of Rhode Island Bedding & Upholstered Furniture Licenses, ReferenceUSA, Dun & Bradstreet, industry publication subscriber lists, industry event attendee lists, Yellow Pages, Chambers of Commerce, the Better Business Bureau and online searches. It also receives leads for potential registrants from MRC staff as they travel the state or are contacted by retailers interested in utilizing recycling services.

MRC continues to monitor these sources for new entrants into the mattress segment, as well as non-compliant parties. When MRC identifies a party that may need to register and participate in the program, MRC mails a notice via certified mail to the party informing it of its potential obligations and follows up with a phone call or email. If there is no response within 30 days, MRC mails a second certified letter and the party is given 30 more days to respond. If the party is unresponsive after various attempts, MRC requests legal counsel or RIRRC to contact the party.

MRC also monitors whether retailers and other mattress sellers are submitting monthly reports and are remitting collected recycling charges on-time. MRC uses the following protocol to alert parties that have missed deadlines for reports and payments. Those more than 90 days delinquent are notified of late fees and associated interest.
TABLE 2: Late Reporting and Remitting Protocol

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DELINQUENCY STAGE</th>
<th>LATE REPORTER</th>
<th>LATE REMITTER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>Late notice email generated by MRCreporting.org</td>
<td>Late notice email generated by MRCreporting.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>Phone call made to verify continued program participation and provide a verbal reporting reminder</td>
<td>Phone call made regarding outstanding payment and warning of potential interest charges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>Written notice mailed</td>
<td>Written notice mailed and Interest invoice issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 4</td>
<td>Second phone call made to provide verbal warning of potential penalties</td>
<td>Second written notice sent by certified mail and interest invoice issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 5</td>
<td>Written notice sent by certified mail and penalty invoice issued</td>
<td>Second phone call made warning of accruing interest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 6</td>
<td>Second written notice sent by certified mail and penalty invoice issued</td>
<td>Third call made warning of referral to collections agency and interest invoice issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 7</td>
<td>Penalty invoice issued</td>
<td>Delinquent account sent to collections agency; Interest invoice issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continued action</td>
<td>Penalty invoices issued monthly until account no longer delinquent</td>
<td>Interest invoices issued monthly until account is no longer delinquent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To gauge retailer use of resources, understanding of requirements and satisfaction with program services, MRC launched a survey to contact registered retailers. Results will be available in the 2022-2023 Annual Report.

As required by the law, Appendix A contains a complete list of registered producers. The list is current as of June 30, 2022.
WEBSITES

MattressRecyclingCouncil.org: Designed for use by the mattress industry, regulators and non-consumer stakeholders, this website attracted 57,107 users generating 70,688 sessions between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. This level of website traffic represents a 54.1% decrease in users and 50.8% decrease in sessions from the previous reporting period. These decreases can be explained by MRC’s efforts to identify and block suspicious activity and bots. As a result, MRC saw a significant decrease in bounce rate (8.6%) and large improvement in average session duration (up 25.0%), indicating that website visitors were more engaged with the site’s content.

MRCreporting.org: Through this website, parties may register with MRC, and retailers and other parties that sell mattresses to end-users in Rhode Island may report and remit to MRC the recycling fees that they have collected. To encourage participants to remit their fees on time, the site emails automatic reminders. The site also emails program updates to all participants, and MRC cross-posts on this website notices and information that also appear on MattressRecyclingCouncil.org.
VIDEO SERIES

MRC wants participants (and potential participants) to understand the program and the mechanics of registering with MRC, submitting monthly reports and remitting fees. To inform target audiences about the program, MRC actively encourages participants to view the following short videos, which are accessible on MattressRecyclingCouncil.org and on MRC’s YouTube channel:

**About the Mattress Recycling Council:** Provides an overview of state recycling laws, the recycling fees, what the fees pay for and encourages stakeholders to recycle with MRC.

**How to Register on MRCReporting.org:** Provides a step-by-step guide to help retailers, producers and others understand if they must register with MRC, and if so, how to complete that process.

**Reporting & Remitting Your Recycling Fees:** Explains how mattress retailers and producers can use the online portal to report and remit to MRC the recycling fees they have collected.

MRC also uses these videos, which it updates annually, in presentations to industry groups and in MRC’s tradeshow booths.

**Click Below To View**

[https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpqkGz2KocuPnl5p9ymD0DukfviNg0yA](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpqkGz2KocuPnl5p9ymD0DukfviNg0yA)
E-NEWSLETTERS

MRC issues monthly and quarterly newsletters for industry audiences. Collectively, MRC’s digital newsletters reach more than 5,700 recipients. Subscribers include all registered retailers, manufacturers, collection site hosts, renovators and other stakeholders.

The monthly MRC Highlights content includes program progress and milestones, the availability of consumer education materials and where to recycle mattresses. Other content focuses on how to help collection sites improve their stacking, loading and storage of mattresses; notification of updated or new resources; efforts to expand the program and combat illegal dumping; and research findings and opportunities. Open rates average 20%.

The quarterly Retailer Spotlight addresses the topics and issues that customer service is frequently addressing, such as tips for using MRCreporting.org, how to help customers understand the fee and program, the types of products that require fee collection and are eligible for recycling and how to access recycling. Open rates average 40%.
INDUSTRY EVENTS

During the reporting period, MRC participated in mattress industry events to increase awareness of legal obligations, encourage participation in recycling and further sustainability and circularity conversations. These events included:

**American Home Furnishings Alliance:** MRC co-presented at the organization’s Sustainability & Regulatory Summit in September 2021.

**ISPA EXPO:** This is the world’s largest tradeshow exclusively for the sleep products industry. More than 3,200 attended from 56 countries. Sustainability and product circularity were central themes with many manufacturers and component suppliers exhibiting at the 2022 event. New equipment and products on display considered end-of-life deconstruction and aimed to advance recycling. MRC sponsored a keynote presentation focused on sustainable product design and was among the tradeshow’s exhibitors. Booth visitors asked about MRC’s progress, how to recycle, how to purchase materials from recyclers and how to bring a similar program to their state. In conjunction with ISPA EXPO, MRC also hosted two invitation-only events - a Mattress Recycling Summit and a New Materials Recycling Committee meeting.

**Las Vegas Market:** Held twice each year in the summer and winter, this event is the largest bedding show in the United States. It attracts retailers, distributors and manufacturers from all 50 states and over 80 countries. MRC exhibited in the Home Furnishing Association’s Retailer Resource Center and answered visitors’ questions about registration, reporting, remittance and recycling. MRC staff also visited showrooms to discuss the program with companies debuting or displaying eligible products.

**Northeast Furniture Market:** MRC spoke with local and regional retailers, distributors and manufacturers about the program’s progress, customer education and how to participate in recycling.

MRC also attends conferences relevant to the solid waste and recycling industry. See Appendix C for a full list of MRC’s Stakeholder events.
MEDIA RELATIONS

MRC keeps the furniture and bedding industries, as well as the solid waste and recycling sector, aware of its latest accomplishments and program developments. During this reporting period, MRC garnered attention in trade media for recycling its 10 millionth mattress, completing research projects and assisting manufacturers with advancing sustainable practices.
SOCIAL MEDIA

MRC uses Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube. Collectively, MRC has more than 2,500 followers on social media, comprised of a mix of individuals, civic/environmental groups, retailers, local and state government, waste haulers and recyclers.

In addition to sharing Bye Bye Mattress content, MRC uses its social media accounts to announce program developments, promote MRC’s presence at industry events, distribute marketing collateral, interact with industry stakeholders and monitor industry news. #FAQFriday also draws attention to frequently asked questions about recycling and registration, as well as fee collection, reporting and remitting.

During the reporting period, MRC’s social media audience grew by 47% and content received 74,961 impressions.

MRC will continue to use social media and evaluate its effectiveness in keeping stakeholders informed and driving traffic to MRCreporting.org, MattressRecyclingCouncil.org and ByeByeMattress.com.
MRC has met, exceeded or is on track to achieve nearly all of its performance goals.
PERFORMANCE GOALS & EVALUATION

EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE GOALS & METHODS
In coordination with RIRRC, MRC established these performance goals in 2018 after achieving the original performance goals included in MRC’s approved plan. Below is MRC’s evaluation of the current performance goals and a description of the methods MRC used to achieve them.

