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## CONNECTICUT ANNUAL REPORT

SUBMITTED BY

Mattress Recycling Council Connecticut, LLC  
501 Wythe Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

SUBMITTED TO

Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06106

SUBMITTED ON

October 13, 2023



**bye bye mattress®**

A Program of the Mattress Recycling Council®



This year, MRC's Connecticut Bye  
Bye Mattress program collected  
**199,528** mattresses and diverted  
**3,759** tons of material from disposal.

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The mattress industry created the **Mattress Recycling Council (MRC)**, a nonprofit organization, to develop and administer the Bye Bye Mattress program.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY & DEFINITIONS

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Pursuant to Section 2(j) of Connecticut Public Act 13-42, as amended (the Act), as codified at Sections 22a-905a, et seq. of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Mattress Recycling Council Connecticut, LLC (MRC) submits to the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) this annual report, which provides the requested data on the results that MRC achieved in administering the Connecticut mattress stewardship program (the program) during the state's 2023 Fiscal Year (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023) (the reporting period).

## OVERVIEW OF MATTRESS RECYCLING COUNCIL CONNECTICUT, LLC

The law requires that mattress producers form a “council” to develop a statewide program to collect mattresses and foundations (collectively units or mattresses) discarded in Connecticut. 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 (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 Connecticut, as well as California and Rhode Island. On July 1, 2014, the Council submitted a plan to DEEP outlining how the program would meet the law's requirements and proposed initial performance goals. DEEP approved this plan on December 31, 2014, and the program officially began operating on May 1, 2015.

The Council subsequently created separate limited liability companies (LLCs) to administer the Connecticut program, as well as similar programs that the Council administers in California and Rhode Island. 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 12 million mattresses.

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

## CONNECTICUT 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.

## PROGRAM PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

The law requires MRC to establish goals to measure the program's performance. During the reporting period, MRC surpassed many of these goals. Highlights of the program's eighth year include:

- Collected 199,528 mattresses and recycled 3,759 tons of material.
- Achieved a 74% recycling rate.
- Expanded program access to seven additional towns, bringing the total number of participating municipalities to 154.
- Increased enrollment in the program from other entities, such as mattress retailers, hotels, universities and hospitals. Overall, more than 375 other entities use MRC's program to recycle discarded mattresses.
- Collected 34,213 mattresses from retailers, surpassing the annual goal by 14%.
- Collected over 8,400 mattresses from small solid waste haulers, diverting these units to recycling and away from volume reduction facilities and waste-to-energy facilities, surpassing the goal by 142%.
- Recycled over 3,300 units from lodging facilities, while registering 25 new hotels to participate in the program.
- Recycled 4,053 units from educational facilities. Thirty-three campuses are registered to participate in the program.
- Recycled 1,029 military units, which increased the all-time military units collected by 39%.
- Our bilingual public service announcements, both for TV and radio, had 3.8 million impressions during the reporting period.
- Engaged the mattress industry by participating in ISPA's first Sustainability Conference and continuing an ongoing dialogue through our working groups focused on improving recyclability rates and designing future mattresses to improve circularity.

## REPORT OVERVIEW

Pursuant to Section 2(j) of the Act, this annual report contains the following information:

- The tonnage of mattresses collected pursuant to the program from municipal transfer stations, retailers and all other covered entities.
- The tonnage of mattresses diverted for recycling.
- The weight of mattress materials recycled, as indicated by the weight of each of the commodities sold to secondary markets.
- The weight of mattress materials sent for disposal at each of the following: waste-to-energy facilities, landfills and any other facilities.
- A summary of the public education that supports the program.
- An evaluation of the effectiveness of methods and processes used to achieve performance goals of the program.
- Recommendations for any changes to the program.

## DEFINITIONS

The following terms defined in Section 1 of the law 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: constructed frame, foam or 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, that is intended for or promoted for sleeping upon.