SOLID WASTE SERVICE PROVIDERS

GOAL:
To have at least 80% of Rhode Island’s solid waste service providers participating in the program. For the purposes of this goal, these entities include municipal transfer stations, recycling centers, private transfer stations or curbside bulky waste collection services.

ACHIEVED - Solid waste service providers continue to actively participate in the program. Of the 44 solid waste service providers operating in Rhode Island, 91% (i.e. 40) participate in the program. The municipal and private transfer stations participate by either establishing a permanent drop-off site, diverting mattresses collected from curbside bulky waste collection services to MRC recyclers or hosting a mattress collection event. Recycling centers also participate as drop-off sites. In addition, MRC continues to encourage small commercial haulers to participate in the program. See Appendix B for a complete list of participating solid waste service providers.

METHODS:
Rhode Island residents may access the program through MRC’s network of participating collection sites, curbside collection services, recycling facilities or collection events - See Appendix B for a complete list.

In October 2021, MRC added one private transfer station to participate in the program, increasing the total number of solid waste service providers from 39 to 40. MRC also continued its efforts to identify and encourage small commercial haulers that ordinarily drop off discarded mattresses at the RIRRC Central Landfill to deliver their units directly to MRC recyclers. This would relieve the Central Landfill of any responsibility for handling those units. As a result of these efforts, six small haulers registered with MRC to participate in the program this reporting period.
For municipalities and transfer stations that lacked resources to participate as permanent drop-off locations, MRC hosted 10 one-day community collection events - three of which were aimed at reducing illegal dumping and expanding program access in the city of Providence and held in addition to the permanent mattress collection site. MRC provided event labor, a mattress storage container, transportation and recycling services at no cost to the host location. MRC also assisted with event publicity and signage (as described in the Education and Outreach section on page 12).

MRC continues to encourage the remaining non-participating solid waste service providers to recycle their discarded mattresses by periodically contacting them or making site visits.

Providing support and assistance to participating solid waste service providers requires regular communication. MRC’s Northeast Program Coordinator conducts site visits with participating municipalities to discuss the program and compliance with participation requirements. During site visits, staff answer questions, confirm whether the site is following the guidelines, offer suggestions to maintain the quality of collected mattresses and provide necessary signage and support.

In addition to in-person meetings, MRC also distributes the program guidelines to all participants to reinforce product acceptance and contamination criteria. These contacts also receive MRC’s monthly newsletter email and seasonal reminders throughout the year that encourage proper screening, handling, storing and loading of mattresses to improve quality and collection efficiency.

This reporting period, MRC completed a video series to assist in onboarding new collection sites and training their staff. This series includes five videos that address bedbug identification and management, efficient mattress stacking and loading, effective collection site operations, identifying included and excluded program products, and promoting collection sites and events. These videos are available in English and Spanish with an accompanying one-page reference document. These resources are available on MattressRecyclingCouncil.org.
RHODE ISLAND RETAILERS

GOAL:
To recycle approximately 7,500 mattresses from Rhode Island retailers annually.

NEARLY ACHIEVED – During the reporting period, the program achieved 84% of this goal by recycling 6,332 mattresses obtained from the retail sector.

METHODS:
MRC provides no-cost recycling to retailers that comply with program requirements and make scheduling arrangements with MRC’s Northeast Program Coordinator. The retailer may self-haul or use a third party to deliver discarded mattresses directly to an MRC recycler. MRC also provides no-cost transportation to retailers that collect a minimum of 50 units.

As described in Education & Outreach, MRC provides ongoing education to retailers about the law and mattress recycling through a wide array of communications and marketing methods including targeted direct mail and printed collateral, advertising and media relations, digital marketing, social media, site visits and participation in industry events.

MRC understands that some retailers sell discarded units that they collect from consumers to renovators, and other retailers already recycle units at recycling facilities outside of MRC’s network. Nevertheless, 11 retailers recycled discarded mattresses with the program during the reporting period. MRC anticipates units collected from retailers to decrease next year due to decreased mattress sales, home buying and other consumer behaviors that trigger disposals. MRC also does not expect retailers already sending units to renovators and non-program recyclers to stop these practices.

TABLE 3: UNITS COLLECTED FROM RETAILERS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REPORTING PERIOD (JULY 1 – JUNE 30)</th>
<th>UNITS COLLECTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td>6,402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-2021</td>
<td>7,694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021-2022</td>
<td>6,332</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) is a nonprofit dedicated to recycling, because there is more to every mattress.
LODGING ESTABLISHMENTS

GOAL:
To recycle approximately 1,200 mattresses from lodging establishments annually. MRC will quantify how many lodging facilities participate in the program.

NEARLY ACHIEVED – During the reporting period, the program recycled 953 mattresses from these entities, achieving 79% of this goal. Forty-six lodging establishments are currently registered with MRC, an increase of seven during the reporting period.

METHODS:
MRC provides no-cost recycling to lodging establishments that make delivery and scheduling arrangements with MRC’s Northeast Program Coordinator. Lodging establishments include commercial establishments such as hotels and motels as well as nonprofit entities like housing shelters. The lodging establishment may self-haul or use a third-party to deliver discarded mattresses directly to an MRC recycler. MRC provides no-cost transportation to lodging establishments that collect a minimum of 50 units.

RIRRC requested that MRC provide the number of lodging facilities participating in the program as part of its evaluation of this goal. As of June 30, 2022, 46 lodging establishments were registered with the program. Eleven lodging facilities used the program during the reporting period to recycle 953 mattresses.

MRC has limited ability to increase the number of units collected from lodging establishments because that number is contingent on the number of lodging establishments that replace their mattresses during a given year and the number of units that they discard for recycling. As a result, the total number of units the program obtains from lodging establishments will fluctuate from year to year as indicated in the table below. Furthermore, MRC does not anticipate this category to increase substantially in the future because MRC has learned from experience that some hotels sell many units that they discard to renovators and does not anticipate that practice will stop.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REPORTING PERIOD (JULY 1 – JUNE 30)</th>
<th>UNITS COLLECTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td>905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-2021</td>
<td>1,209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021-2022</td>
<td>953</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PRISONS AND OTHER INCARCERATION FACILITIES

GOAL:
MRC will contact all Rhode Island incarceration facilities to evaluate the composition and condition of their discarded mattresses.

ACHIEVED – In previous reporting periods, MRC contacted all Rhode Island incarceration facilities to evaluate the composition of the units that they discard and concluded that they are not suitable for recycling.

METHODS:
MRC continues to communicate with Rhode Island’s Department of Corrections about recycling its discarded mattresses. The Department expressed interest in the program, but the discarded units were not suitable for recycling.

Based on MRC’s experience in working with incarceration facilities in other states, MRC does not expect these facilities to generate mattresses that are suitable for recycling in the foreseeable future.

HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

GOAL:
MRC will continue outreach to healthcare facilities and industry associations and evaluate mattresses discarded by facilities interested in participating in the program. MRC will encourage participation of at least 10 healthcare facilities by the end of the 2019 reporting period (June 30, 2019).

ACHIEVED – Two healthcare facilities joined the program this reporting period increasing the total of participating facilities to 24. MRC evaluated mattresses discarded by healthcare facilities and concluded that some were acceptable for recycling.

METHODS:
MRC provides no-cost recycling of mattresses discarded by healthcare facilities that make delivery and scheduling arrangements with MRC’s Northeast Program Coordinator. The healthcare facility may self-haul or use a third-party to deliver discarded mattresses directly to an MRC recycler. MRC provides no-cost transportation to healthcare facilities that collect a minimum of 50 units.

To encourage healthcare facilities to participate in the program, MRC emailed an information sheet to the Hospital Association of Rhode Island member list. MRC also provided EPA Region 1 (whose jurisdiction includes Rhode Island) information that was used in an online newsletter distributed to the agency’s Healthcare and Social
Assistance Sector contacts. MRC continues to respond to inquiries from healthcare facilities regarding mattress recycling.

Two healthcare facilities used the program this year, yet volume was low. MRC anticipates continued hesitancy to recycle discarded mattresses due to liability concerns regarding pathogen contamination and medical waste disposal regulations, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nevertheless, MRC will continue to distribute program information to healthcare facilities and assist with recycling their discarded mattresses as requested.

**EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES**

**GOAL:**
MRC will continue to inform educational facilities about the program and assist them with recycling their discarded mattresses as needed.

**ACHIEVED** – During the reporting period, MRC recycled 774 units from seven of the ten participating educational facilities registered with the program.

**METHODS:**
MRC provides no-cost recycling to educational facilities that make delivery and scheduling arrangements with MRC’s Northeast Program Coordinator. The educational facility may self-haul or use a third-party to deliver discarded mattresses directly to an MRC recycler. MRC provides no-cost transportation to educational facilities that collect a minimum of 50 units.

MRC continues to present program information to interested educational facilities and build stronger relationships with these stakeholders. One new school joined the program and recycled 97 mattresses this reporting period.
MILITARY BASES

GOAL:
MRC will maintain its relationship with Naval Station Newport and assist it with recycling its discarded mattresses as needed.

ACHIEVED - Naval Station Newport used the program once during this reporting period.

METHODS:
A military facility may self-haul or use a third-party to deliver discarded mattresses directly to an MRC recycler. MRC provides no-cost transportation to military facilities that collect a minimum of 50 units.

Naval Station Newport uses the program to recycle mattresses from on-base housing complexes. It has recycled 529 discarded mattresses since the program launched.

MRC will maintain a relationship with the naval station and assist it with recycling its discarded mattresses as needed. Of note, a military base hotel recycled 61 units during this reporting period. MRC reported these lodging units in the Lodging Establishments section.

OTHER ENTITIES

GOAL:
MRC will continue to encourage other entities to participate in the program and report on registered entity types in the annual report.

ACHIEVED - MRC is providing no-cost recycling to 123 other entities.

METHODS:
MRC provides no-cost recycling to other entities that make delivery and scheduling arrangements with MRC’s Northeast Program Coordinator. The entity may self-haul or use a third-party to deliver discarded mattresses directly to an MRC recycler. MRC provides no-cost transportation to entities that collect a minimum of 50 units.

During the reporting period, other entities recycled 8,033 units through the program. MRC also recruited seven new registrants consisting of small commercial haulers and a property management firm.
The following table details the total of the types of other entities participating in the program:

**TABLE 5: QUANTITY OF OTHER ENTITIES PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUSINESS TYPE</th>
<th>QUANTITY OF BUSINESS TYPE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moving and/or Storage</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Management</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Commercial Haulers</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Authorities</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit Organizations</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MRC will continue to focus on upstream diversion of recyclable mattresses from these other entities by encouraging them to send their units directly to an MRC recycler.
EDUCATION & OUTREACH

GOAL:
MRC will continue to educate the mattress industry and consumers about the benefits of recycling, the fee and the law, and encourage use of the program.

ACHIEVED – See Education & Outreach for details regarding MRC’s industry and consumer outreach.

GOAL:
MRC will continue to provide samples of public education materials in annual reports.

ACHIEVED – See Appendix D for examples of these materials.

GOAL:
MRC will measure consumer awareness annually and provide explanations for any variability.

ACHIEVED – See Education & Outreach for details regarding MRC’s consumer awareness and behavior survey.

METHODS:
As described in the Education & Outreach section, MRC uses a wide array of communications and marketing methods to reach consumers, the mattress industry, other covered entities and stakeholders. To evaluate the effectiveness of its education and outreach, MRC conducts an annual consumer awareness survey and has selected various metrics to monitor how each element of its communication strategy performs (website analytics, social media data, email open rates, etc.). MRC also surveys retailers each year to gauge use of resources, understanding of requirements and satisfaction with program services. The performance goals established for each of the covered entity types also indicate whether MRC’s methods were effective at persuading entities to join or use the program.
RECYCLING PROGRAM METRICS

In accordance with § 23-90-5(j), MRC must report the following quantitative data about the weight of discarded mattresses collected and processed by the program in the state.

AMOUNT OF MATERIAL COLLECTED

§ 23-90-5(j)(1) of the law requires MRC to report the weight of mattresses collected pursuant to the program from municipal and/or transfer stations, retailers and all other covered entities.

MRC’s recyclers report to MRC the number of mattress and box spring units they receive from different sources. One of those recyclers used a certified scale to report to MRC the actual weight of its units received. For the other recyclers (which lack weighing capability), MRC converted the units they reported as received into tons based on a standard weight of 55 pounds per unit. MRC used the sum of the actual and calculated weights in the tonnage data reported below.

§ 23-90-5(j)(2) of the law requires MRC to report the weight of mattresses diverted for recycling.

The following table summarizes the total weight of mattresses by source that were collected through the program and the total weight of units collected for recycling during the reporting period.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLLECTION SOURCE</th>
<th>WEIGHT (TONS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Municipal and/or transfer stations</td>
<td>2,024.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retailers</td>
<td>175.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other covered entities</td>
<td>339.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL DIVERTED FOR RECYCLING</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,539.1</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AMOUNT OF MATERIAL PROCESSED

MRC recyclers report to MRC the weights of the recyclable materials, biomass and residue that their operations generate. While MRC has a high degree of confidence in the in-bound figures reported, operational complexities at MRC’s recyclers necessitate estimating weights for outbound mattress commodities in certain situations. For instance, all four recyclers of Rhode Island units process discarded units from both program and non-program sources.
Following mattress and box-spring deconstruction, commodities from all sources are aggregated together for sale to end markets, as it is not practical to separate program and non-program materials after processing. For one recycler that works with MRC’s programs in both Connecticut and Rhode Island, MRC used the percentage of inbound and processed units by source state to estimate the outbound weights specific to Rhode Island. For two recyclers, the weight of recycled cardboard and plastic included in this report are estimated because the recyclers lacked the documentation needed to differentiate between the cardboard and plastic generated from program material and the same materials obtained from other sources. Additionally, during this reporting period, one recycler installed equipment that processed a large amount of metal and pocketed coil it had held in inventory from the last reporting period.

§ 23-90-5(j)(4) of the law requires MRC to report the weight of discarded mattresses recycled, as indicated by weight of each of the commodities sold to secondary markets.

### TABLE 7: TYPES AND WEIGHT OF MATERIALS RECYCLED DURING 2021-2022 REPORTING PERIOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MATERIALS RECYCLED*</th>
<th>WEIGHT (TONS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steel</td>
<td>1085.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foam</td>
<td>386.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quilts &amp; Toppers</td>
<td>203.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood</td>
<td>183.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardboard</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastics</td>
<td>15.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL MATERIALS RECYCLED</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,882.6</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These categories represent outbound shipments of materials recycled but do not include unprocessed units or recyclable material in inventory.*

§ 23-90-5(j)(5) of the law requires MRC to report the weight of mattresses, or parts thereof, sent for disposal at Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation and any other facility.

### TABLE 8: WEIGHT OF MATERIAL SENT TO DISPOSAL BY SOURCE DURING 2021-2022 REPORTING PERIOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOURCE</th>
<th>WEIGHT (TONS)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RIRRC</td>
<td>54.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any other facility</td>
<td>990.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL RESIDUAL MATERIAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1044.3</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
During the reporting period, MRC recyclers achieved a 64% recycling rate.

**TABLE 9: AMOUNT OF MATERIAL BY DISPOSITION DURING 2021-2022 REPORTING PERIOD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISPOSITION</th>
<th>WEIGHT (TONS)</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Material Recycled</td>
<td>1,882.6</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material Disposed</td>
<td>1,044.3</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,926.9</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One recycler disposing of a large amount of residue from contaminated nonprogram mattresses and the lack of markets for some post-consumer mattress components contributed to a recycling rate lower than the goal set in the plan. This metric is highly dependent on buyers that are particular about product quality and volume.

**RESEARCH**

MRC’s research team is focused on increasing the efficiency of mattress collection, transportation, deconstruction and recycling systems, and identifying new and better markets for recycled mattress materials. Some of the projects and activities that may benefit our Rhode Island program are noted below with additional information provided on MRC’s website.
FOUNDATION WOOD RECYCLING

MRC continues to explore new uses for foundation wood beyond biomass fuel and mulch. To explore these options further, MRC conducted a wood market study which concluded that with the exception of particle board and wood fuel pellets, new markets for post-consumer foundation wood remain limited. We have concluded (in order of likelihood of success) that particle board, medium density fiberboard, wood fuel pellets, fire logs, pallet remanufacturing, animal bedding and oriented strand board are potential markets.

CARBONIZATION OF MATTRESS COMPONENTS

MRC worked with the Pittsburgh State University’s Kansas Polymer Research Center to chemically modify and carbonize various mattress materials to produce battery and supercapacitor components. The results were very encouraging with data indicating that several materials had significant performance advantages over common electrode materials such as carbon, graphene and carbon nanotubes.