“Mattress” includes any foundation and any renovated mattress. “Mattress” does not include any of the following:

- (A) 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;
- (B) A sleeping bag or pillow;
- (C) Car bed;
- (D) Juvenile products including: a carriage, basket, dressing table, stroller, playpen, infant carrier, lounge pad, crib bumper or the pads for those juvenile products;
- (E) A product that contains liquid- or gaseous-filled ticking including any water bed or air mattress that does not contain upholstery material between the ticking and the mattress core;
- (F) Any upholstered furniture that does not contain a detachable mattress

**“Mattress Stewardship Program”** or **“program”** means the statewide program described in Section 2 of the Act and implemented pursuant to the mattress stewardship plan.

**“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:

- (A) 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
- (B) 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:

- (A) Stripping of a mattress of its ticking or filling without adding new material;
- (B) Sanitization or sterilization of a mattress without otherwise altering the mattress; or
- (C) 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 to consumers.

**“Retailer”** means any person who sells mattresses in this state or offers mattresses in this state to a consumer.



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.

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## EDUCATION & OUTREACH

# EDUCATION & OUTREACH

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MRC's education and outreach efforts are designed to inform consumers, mattress retailers, producers and other stakeholders about mattress recycling in Connecticut and to explain more specifically:

- How MRC operates, what it has accomplished and the impact it is making in the state.
- How and where to recycle discarded mattresses and why recycling is beneficial.
- Why the recycling fee is needed and what it funds.
- The legal obligations the mattress industry must fulfill.

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:

- Distribute point-of-sale materials that explain the purpose of the recycling fee to consumers.
- Identify non-compliant Connecticut mattress retailers, require them to register with MRC and collect and remit the fee.
- Continue to conduct stakeholder meetings for each covered entity subgroup and other interested parties.
- Contact and visit stakeholders to educate them about the benefits and obligations of program participation.

An evaluation of MRC's achievement of these goals is discussed in further detail in the [\*\*Goals & Methods Evaluation\*\*](#) section.

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

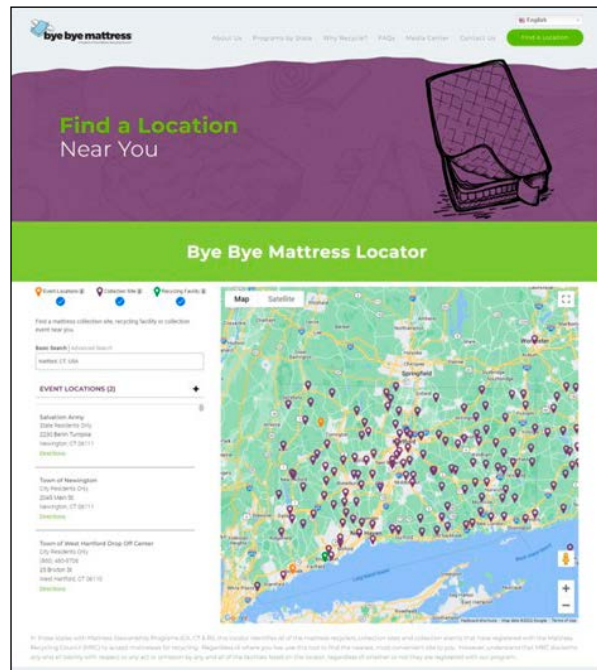
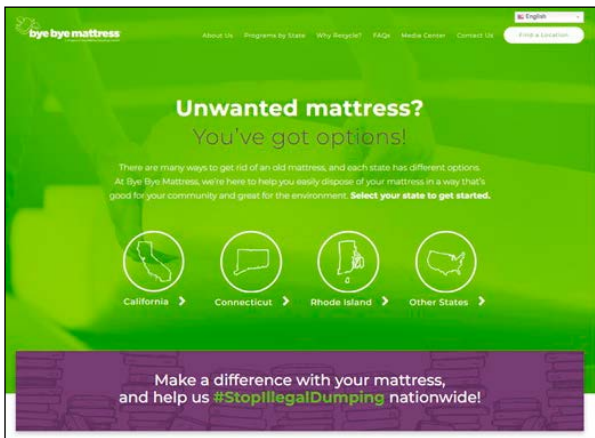
## CONSUMER EDUCATION

To maintain awareness of Bye Bye Mattress in Connecticut, MRC provided consumer education materials to retailers to use with their customers, promoted the program through a public service announcement and media opportunities, assisted collection sites and events with communicating to their residents, and maintained a presence on social media. Each of these tactics encouraged consumers to visit [ByeByeMattress.com](http://ByeByeMattress.com) to learn how to recycle in their area.