UPCYCLED MATTRESS FOAM

In a pair of 18-month studies, researchers found that chemically recycled polyurethane mattress foam can be used to create a lightweight, low-carbon concrete with less energy consumption than traditional concrete production methods. The project determined that recycled foam outperformed virgin material in the application. A related study determined that used polyurethane mattress foam can be used to make new foam products. The results of these MRC-funded studies were released in December 2021.

POCKETED COIL RECYCLING

Pocketed coils are mattress springs that are individually wrapped in a fabric sleeve or pocket (typically made with polypropylene fiber) and then assembled into rectangular units using ultrasonic welding, stitching or adhesives. MRC estimates that approximately 20% of mattresses discarded today contain pocketed coils and that this percentage will gradually increase, given the growing popularity of this component over the past 20 years.

When recyclers dismantle a mattress, the rectangular pocketed coil unit is easily separated from other layers of material. In theory, both the steel and the polypropylene fiber are recyclable. But at present, it is impractical for individual recyclers to separate the individual coils from the fabric pocket. Furthermore, under current market conditions, most metal scrap dealers will not buy unopened pocketed coil units because they consider the fabric to be a contaminant.

Wisconsin-based Knoble Design explored a novel approach for recycling pocketed coils, resulting in the successful construction of a small-scale prototype machine. Knoble Design has since sold the design and patents to Atlanta Attachment Company.
ACC, a major supplier of sewing equipment to the mattress industry, which plans to modify and sell a full-scale version of the machine to mattress recyclers. AAC showed a prototype of the machine at the ISPA EXPO 2022 trade show in Orlando, Florida in March 2022. MRC notes that other companies are also developing shredders and other separation technologies.

VITRIMERIZATION OF POLYURETHANE FOAM

MRC is also exploring if post-consumer mattress foam can be converted into valuable reformable polymers that can be used to create new products like shoe soles, conveyor belts, tool grips and other applications.

Recent work conducted by leading material science laboratories found that urethane foams can be thermo-chemically converted into meltable pellets that can be reshaped and more easily recycled into useful products. Initial studies have produced encouraging results.

CIRCULAR ECONOMY FOR THE MATTRESS INDUSTRY

As MRC manages its own efforts to improve mattress recycling and find new and better markets for reclaimed mattress materials, we regularly communicate with other mattress recycling organizations around the world and stay abreast of broader efforts bring pursued to work toward a more circular economy for mattresses.

In the United States, MRC continues its focus on developing better and new markets for our recycled materials. Although this approach does not create completely closed loop circularity, we believe this approach is an important part of the overall circularity strategy because it typically has the most favorable environmental impact according to LCA studies in other industries, compared to more energy-intensive approaches like thermo-chemical recycling. Additionally, MRC thinks that building operational efficiency from post-consumer disposal through recycling processes is equally important. In these two areas, MRC is taking a leading role and sharing findings with other regions.

Finally, among stakeholders, consensus is building that circularity is an ideal that will take considerable time and investment to attain. Moving forward, several industry trade organizations in Europe, the United States, Asia and Australia have committed to playing a lead role to encourage investment and to facilitate communication and
collaboration in pursuit of this goal. Global collaborative networks have already formed to explore and address capability gaps systematically with the following initial priorities:

- Develop better designs.
- Develop the means to increase recycled content in raw materials.
- Build a sustainable logistics and recycling infrastructure.
- Establish a science-based, peer-reviewed forum to advance meaningful innovation.
- Establish a more informative material labeling system.
- Develop an effective, easy-to-understand communication plan for consumers.

**SUSTAINABILITY**

MRC’s source reduction efforts focus on reducing the environmental footprint of the mattress manufacturing process, encouraging the mattress supply chain to consider end-of-life design issues when creating new products and encouraging consumers to maintain their mattresses properly to extend their useful life.

MRC encourages manufacturers to implement internal continuous improvement processes that will help them measure and reduce both the amount of resources consumed in manufacturing new mattresses and the amount of waste generated from those activities. In addition, MRC has formed committees that are facilitating information sharing across the mattress industry value chain, including mattress manufacturers, component suppliers and recyclers, to improve the recyclability of mattress materials.

**Circularity Committee:** In 2021, MRC created a committee to help mattress component suppliers and manufacturers take end-of-life recycling challenges into account when they design new components and mattresses. The committee has begun by focusing on adhesives and plans to engage with other component suppliers as the committee progresses. The primary goals of the committee are to:

- Share recyclers’ experiences with suppliers, designers and manufacturers to understand design impacts on mattress deconstruction and end-of-life component recycling.
- Anticipate whether new materials and assembly techniques will require adjustments to recycling infrastructure when a mattress is discarded.
- Establish consensus circular design principles for the mattress industry.
- Continue to foster innovation, cooperation and communication among suppliers, manufacturers, recyclers and end-market commodity buyers around the world by working with industry experts and sharing information on efforts to develop a circular economy for polyurethane foam.
**New Materials Recycling Committee:** MRC organized a committee comprised of representatives from foam, textile and spring manufacturers as well as MRC board members. The committee’s objectives are to identify end-of-life challenges posed by current products and materials available to consumers, advise MRC on anticipated long-term changes in product mix and raise industry awareness about how design and marketing decisions can affect recycling.
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGE
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGE

Based on MRC’s six years of experience operating this program, MRC proposes no changes to the program or performance goals.
APPENDICES
## APPENDIX A: REGISTERED PRODUCERS AND BRANDS

### REGISTERED PRODUCERS AS OF JUNE 30, 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account</th>
<th>DBA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aaron’s Inc.</td>
<td>Aaron’s Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airweave, LLC</td>
<td>Airweave, LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alessanderx SpA</td>
<td>Alessanderx SpA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allied Aerofoam, LLC</td>
<td>Allied Aerofoam, LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Hotel Register Company</td>
<td>American Hotel Register Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American National Manufacturing</td>
<td>American National Manufacturing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Pacific Plastic Fabricators Inc.</td>
<td>Sterling Sleep Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apartment Furnishings Company Inc.</td>
<td>Apartment Furnishings Company Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artaban Therapedic SA De CV</td>
<td>Artaban Bedding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ascion, LLC</td>
<td>Reverie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashley Furniture Industries Inc.</td>
<td>Ashley Furniture Industries Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avatar Enterprises Inc.</td>
<td>Comfortex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barnhardt Manufacturing Company</td>
<td>BedInABox</td>
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### REGISTERED PRODUCERS continued

#### Account
- Carpenter Co.
- Casper Sleep Inc.
- CCB Hope Ventures, LLC
- Children’s Products, LLC
- Classic Brands, LLC
- Comfort Bedding of the USA, LLC
- Comfort DTC Inc.
- Comfort Revolution, LLC
- Consolidated Hospitality Supplies, LLC
- Corsicana Bedding, LLC
- Costco Wholesale Corporation
- CVB Inc.
- LINENSPA®
- Danican Inc.
- Deluxe Home of USA Inc.
- Denver Mattress Company, LLC
- Dorel Home Products
- E&E Bedding Co. Inc.
- E.S. Kluft & Company, LLC
- Eastern Sleep Products Co. Inc.
- Eco Bedroom Solutions, LLC
- Elements International
- Elite Comfort Solutions, LLC
- Elite Foam Inc.
- Engineered Sleep, LLC
- Ergomotion Inc.
- Ezine Inc.
- Factory Direct Inc.
- Fibre Processing Corporation
- Flex-A-Bed Inc.
- Flotation Innovations Inc.