To monitor the effectiveness of its consumer education and outreach, MRC monitors website and social media analytics and conducted an annual consumer awareness survey.

## BYEBYEMATTRESS.COM

On [ByeByeMattress.com](http://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 contains updates about the program's performance and MRC's efforts to expand recycling in the state. In addition, the site educates visitors about the mattress recycling process and its environmental benefits.

Overall, 445,610 users visited the site during the reporting period. This is a 3% increase from the previous reporting period. Of the 563,221 total sessions, 4,441 began on the Connecticut landing page. Overall, the Connecticut page registered 9,923 visits.

At the time of this report, MRC completed updates to improve the user experience and launched a redesigned website.

With more than 70% of users viewing the website on their phones, MRC designed the new site to be mobile-friendly. The updated user experience allows consumers and businesses to easily locate their appropriate information without scrolling through unrelated content or search results. MRC also debuted new content to assist those looking to curb illegal dumping in their communities or seeking to prolong the life of their mattress.

## CONSUMER EDUCATION MATERIALS

MRC provides retailers with free point-of-sale materials to help them explain the program and the fee to their customers in printed and digital formats. These include:

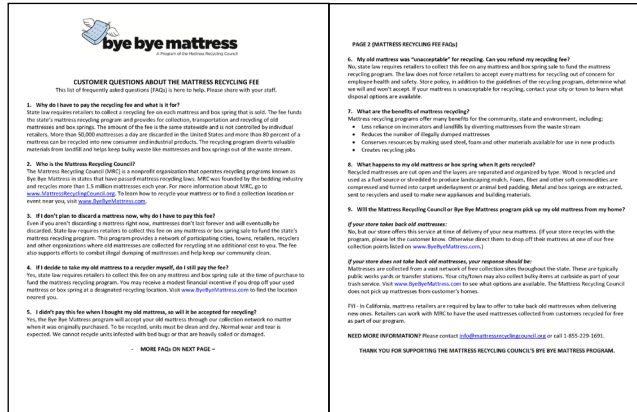
**Bilingual Informational Card:** This card can accompany the consumer's invoice or receipt. In its standard format, English is on one side and Spanish on the other. Chinese, Korean, Tagalog and Vietnamese versions are available on request.

**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.



**Consumer FAQs:** Consumer FAQs are provided in English and Spanish to assist retailers with sales associate training. Chinese, Korean, Tagalog and Vietnamese versions also are available on request.



MRC uses a monthly and quarterly e-newsletter, email notifications, industry publications and events to regularly inform retailers that these materials are available from MRC and that reorders are also free.

MRC's Marketing & Communications department also works closely with mattress retailers and producers to assist them with explaining the law, fee and program to the companies or customers they serve. MRC offers to create notices, review company memos for accuracy or provide documents that can be shared throughout the sales channel.

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

MRC's current PSA campaign, "Break Up The Right Way With Your Old Mattress," achieved 3.8 million impressions in Connecticut during the reporting period. Television and radio spots aired in the Hartford, New Haven and New London media markets.

All TV airings used the Spanish language version, while radio aired the English version. TV and radio each earned 1.9 million impressions during the reporting period.

MRC contacts station managers twice a year – prior to Earth Day and America Recycles Day – to encourage the use of our PSAs. MRC also encourages additional viewership by asking city leaders and community-based organizations to share the PSA on their social media and other communication channels. MRC will continue with this strategy.

The 15-second and 30-second radio and television spots in English, Spanish and Mandarin are available in the Media Center of ByeByeMattress.com.

Campaign materials are available in the Bye Bye Mattress media center.

## BREAK UP THE RIGHT WAY WITH YOUR OLD MATTRESS



### Click Below To View



**ENGLISH**

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



**SPANISH**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xYqdlU\\_eGHY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xYqdlU_eGHY)



**MANDARIN**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A4cG7O9-0Ro>

### MEDIA RELATIONS

During the reporting period, MRC responded to reporters' inquiries and proactively contacted media regarding the program's collection events, growth and achievements. MRC leveraged program achievements, America Recycles Day (Nov. 15, 2022) and Earth Day (April 22, 2023) to increase awareness of the program. This proactive outreach generated local media coverage across television, radio, print and digital media reaching an audience of 33.5 million.

MRC complimented the milestone media coverage with a sponsored content campaign in *CT News Junkie*. These online ads registered more than 63,300 unique visits.

# Trash haulers, Gov. Ned Lamont at odds over plan to fix CT's mounting trash problem

John Moritz  
March 15, 2023 | Updated: March 28, 2023 5:25 p.m.



## We've piled up success.

## Not the waste stream.

MRC's Bye Bye Mattress program is working toward 1.5 million mattresses recycled. **FIND OUT MORE.**



### Norwalk offers free mattress, box spring recycling for residents, and more community events

Karen Tensa  
April 2, 2023

Norwalk

City offers free mattress, box spring recycling



SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

## MILFORD-ORANGE TIMES

HOME NEWS ADVERTISING PRINT SCHEDULE OBITUARIES SECTIONS

POSTED ON APRIL 13, 2023 BY BRANDON T. BUSCEGLIA

### Earth Day Is Shredding Day In Orange

In celebration of Earth Day on April 22, the Orange Recycling Committee will host their twice-yearly recycling and shredding event at High Plains Community Center from 9 a.m. to noon. Known as "Shredding Day," the event offers residents free secure document shredding as well as collection of household hazardous waste, mattresses and box springs, clothing and household goods.

Confidential personal documents such as tax papers, bank and credit card statements, medical records and other sensitive papers will again be shredded on-site by Affordable Solutions of Orange. This is for residential files only and is not intended for businesses. As this free service is funded by the Rotary Club of Orange, residents may show their appreciation by donating to the Orange Rotary Club Scholarship Fund. Rotarians will be on hand to collect donations.

Mattresses and box springs will again be collected by the Mattress Recycling Council's "Bye Bye Mattress" team. Residents may bring items to the event and workers will load them into the collection truck. Alternatively, volunteers from the Orange Lions Club will pick up items from residential homes for a donation of \$15 per item. Anyone interested in this service should contact Ken Lenz at 203-795-3906 to arrange pickup. Items must be outside and dry or in a garage for easy access, as volunteers will not enter homes.

Hazardous household chemicals will be collected by the Regional Water Authority's HazWaste Central mobile unit. Residents may bring certain cleaners, pesticides, auto fluids (no auto batteries), simply drive to the designated area, and HazWaste Central employees will retrieve items from vehicles.

The Orange shoes, accessories should be

8/29/23, 3:53 PM

cheshireherald.com - Mattress Recycling Event in

### Mattress Recycling Event In March



At Waters/Cheshire Herald - Mattress recycling event in Cheshire 2019.

February 23, 2023 12:00AM

The Town of Cheshire is hosting a Community Wide Free Mattress Recycling Event on Saturday, Mar 13/25 Cheshire St.

Cheshire residents may drop off their mattresses, box springs at no charge. Due to COVID, this will be

Items that will not be accepted include:

- \*Mattresses from futons, sofa beds, water beds, car beds, crib mattresses
- \*Mattresses infested with bed bugs
- \*Mattresses that are wet, damaged, or excessively soiled



## More Than 1.2 million Mattresses Recycled Since 2015

by Julie Marini-Banks November 21, 2022, 9:00 am



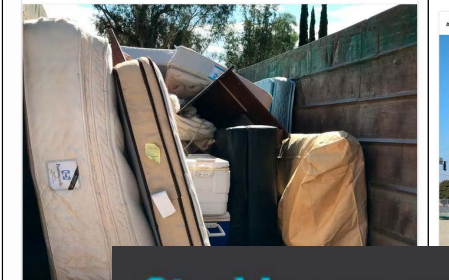
### Cheshire, CT

Local News - Neighbor Posts - Local Businesses

### Free Mattress Recycling Event To Be Held In Cheshire

The event is for Cheshire residents only. Read details here.