#### DBA
- Carpenter Co.
- Casper
- Hope Mattress
- Simmons Juvenile Furniture
- Classic Brands
- Comfort Bedding of the USA, LLC
- Molecule
- Comfort Revolution, LLC
- American Hotel Register
- Corsicana Mattress Company
- Costco Wholesale Corporation
- LUCID® MATTRESS, WELLSVILLE®,
- Danican
- Deluxe Home of USA Inc.
- Denver Mattress Company
- Ameriwood Industries Inc.
- Spring Air
- Aireloom Mattress
- Symbol Mattress
- Ergovea Natural Mattress
- Kyvno, LLC
- Elite Comfort Solutions
- Elite Foam Inc.
- Engineered Sleep, LLC
- Ergomotion Inc.
- Eastern Accents
- Lady Americana SW
- Fibre Processing Corporation
- Flex-A-Bed
- Innovations
REGISTERED PRODUCERS continued

**Account**
- Foam Sweet Foam Inc.
- Friendship Upholstery Company Inc.
- Future Foam Inc.
- Future Foam Inc.
- FXI Inc.
- GF Health Products Inc.
- Gruppo Industriale Buoninfante SPA
- Hammer Bedding Corp.
- Health Care Co. LTD
- Healthcare Arizona, LLC
- Healthcare SC, LLC
- Hickory Springs Manufacturing Company
- Hickory Springs of California, LLC
- Hill-Rom Inc.
- Idle Sleep
- IKEA Supply AG
- Illinois Sleep Products Inc.
- Imaginarium & Co. Inc.
- InnCor Inc.
- InnoMax Corporation
- Innovative Bedding Solutions Inc.
- Invacare Corporation
- Jeffco Fibres Inc.
- Jiaxing Taien Springs Co. LTD
- Joerns Healthcare, LLC
- J’s Junk Removal Inc.
- Jussi Beds
- Keetsa Inc.
- Kingsdown Inc.

**DBA**
- Foam Sweet Foam
- Friendship Upholstery Company Inc.
- Foam Craft
- Future Foam Inc.
- FXI
- GF Health Products Inc.
- Gruppo Industriale Buoninfante SPA
- Shifman Mattress
- Health Care Co. LTD
- Healthcare Arizona, LLC
- Healthcare SC, LLC
- HSM
- HSM
- Hollywood Bed Frame Company
- Idle Group, LLC
- IKEA
- ISP
- Imaginarium & Co. Inc.
- Sleep Innovations Inc.
- InnoMax Corporation
- IBS
- Invacare Corporation
- Jeffco Fibres Inc.
- Jiaxing Taien Springs Co. LTD
- Joerns Healthcare
- J’s Junk Removal Inc.
- Colet & Scandinavian Bed Company & Carpe Diem
- Keetsa
- Kingsdown Inc.
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REGISTERED PRODUCERS continued

Account
Woodhaven Furniture Industries
Xpress Sweeping Inc.
Yaasa Studios Inc.
Zhejiang Alright Home Textiles Co. LTD
Zinus Inc.
Zoma Sleep, LLC

DBA
Woodhaven Furniture Industries
Xpress Sweeping Inc.
Yaasa Studios Inc.
Zhejiang Alright Home Textiles Co. LTD
Zinus Inc.
Zoma Sleep
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BRAND NAMES AND URNS continued

Barclay Butera Lifestyle Bedding by Eastern Accents
Beautyrest
BedInABox
Best Choice Products UT 6010 (CD)
bigolbed
BIO SLEEP CONCEPT
Biofresh
Blackstone
Blissful Nights
Bob Barker
Body Flex
Body Solutions
Boyd Mattresses
Brentwood Home
Broyhill
Broyhill Mattresses
CA 27689
CA 29168
CA 29719
CA 32487
CA 32520
CA 34604 MX
CA 34948
CA 39259 CN
CA 40277 CN
CA 41764 CN
CA 41826
CA 43026
CA 43267
“CA 43303 PragmaBed”
CA 43618
CA 44083 CN
CA 44497
CA 44639 IT
CA 44921
CA 45287
CA 45867
CA 46242
CA 46297 MS
CA 46344 VN
CA 46357 VN
CA 46429 ID
CA 46842 MX
CA 47007 TX
CAPITAL BEDDING INC
Caroline
Casper
Childrens Products LLC
Christeli
ComforPedic
ComforPedic Loft
comfort craft 4500
comfort craft 5500
comfort craft 7500
comfort craft 9500
comfort craft cascade
comfort craft gemini
comfort craft horizon
comfort craft imperial
comfort craft innopedic latex
comfort craft innopedic memcell
comfort craft paradise
comfort craft perfections
comfort craft spectrum
comfort craft vista
Comfort Dreams
Comfort Tech
ComfortSpring PLUS
ComfortSpring™
Cornerstone Mattresses
CORSICANA OPERATING CO., LLC
Cradlesoft
CT 0005195
CT 7806893 PL
Customatic
Denver Mattress
Denver Mattress Hospitality
Dormeo
dream bed
Dream Rest
Dreamcloud
Drexel Heritage
BRAND NAMES AND URNS continued

Drexel Heritage Mattresses
Eclipse
Eco
Elements Sleep
Elysse
Emma
Engineered Sleep
ENSO
EnviroSpring™
Ergovea
Essential
Evaya
FACTORY DIRECT, INC.
FE Inverted Seam Innerspring Collection
Flame Chek
Flame Chek Foam
Flame Chek Supreme
Flame Chek Ultra
Flex-A-Bed High-Low
Flex-A-Bed Premier
Flex-A-Bed Value Flex
Flexhaven
FOAM CRAFT DIVISION OF FUTURE
FOAM INC
FOXZY PRODUCTS CORP
Future Foam, Inc.
Gel Foam Bed
genesis 400
genesis 500
genesis 600
genesis 700
genesis 800
genesis 900
genesis dual 800
Geo-comfort
Geo-gel
Ghost Bed
Ghostbed
Ghostbed by Nature’s Sleep
Grande Hotel
Groove
Harvest Green Mattress
Helix Sleep
Hollywood Bed Frame Company
Hollywood EZ Sleeper CA 29539
Hollywood Rollaway Bed CA 20723
Hope Mattress
Hotel
Idle Sleep
IKEA
Imaginarium
Invacare
Jamison
Jazvin
Jenna
Jordan’s
Jussi & Carpe Diem
Karma by PranaSleep
Kate
Keetsa
King Koil
Kingsdown
KIRKLAND SIGNATURE
Kluft
Kyvno
LADY AMERICANA SW.
Leesa Hybrid Mattress
Leesa Legend Mattress
Leesa Original Mattress
Leesa Studio Mattress
Lifekind
LinenSpa®
Linon Home Decor
Little Lamb Organics
Live and Sleep
Lotus by PranaSleep
LUCID®
Luft
LUMEX
Luuf
Luxury Solutions
luxury support 2300
luxury support 3300
luxury support 5300
BRAND NAMES AND URNS continued

luxury support 6300  
luxury support 7300  
luxury support 8300  
luxury support air cell  
luxury support cashmere  
luxury support evolutions  
luxury support fusion  
luxury support harmony  
luxury support majestic  
luxury support medallion  
luxury support mystique  
luxury support neuveau  
luxury support omni  
luxury support transitions  
MA-3319  
MADERITE BEDDING CO  
MAGNIFLEX  
Mattress Firm  
Mattress Mill  
Maximum Security  
MFG. CA 43267  
MFG.OH.0001165.NC  
MFL, Inc.  
Michael Thomas Furniture  
microAIR  
Miles Talbott Furniture  
Milliard  
Molecule  
Natura  
natural reserve allura  
natural reserve elite  
natural reserve white night  
NC 1724 FL  
NC 1726 VA  
NC 3095  
NC 3332 AL  
NC 3333 AZ  
NC 3334 AZ  
NC 3335 CA  
NC 3335 TX  
NC 3336 CO  
NC 3337 CO  
NC 3338 GA  
NC 3340 GA  
NC 3343 IA  
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NC 3345 MA  
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NC 3350 NY  
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NC 3352 PA  
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NC 3356 UT  
NC 3357 VA  
NC 3358 WA  
NC 3360 WI  
NC 3361 WI  
NC 3362 WI  
NC 700  
Night and Day Furniture  
Novaform  
OH 00001165 NC  
OH 1165 NC  
OH 1165 NC 0  
OH 17603  
OH 20457 SC  
OH 71445 UK  
OK 174  
OK 714 MN  
OK 799  
OkiOki  
Om by PranaSleep  
PA 24700 CD  
PA 26221  
PA 26948 MX  
PA 27155 MS  
PA 27156 CA  
PA 28284 CN  
PA 28396 CN  
PA 28521 CN  
PA 28649 CN  
PA 28745 CN
BRAND NAMES AND URNS

PA 28938 CN
PA 28993 WI
PA 29426 CN
PA 29636 CN
PA 29838 CN
PA 29878 CN
PA 29988 CN
PA 29989 CN
PA 3214 DE
PA 40038 CN
PA 40039 CN
PA 40090 CN
PA 40208 IL
PA 40220 CN
PA 40221 CN
PA 40222 IT
PA 40232 CN
PA 40267 CN
PA 40309 MS
PA 40658 MS
PA 41690
PA 41696 VA
PA 41697 NM
PA 42372 MX
PA 42543
PA 42543 TW
Pacific Mattress
Peacelily Sleep
PFS Fiber Core Collection
Pleasant Mattress
Posh and Lavish
PranaSleep
Puffy
Pure Green Natural Latex Mattress
Pure Rest
PureSleep
Purple
Quality Sleep Shop, dba. My Green Mattress
Reguvigel
Relax the Back
Resort CA 765

Resort Collection
Resort Mattress Collection
Resort Sleep
Rize
RN 143552
Sabrina
sanctuary free flow
Sealy
Seely Serta
Select Comfort SC Corporation - ComforPedic
Select Luxury
Sensalux Mattress
sensations collection affinity
sensations collection embrace
sensations collection hybrid supreme
sensations collection rhapsody
sensations collection spirit
sensations collection splendor
SensorPEDIC
Serenia Sleep
Serta
Silver Rest
Silver Spring Collection
Simmons
Simmons Juvenile Furniture
Simmons Kids
Simply Modern
Sleep Creations
Sleep Love
Sleep Science
Sleep Studio
Sleep Zone
SleepFresh
Sleepy’s
Slumber Perfect
Slumber Solutions
Snuggle
Softform
Solace
Solid Night
Somnium
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<tr>
<td>somnum®</td>
<td>UT 3264 MX</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sonno Notte Luxury Firm Mattress and foundations by SFERRA</td>
<td>UT 3265 MX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonno Notte Pillow Top Mattress and foundations by SFERRA</td>
<td>UT 3479 GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Air</td>
<td>UT 3481 GA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stearns &amp; Foster</td>
<td>UT 3703 FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stearns and Foster</td>
<td>UT 3704 CA</td>
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<td>Stellar Foam Core Collection</td>
<td>UT 3728 CN</td>
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<td>Sterling Sleep Systems</td>
<td>UT 3783 MS</td>
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<td>STO-A-WAY Mattress Foundation</td>
<td>UT 3798 SC</td>
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<td>Stylus</td>
<td>UT 4003 FL</td>
</tr>
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<td>Suite Dreams</td>
<td>UT 4017 OH</td>
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<td>Suite Essentials</td>
<td>UT 4187 TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target</td>
<td>UT 4209 CN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tempur-Pedic</td>
<td>UT 4288 CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Haven Bed</td>
<td>UT 4372 AR</td>
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<td>The Original Mattress Factory</td>
<td>UT 4436 NC</td>
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<td>UT 4469 MS</td>
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<td>Thomasville Mattresses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuft &amp; Needle</td>
<td>UT 4780 CA</td>
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<td>TX 16112</td>
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<td>TX 3823 MS</td>
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<td>TX 4058 TX</td>
<td>UT 5090 GA</td>
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<tr>
<td>TX 4058 TX</td>
<td>UT 5094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Sleep Products’ Enhanced Style B Mattress</td>
<td>UT 5321 ID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT 5413 TX</td>
<td>UT 5860 SI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Sleep Products’ Enhanced Style C Mattress</td>
<td>UT 5979 AZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>University Sleep Products’ Style D Mattress</td>
<td>UT 6179 CA</td>
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<td>URN # MA 2363</td>
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<tr>
<td>UT 2263 IN</td>
<td>UT 6339</td>
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<td>UT 2264 PA</td>
<td>“V1012”</td>
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<td>UT 2265 NC</td>
<td>OXYGEN XG200”</td>
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<tr>
<td>UT 2266 CA</td>
<td>VA 10488 NJ</td>
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<tr>
<td>UT 2267 MS</td>
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<td>UT 2270 OR</td>
<td>VA 17138 KY</td>
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<td>UT 2671 KS</td>
<td>VA 22932 CA</td>
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<td>UT 3196 GA</td>
<td>VA 23383 CN</td>
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BRAND NAMES AND URNS continued

VA 29961 IL
VA 34679 TH
VA 50267 IL
VA 558 CA
VA 558 IN
VA 558 KY
VA 558 PA
Valeo

ValueLine
Veridian
ViscoFresh
Vispring
Waves CA 765
Wellsville®
Zinus Inc.
Zoma Sleep
## APPENDIX B: COLLECTION SITES

### PARTICIPATING MUNICIPALITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Access</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barrington Transfer Station</td>
<td>84 Upland Way</td>
<td>Barrington</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bristol Transfer Station</td>
<td>6 Minturn Farm Rd.</td>
<td>Bristol</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlestown Residential Collection Center</td>
<td>50 Sand Hill Rd.</td>
<td>Charlestown</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glocester Transfer Station</td>
<td>121 Chestnut Hill Rd.</td>
<td>Chepachet</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coventry Transfer Station</td>
<td>1668 Flat River Rd.</td>
<td>Coventry</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cranston Highway Division</td>
<td>929 Phenix Ave.</td>
<td>Cranston</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Greenwich Transfer Station</td>
<td>Crompton Avenue between the Town Boat Ramp and the Sewage Treatment Plant</td>
<td>East Greenwich</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exeter Transfer Station</td>
<td>890 Ten Rod Rd.</td>
<td>Exeter</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foster Department of Public Works</td>
<td>86 Foster Center Rd.</td>
<td>Foster</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamestown Transfer Station</td>
<td>1218 North Main Rd.</td>
<td>Jamestown</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Compton Transfer Station</td>
<td>122 Amy Hart Path</td>
<td>Little Compton</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of New Shoreham</td>
<td>14 West Beach Rd.</td>
<td>New Shoreham</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Kingstown Transfer Station</td>
<td>345 Devils Foot Rd.</td>
<td>North Kingstown</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scituate Department of Public Works</td>
<td>1 Lincoln Cir.</td>
<td>North Scituate</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of North Smithfield Highway Garage</td>
<td>281 Quaker Hwy.</td>
<td>North Smithfield</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Burrillville</td>
<td>350 Whipple Ave.</td>
<td>Oakland</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portsmouth Transfer Station</td>
<td>West Main Road and Hedley Street</td>
<td>Portsmouth</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### PARTICIPATING MUNICIPALITIES continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SITE</th>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>ACCESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Providence Department of Public Works</td>
<td>700 Allens Ave.</td>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiverton Landfill</td>
<td>3524 Main Rd.</td>
<td>Tiverton</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rose Hill Regional Transfer Station</td>
<td>163 Rose Hill Rd.</td>
<td>Wakefield</td>
<td>Drop-off for Wakefield and Narragansett residents up to 3 units</td>
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<tr>
<td>Warren Municipal Transfer Station</td>
<td>21 Birch Swamp Rd.</td>
<td>Warren</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warwick Recycling Facility</td>
<td>111 Range Rd.</td>
<td>Warwick</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Greenwich Transfer Station</td>
<td>68 Bates Trail</td>
<td>West Greenwich</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Warwick Department of Public Works</td>
<td>10 Junior St.</td>
<td>West Warwick</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Westerly and Hopkinton</td>
<td>39 Larry Hirsch Ln.</td>
<td>Westerly</td>
<td>Drop-off for Westerly residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woonsocket Solid Waste Recycle Facility</td>
<td>943 River St.</td>
<td>Woonsocket</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond Transfer Station</td>
<td>51 Buttonwoods Rd.</td>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>Drop-off for residents up to 3 units</td>
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### CURBSIDE COLLECTION SITES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SITE</th>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Falls Department of Public Works</td>
<td>Curbside pick up by appointment</td>
<td>Central Falls</td>
<td>Municipal Recycling Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of East Providence</td>
<td>Curbside pick up by appointment</td>
<td>East Providence</td>
<td>Municipal Recycling Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Pawtucket</td>
<td>Curbside pick up by appointment</td>
<td>Pawtucket</td>
<td>Municipal Recycling Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Lincoln Highway Department</td>
<td>Curbside pick up by appointment</td>
<td>Lincoln</td>
<td>Municipal Recycling Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of North Providence</td>
<td>Curbside pick up by appointment</td>
<td>North Providence</td>
<td>Municipal Recycling Coordinator</td>
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### PRIVATE TRANSFER STATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>CITY</th>
<th>ACCESS/UNIT LIMIT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waste Management</td>
<td>65 Halsey St.</td>
<td>Newport</td>
<td>Drop-off for Newport residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackstone Valley Regional</td>
<td>240 Grotto Ave.</td>
<td>Pawtucket</td>
<td>Drop-off for Central Falls, Pawtucket, and Providence residents up to 3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer Station</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waste Management - Cranston</td>
<td>Curbside pick up by appointment</td>
<td>Cranston</td>
<td>Waste Management customers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.R. Vinagro</td>
<td>116 Shun Pike</td>
<td>Johnston</td>
<td>For J.R. Vinagro customers</td>
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### LANDFILL