Vincent Saffo, Patch Staff  
Posted Thu, Feb 9, 2023 at 12:30 am ET



Cheshire residents (Schlavoine/Patch)

CHESHIRE residents will have a chance to recycle their old mattresses and box springs at no charge

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### CT NEWS Junkie.com

A Connecticut news site that understands the usual media offerings just aren't enough



GOOD MORNING!

### More Than 1.2 million Mattresses Recycled Since 2015

When Connecticut residents recycle their old mattresses and box springs, they transform into other useful items such as carpet padding, insulation, filters and new steel products, according to The Mattress Recycling Council. [Read it here!](#)

### The Daily Campus

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

HOME NEWS LIFE + OPINION SPORTS + PHOTO + COMICS JOIN US ABOUT + TIP LINK

Home - News - The Mattress Recycling Council's Bye Bye Mattress program offers University of Connecticut students

### The Mattress Recycling Council's Bye Bye Mattress program offers University of Connecticut students and Connecticut residents an easy way to get rid of unwanted mattresses and box springs

By Holly Lovelace - April 24, 2023

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bybyemattress.com



**Stacking up success.**  
Not piling up the waste stream.

[MattressRecyclingCouncil.org/Connecticut](https://MattressRecyclingCouncil.org/Connecticut)





## COMMUNITY EVENTS

MRC engages with the public through collection events and public appearances. Collection events provide a way for MRC to service an area that might not have a facility capable of or willing to be a permanent collection site or targets a specific need (such as neighborhood cleanup, move-out day at a university, etc.). Public appearances are used to boost awareness of the program, educating residents about the benefits of mattress recycling and how to access sites in their area.

**Collection Events:** During this reporting period, MRC worked with 12 towns holding pre-established collection events focused on recycling a variety of items. MRC provided marketing support to event sponsors. See **Appendix B** for a full list of MRC's collection events.

**Public Appearances:** In celebration of achieving 1.5 million mattresses recycled, MRC stationed an information table in the Capitol building's annex, providing legislators, staff and the public with mattress recycling information. MRC also distributed information to residents through Earth Day events in Ansonia and Woodbury.

## 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. MRC updated the toolkits earlier this year. 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.



## SOCIAL MEDIA

During the reporting period, Bye Bye Mattress' national social media content received more than 3 million impressions. The brand also experienced a 14% increase in followers from the previous reporting period. MRC attributes expanding to Instagram as a large contributor to these results. Currently, more than 2,500 people follow Bye Bye Mattress on these three 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.

## FOLLOW & LIKE

@BYEBYEMATTRESS

**Bye Bye Mattress**  
@byebymattress

There are 3 ways to dispose of your mattress: your retailer can take it back when they deliver a new one, drop it off at a recycling center, or schedule a pick up if your area offers it. If you live outside of CA, CT or RI you can visit our nationwide directory. #LinkinBio

12:02 PM · Nov 14, 2022

View Tweet analytics

1 Retweet 1 Quote 5 Likes

**Rotate your mattress, it will last longer.**

When it's time to recycle it, learn how at: [ByeByeMattress.com](https://www.ByeByeMattress.com)

Mattress Recycling Council®

bye bye mattress

**Recicle su colchón.**

La Tierra le amará por ello.

bye bye mattress

**Spread the word!**

Get rid of your old mattress the right way.

Share our PSA: [ByeByeMattress.com](https://www.ByeByeMattress.com)

Bye Bye Mattress

Mattress Recycling Council

## CONSUMER AWARENESS

In Spring 2023, MRC contracted with KB Insights, a 30-year marketing consultant and experienced analyst, to create and implement a survey of consumers across the state of Connecticut (N=202). 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). We compared these results to the responses collected in the last two years and found a significant increase in knowledge that a mattress can be recycled (up 7%) and in how to dispose of a mattress for recycling (up 6%). We also found a probable increase in knowledge that recycling is free (although within our margin of error of +/- 5.7% at a 90% level of confidence). Knowledge of the Bye Bye Mattress program name dipped slightly in 2023, but the decrease is within the margin of error and therefore not considered a significant change.