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RI Resource Recovery</td>
<td>65 Shun Pike Rd.</td>
<td>Johnston</td>
<td>Drop-off for all RI residents</td>
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### PRIVATE COLLECTION SITE

<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tough Stuff Recycling</td>
<td>1372 Main Street</td>
<td>Coventry, RI</td>
<td>Drop-off for all RI residents; allows pre-scheduled business drop-off from MRC registered participants</td>
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### RECYCLING FACILITIES

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ace Mattress Recycling</td>
<td>14 Clyde St.</td>
<td>West Warwick</td>
<td>Drop-off for all RI residents; allows pre-scheduled drop-off from MRC registered participants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ace Mattress Recycling</td>
<td>1950 South County Trail</td>
<td>East Greenwich</td>
<td>Drop-off for all RI residents; allows pre-scheduled drop-off from MRC registered participants</td>
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<tr>
<td>GM Framingham</td>
<td>12 Industrial Road</td>
<td>Milford, MA</td>
<td>No public drop-off</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tough Stuff Recycling</td>
<td>145 Authority Drive</td>
<td>Fitchburg, MA</td>
<td>No public drop off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willimantic Waste</td>
<td>185 Recycling Way</td>
<td>Windham, CT</td>
<td>No public drop off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EVENT</td>
<td>ADDRESS</td>
<td>CITY</td>
<td>DATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Town of Smithfield Department of Public Works</td>
<td>3 Spragueville Rd</td>
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<td>7/17/2021</td>
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<td>10/16/2021</td>
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<td>Town of Smithfield Department of Public Works</td>
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<td>3/12/2022</td>
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<td>Middletown at Sachuest (AKA Second) Beach</td>
<td>474 Sachuest Point Rd</td>
<td>Middletown</td>
<td>9/25/2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middletown at Sachuest (AKA Second) Beach</td>
<td>474 Sachuest Point Rd</td>
<td>Middletown</td>
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<td>Middletown at Sachuest (AKA Second) Beach</td>
<td>474 Sachuest Point Rd</td>
<td>Middletown</td>
<td>3/26/2022</td>
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<td>Middletown at Sachuest (AKA Second) Beach</td>
<td>474 Sachuest Point Rd</td>
<td>Middletown</td>
<td>5/5/2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Providence Mattress Drive</td>
<td>231 Amherst St</td>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>10/16/2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Providence Mattress Drive</td>
<td>180 Mount Pleasant Ave</td>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>3/26/2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Providence Mattress Drive</td>
<td>191 Webster Ave</td>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>5/7/2022</td>
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## APPENDIX C: STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH

### JULY 1, 2021 – JUNE 30, 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/22/2021 – 8/26/2021</td>
<td>Summer Las Vegas Market</td>
<td>Las Vegas, NV</td>
<td>Mattress Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/1/2021 – 9/2/2021</td>
<td>American Home Furnishings Alliance Sustainability &amp; Regulatory Summit</td>
<td>Greensboro, NC</td>
<td>Mattress Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/23/2021</td>
<td>New Materials Recycling Committee</td>
<td>Charlotte, NC</td>
<td>Mattress Industry</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/29/2021</td>
<td>Renuva/Dow Webinar</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
<td>Mattress Industry &amp; Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/5/2021 – 10/7/2021</td>
<td>Polyurethanes Technical Conference</td>
<td>National Harbor, MD</td>
<td>Mattress Industry &amp; Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/12/2021 – 10/14/2021</td>
<td>Northeast Recycling Council Fall Conference</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
<td>Waste &amp; Recycling Industry</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/26/2021</td>
<td>Jobs &amp; the Economy: Recycling Economic Information Studies Webinar</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
<td>Waste &amp; Recycling Industry</td>
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<td>1/11/2022</td>
<td>Circularity Committee</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
<td>Mattress Industry</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/23/2022 – 1/27/2022</td>
<td>Winter Las Vegas Market</td>
<td>Las Vegas, NV</td>
<td>Mattress Industry</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/10/2022</td>
<td>New Materials Recycling Committee</td>
<td>Orlando, FL</td>
<td>Mattress Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATE</td>
<td>EVENT</td>
<td>LOCATION</td>
<td>STAKEHOLDER GROUP</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/31/2022</td>
<td>MassRecycle Conference &amp; Trade Show</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
<td>Waste &amp; Recycling Industry</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[288x651] Virtual Waste &amp; Recycling Industry</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/12/2022</td>
<td>Northeast Recycling Council Spring Conference</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
<td>Waste &amp; Recycling Industry</td>
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<td>[389x593] Waste &amp; Recycling Industry</td>
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<td>5/4/2022</td>
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<td>Mattress Industry</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/17/2022</td>
<td>GreenBiz Circularity Conference</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
<td>Product Designers &amp; Research</td>
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<td>5/19/2022</td>
<td>[288x651] Product Designers &amp; Research</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[389x593] Product Designers &amp; Research</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX D: PUBLIC EDUCATION MATERIALS

INFO CARD

byebye, mattress.

That recycling fee supports a statewide mattress recycling program.
The recycling fee listed on your receipt, which is required by law for each mattress and box spring sold, supports the statewide mattress recycling program known as Bye Bye Mattress. The Program allows any mattress or box spring, regardless of date of purchase, to be dropped off at no-cost at a participating collection location, event or recycling facilit. Retailers may also use the Program. If you’re having a new mattress delivered, ask them to take back your old one. The fees they may charge for delivery or set-up will still apply. When mattresses and box springs are recycled they are dismantled. The steel, foam, fiber and wood become other products such as carpet padding or industrial filters. Find your nearest drop-off location or learn more about the fee and how the Program works at byebyemattress.com Or contact us at info@byebyemattress.com or 1-855-494-8400

DIGITAL BADGE
Rest Easy! Your Old Mattress Can Be Recycled.

Drop it off at a nearby location or ask your retailer about taking it back.

Rhode Island law has created a mattress recycling program that requires retailers to collect a $16 fee on every mattress and box spring you purchase. This amount will be listed on your receipt as "recycling fee" and is subject to sales tax.

This fee is used to establish a network of collection sites and events where you can drop off your old mattress and box spring (regardless of when you bought them). When they are recycled, the steel, foam, fiber and wood are used to make other new products.

Mattress retailers that take used mattresses and box springs back from their Rhode Island customers may recycle them through the Program. Ask your retailer if they participate. Delivery or set up fees for new mattresses may still apply.

Find a drop-off location near you!

Visit ByeByeMattress.com to learn more.
CONSUMER FAQs

CUSTOMER QUESTIONS ABOUT THE MATTRESS RECYCLING FEE
This list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) is here to help. Please share with your staff.

1. **Why do I have to pay the recycling fee and what is it for?**
   State law requires retailers to collect a recycling fee on each mattress and box spring that is sold. The fee funds the state’s mattress recycling program and provides for collection, transportation and recycling of old mattresses and box springs. The amount of the fee is the same statewide and is not controlled by individual retailers. More than 75 percent of a mattress can be recycled into new consumer and industrial products. The recycling program diverts valuable materials from landfill and helps keep bulky waste like mattresses and box springs out of the waste stream.

2. **Who is the Mattress Recycling Council?**
   The Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) is a nonprofit organization that operates recycling programs known as Bye Bye Mattress in states that have passed mattress recycling laws. MRC was founded by the bedding industry and recycles nearly 2 million mattresses each year. For more information about MRC, go to www.MattressRecyclingCouncil.org. To learn how to recycle your mattress or to find a collection location or event near you, visit www.ByeByeMattress.com.

3. **If I don’t plan to discard a mattress now, why do I have to pay this fee?**
   Even if you aren’t discarding a mattress right now, mattresses don’t last forever and will eventually be discarded. State law requires retailers to collect this fee on any mattress or box spring sale to fund the state’s mattress recycling program. This program provides a network of participating cities, towns, retailers, recyclers and other organizations where old mattresses are collected for recycling at no additional cost to you. The fee also supports efforts to combat illegal dumping of mattresses and help keep our community clean.

4. **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 at the time of purchase to fund the 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 to find the location nearest you.