**TABLE 1: MRC's Consumer Awareness Key Performance Indices 2021-2023**

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	2021	2022	2023
Knowledge that a mattress can be recycled	46%	46%	53%
Knowledge that recycling is free	20%	24%	27%
Knowledge of how to dispose of a mattress so it can be recycled	24%	24%	30%
Recall of Bye Bye Mattress program name	11%	15%	11%

\*Margin of error: +/-5.7% at a 90% level of confidence

The survey also provides MRC with the opportunity to monitor mattress purchasing and disposal behavior. In 2023, the recency of mattress acquisitions was similar to the same measures in the last two years with 18% indicating they acquired a mattress in the last year. Meanwhile, 23% responded that they disposed of a mattress in the last year, which is slightly higher than in previous years. And, 42% of those who had disposed of an old mattress said their retailer took it back. Recycling center drop-offs, curbside pickups and junk removal services were the next most common methods of disposal.

Over half of respondents (57%) said they were “extremely likely” to recycle a mattress in the future, up slightly from previous years. “Convenience – it’s easy to do” topped the list of reasons to recycle, selected by 53% of respondents as one of their “top 3” motivators. “Protecting the environment” was the second most common motivator, selected by 45% of respondents; “Receiving a small payment for each mattress you recycle” third, at 38%. Interestingly, the importance of the small payment decreased (down 9%) in 2023.

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

## INDUSTRY EDUCATION

To inform retailers, producers and other industry stakeholders about Connecticut'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 Connecticut 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 DEEP 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**

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

**RETAILERS SURVEY**

An annual survey of registered retailers allows MRC to monitor retailer satisfaction with MRC's assistance and resources, measure retailers' awareness of their obligations and provide retailers an opportunity to request materials or further information. The survey varies each year based on what topics or issues MRC is investigating in order to improve the program, inform its industry communications and understand the needs of the retailer community.

The survey showed MRC registrants located in the East responded with an 8.3 out of 10 rating for Customer Service, a 7.1 out of 10 rating for resources provided and a 7 out of 10 rating for overall program satisfaction.

Based on these results, MRC will seek to further improve MRC customer education and retailer obligation resources available to program participants.

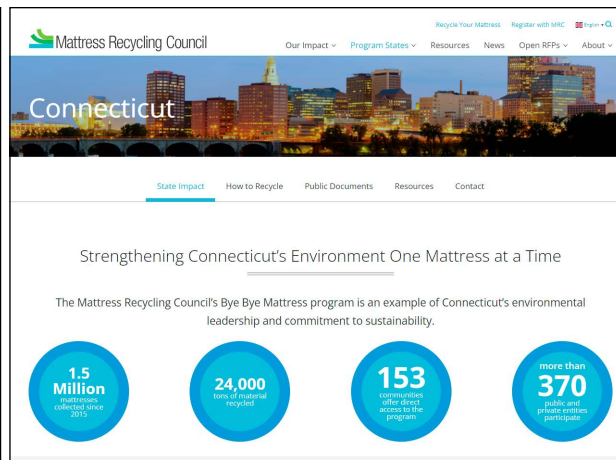
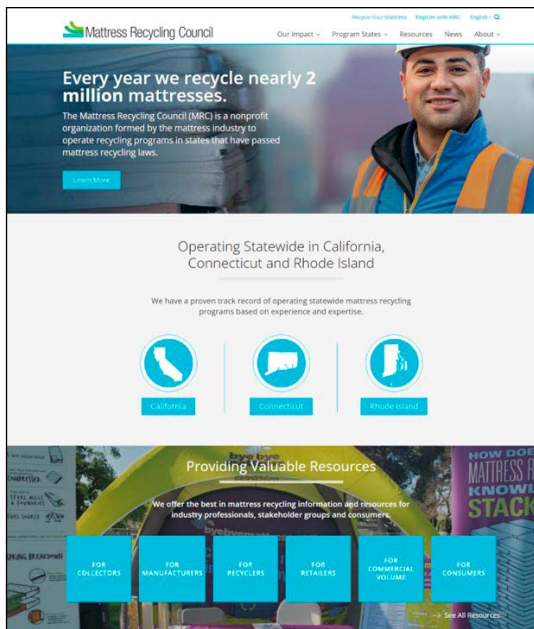
MRC will repeat this process over the summer in 2023 and will refine the questionnaire as appropriate.

As required by the law, **Appendix D** contains a complete list of registered producers. The list is current as of June 30, 2023.

## WEBSITES

**MattressRecyclingCouncil.org:** Designed for use by the mattress industry, regulators and non-consumer stakeholders, this website attracted 53,045 users generating 69,883 sessions between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023. Both levels of website traffic measurements were down slightly from the previous reporting period. The Connecticut state page drew 3,150 views.

Organic search – traffic coming to the website using search engines and keyword search – was the top source of traffic and it grew by 8% over the previous year.



**MRCReporting.org:** Through this website, parties may register with MRC, and retailers and other parties that sell mattresses to end-users in Connecticut 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=PLpqkGz2KocuPnI5p9ymD0Dukfy1Ng0yA>




## E-NEWSLETTERS

MRC issues monthly and quarterly newsletters for industry audiences. Collectively, MRC's digital newsletters reach more than 7,000 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 30%.

View this email in your browser

 **Mattress Recycling Council®**

March 2023 Highlights

[Mattress Industry](#) | [Collection Network](#) | [Research](#) | [Reminders](#) | [Upcoming Events](#) | [Resources](#)

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [e](#)

**MRC Reaches New Milestone:  
12 Million Mattresses Recycled**

This month, MRC crossed the 12 million mark which if stacked on top of each other would tower nearly 2,000 miles into space. The materials extracted and recycled from these mattresses amounts to more than 450 million pounds of materials diverted from landfills and incinerators.

"As we cross the 12 millionth mattress milestone, we share this achievement with our many partners – mattress manufacturers, retailers, collectors, recyclers and state officials who have collaborated with MRC to make our program a success," said Mike O'Donnell, MRC's chief operating officer.

Today, over 75% of these mattresses are recycled into new products. To further improve this recovery rate, MRC continues to invest in [research projects](#) to find new and better uses for foam, fibers and wood, while facilitating information sharing and best practices between the mattress industry and recyclers.

The quarterly Retailer Spotlight is sent to 1,200 registered retailers and addresses the topics and issues that customer service is frequently addressing, such as tips for using MRCreporting.org, and how to help customers understand the fee and program. Readers also have quick access to the consumer education material order form, our recycling locator and an explanation of mattress recycling. Open rates average more than 45%.

Our Northeast Seasonal Reminder, a quarterly newsletter, is sent to 190 collection site operators and recyclers. It reinforces MRC's program guidelines by sharing best practices for stacking, loading and site management, as well as screening for ineligible and eligible products. MRC also uses the newsletter to promote available resources that help staff follow and understand these expectations. We also share news on any regional developments that could impact our operations. The open rate averages 32%.



## INDUSTRY ADVERTISING

In 2022, MRC began a paid advertising effort in industry media to boost participation from those eligible to use our Commercial Volume Program (CVP). In Connecticut, MRC provides bulk pickup service to retailers, lodging, healthcare facilities, educational facilities and military bases disposing of more than 50 mattresses at one time.

MRC used national trade publications and included a mix of print, digital and targeted advertising options. During the reporting period, CVP ads cumulatively reached 260,000 print subscribers and 426,000 eblast recipients, a portion of which were Connecticut-based professionals.

To help address illegal dumping, MRC also looked for opportunities to increase awareness among Connecticut property managers and realtors. MRC advertised quarterly in the Connecticut Apartment Association's magazine to reach 1,300 subscribers and spoke with Connecticut's Realtors Association to reach the 19,000 members receiving their weekly newscast.