5. **I didn’t pay this fee when I bought my old mattress, so will it be accepted for recycling?**
   Yes, MRC’s Bye Bye Mattress program will accept your old mattress no matter when it was originally purchased. To be recycled, units must be clean and dry. Normal wear and tear is expected. Units infested with bed bugs or that are heavily soiled or damaged cannot be recycled.

6. **My old mattress was “unacceptable” for recycling. 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 mattress recycling program. The law does not force retailers to accept every mattress for recycling out of concern for employee health and safety. Store policy, in addition to the guidelines of the recycling program, determine 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.

- MORE FAQs ON NEXT PAGE –
7. **What are the benefits of mattress recycling?**

Mattress recycling programs offer many benefits for the community, state and environment, including:

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

8. **What happens to my old mattress or box spring when it gets recycled?**

Recycled mattresses are cut open and the layers are separated and organized by type. Wood is recycled and used as a fuel source or shredded to produce landscaping mulch. Foam, fiber and other soft commodities are compressed and turned into carpet underlayment or animal bed padding. Metal and box springs are extracted, sent to recyclers and used to make building materials.

9. **Will the Mattress Recycling Council or Bye Bye Mattress program pick up my old mattress from my home?**

*If your store takes back old mattresses:*

No, but our store offers this service at time of delivery of your new mattress. (If your store recycles with the program, please let the customer know. Otherwise direct them to drop off their mattress at one of our free collection points listed on [www.ByeByeMattress.com](http://www.ByeByeMattress.com).)

*If your store does not take back old mattresses, your response should be:*

Mattresses are collected from a vast network of free collection sites throughout the state. These are typically public works yards or transfer stations. Your city/town may also collect bulky items at curbside as part of your trash service. Visit [www.ByeByeMattress.com](http://www.ByeByeMattress.com) to see what options are available. The Mattress Recycling Council or the Bye Bye Mattress program does not pick up mattresses from customer’s homes.

**California Retailer Take Back Requirement**

In California, mattress retailers are required by law to offer to take back old mattresses at no extra cost when delivering new ones. This applies to any method of delivery (in-house, third-party and even common carriers like USPS, UPS, FedEx). Your customer may be aware of this or mention having heard or seen this in an ad.

Please make information available on your website, in the purchasing process or in your shipping/delivery communications about how the pickup of an old mattress will work. Also consider sharing this information with those providing customer service.

**RETAILERS CAN RECYCLE WITH US TOO:** Learn more about the [Bye Bye Mattress Commercial Volume Program](http://www.ByeByeMattress.com).

**SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER:** [Sign up here](http://www.ByeByeMattress.com) for customer education tips, program news and free resources.

**NEED MORE INFORMATION?** Please contact [info@byebyemattress.com](mailto:info@byebyemattress.com) or call 1-855-494-8400.

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE MATTRESS RECYCLING COUNCIL’S BYE BYE MATTRESS PROGRAM.**
Don’t dump your old mattress. Not only is it illegal, but it will end up in a landfill when it could be so much more. On the other hand, recycling the mattress and box spring lets the steel, foam, fiber and wood become new products. Like steel parts, filters, carpet padding and even mulch for your garden. Find out about your FREE recycling options at ByeByeMattress.com.

You can recycle your old mattress for free. Stop illegal dumping.

Don’t dump your old mattress. Not only is it illegal, but it will end up in a landfill when it could be so much more. On the other hand, recycling the mattress and box spring lets the steel, foam, fiber and wood become new products. Like steel parts, filters, carpet padding and even mulch for your garden. Find out about your FREE recycling options at ByeByeMattress.com.

To learn more about the benefits of mattress recycling, visit ByeByeMattress.com.
STOP ILLEGAL DUMPING continued

VO: Hi there, your Sandman here. I know a few things about getting a good night’s sleep, and I’ve seen you tossing and turning about how to get rid of that lumpy, old mattress.

But dumping it in an ally or parking lot - what a nightmare! It’s awful to look at -- *and illegal too.* (loud whisper)

But hey! You can recycle it for FREE and start sleeping soundly again, I’ll even throw in a few sweet dreams!

Visit ByeByeMattress.com to find your nearest drop-off location.

VO: Hola, soy el Arenero. Sé un par de cosas acerca de dormir bien y te he visto dando vueltas en la cama pensando en cómo deshacerte de ese viejo y pesado colchón.

Pero tirarlo en un callejón o estacionamiento... ¡Qué pesadilla! Queda horrible y, además, es ilegal.

Pero, escucha: puedes reciclarlo gratis y volver a dormir bien. Y hasta te regalaré unos cuantos dulces sueños.

Visita ByeByeMattress.com para encontrar el punto de entrega más cercano.
PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

BREAK UP THE RIGHT WAY WITH YOUR OLD MATTRESS

ENGLISH
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8wILN8qXz7Q

SPANISH
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xYqdIU_eGHy

MANDARIN
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A4cG7O9-0Ro
PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

BREAK UP THE RIGHT WAY WITH YOUR OLD MATTRESS

**Bye Bye Mattress**
**TV :30**
**PSA TV #1 “the break-up”**
**Final**

Open on a door to a non-descript home. Door opens and the Mattress Man (MM) steps out of the room in full view.

A memory “bubble” pops up next to the MM of a person sleeping comfortably in bed.

(If there is time in the animation: In the memory “bubble” the person now has a pillow over their head because their neighbor’s music is too loud—wall is vibrating).

Door closes behind MM.

Scene behind MM changes to a mattress wandering a trash-filled alley. He passes by a sad looking mattress with a “free” sign on it.

It changes back to his original talking position scene and things that he could be recycled to pops up (I-beams, carpet foam, mulch...)

MM holds up a sign with ByeByeMattress.com on it.

Super: Bye Bye Mattress logo (room for tag space)

SFX: upbeat music.

Hey, I’m your mattress.

We’ve been together for a while now, and it’s been g-r-e-a-t.

But let’s be honest. I think we are both ready for a fresh start.

Just don’t toss me out without thinking of where I’ll end up or how I’ll even get there. I’m ready to be more than a mattress after all these years.

I want to be recycled into new things... there’s still a lot of good parts here to use.

Check out ByeByeMattress dot com.

Learn more about recycling and the easy ways to get rid of an old mattress, like me, for free!
### PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

**BREAK UP THE RIGHT WAY WITH YOUR OLD MATTRESS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Timecode</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>00:00:08</td>
<td>Hey, I’m your mattress.</td>
<td>嘿，我是您的床垫</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00:00:23</td>
<td>We’ve been together for a while now, but let’s be honest. I think we</td>
<td>我们已经朝夕相处了一段日子，但是坦白说 我认为我们都准备好迎接新生活了</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>are both ready for a fresh start. Just don’t toss me out without</td>
<td>请不要把我随意丢弃，不考虑我的去处，甚至也不在乎我怎样前往 因为多年以后，我可能不只是</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>thinking of where I’ll end up or how I’ll even get there. I’m ready</td>
<td>一张床垫</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to be more than a mattress after all these years.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00:00:24</td>
<td>I want to be recycled into new things.</td>
<td>我想要在回收利用后焕发新生 我还有很多完好的零件可供使用 访问 ByeByeMattress.com 了解更多关于回收利用的信息，以及免费处理像我这样的旧床垫的简单方法！</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>00:00:36</td>
<td>I have a lot of parts here to use. Check out ByeByeMattress.com.</td>
<td>联系 ByeByeMattress.com 了解更多信息！</td>
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<td>Learn more about recycling and the easy ways to get rid of an old</td>
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<td>Hey, I’m your mattress.</td>
<td>Hola, soy tu colchón.</td>
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<tr>
<td>00:00:23</td>
<td>We’ve been together for a while now, but let’s be honest. I think we</td>
<td>Hace mucho que estamos juntos, pero a decir verdad, creo que ambos estamos listos para un nuevo comienzo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>are both ready for a fresh start. Just don’t toss me out without</td>
<td>No me saques sin pensar en dónde terminaré ni cómo llegaré allí. Estoy listo para ser más que un colchón después de todos estos años.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>thinking of where I’ll end up or how I’ll even get there. I’m ready</td>
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<td>00:00:24</td>
<td>I want to be recycled into new things.</td>
<td>Quiero que me reciclen y convertirme en algo nuevo. Partes de mi se pueden volver a usar. Visita ByeByeMattress.com para más información sobre reciclaje y formas fáciles ¡y gratis! de deshacerte de un colchón viejo como yo.</td>
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