## 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:

**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 the period, MRC placed press releases and bylined articles in the national trade press – both the furniture and the recycling/solid waste publications – discussing the results of research projects, recycling 12 million mattresses and assisting manufacturers with advancing sustainable practices. In an effort to spur participation in the Commercial Volume Program, our Northeast Coordinator was interviewed in *Healthcare Purchasing News*.

**RHODE ISLAND**

## BYE BYE MATTRESS COMMERCIAL VOLUME PROGRAM

NO-COST MATTRESS RECYCLING FOR BUSINESSES

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**Overview**

The Mattress Recycling Council's Bye Bye Mattress Program collects more than 1.7 million mattresses for recycling each year from across its program states. Contributing to that success are mattress retailers, hotels, universities, hospitals and other organizations that dispose of many mattresses at once.

**What We Provide**

Contact MRC today to receive:

- No-cost recycling services.
- No-cost drop-off at a participating recycler (no minimum required).
- No-cost transportation of collected mattresses to a participating recycler (50-unit minimum required).

**Eligibility Requirements**

**RETAILERS**

- Mattress retailers must be registered with MRC, remitting the recycling fees and compliant with all provisions of the law to participate.
- To receive no-cost drop-off, must make arrangements with MRC.
- To receive transportation, must have accumulated a minimum of 50 units. Partnering with other local businesses, organizations or allowing public drop-off to reach the minimum is permitted.
- Units must have been used and discarded in Rhode Island.

**OTHER COVERED ENTITIES**

Hotels & Lodging Facilities  
Universities & Educational Institutions  
Military Bases  
Healthcare  
Waste to Energy Facilities  
Correctional Facilities

- To receive no-cost drop-off, must make arrangements with MRC.
- To receive transportation, must have accumulated a minimum of 50 units. Partnering with other local businesses, organizations or allowing public drop-off to reach the minimum is permitted.
- Units must have been used and discarded in Rhode Island.
- When purchasing new units, the vendor must be collecting and remitting the recycling fee.

**COMMERCIAL VOLUME PROGRAM CONTACT:**  
Dan McGowan: (860) 397-4800, [dmcgowan@mattressrecyclingcouncil.org](mailto:dmcgowan@mattressrecyclingcouncil.org)  
Or visit [ByeByeMattress.CommercialRecycling.com](http://ByeByeMattress.CommercialRecycling.com) for details.

**bye bye mattress**  
A Program of the Mattress Recycling Council

**RHODE ISLAND**

## COMMERCIAL VOLUME PROGRAM

COMMERCIAL VOLUME PROGRAM CONTACT:  
Dan McGowan: (860) 397-4800, [dmcgowan@mattressrecyclingcouncil.org](mailto:dmcgowan@mattressrecyclingcouncil.org)

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**Participation Requirements**

- Complete registration form and return it no later than 14 days prior to desired pickup or drop-off date. Obtain registration form by contacting MRC.
- Follow the Commercial Volume Guidelines.
- Provide a collection area that is capable of allowing access to a 53-foot trailer.

**Ineligible Items**

- Units from out of state sources
- Units infested with bed bugs or other living organisms
- Severely damaged, twisted, wet, frozen or soiled units

**Unacceptable Items**

- Adjustable bases not covered in ticking or fabric
- Air mattresses that contain no upholstery material (such as camping beds)
- Car beds
- Collapsible roll-away beds

**What if I do not have 50 units to discard?**

MRC requires a minimum of 50 units to receive transportation. A participant may partner with nearby retailers or other covered entities, or allow the public to drop off units at the site in order to reach the minimum. A participant may also drop off units at a participating recycler. Contact MRC for details.

**Can I store mattresses until I have the 50 minimum unit amount?**

Yes. Mattresses must be stored in a location where they remain clean and dry. Contact MRC for transportation options.

**Will MRC assist in loading trailers?**

No. It is the responsibility of the participant to load the trailer. Participants are required to provide a minimum of two staff members to load units into the provided truck within two hours.

**How long do I have to load the trailer?**

Two hours are allocated to load the trailer. If more time is needed, contact MRC to discuss alternate solutions.

**Where will the mattresses be taken?**

The mattresses will be taken to an MRC-contracted recycler.

**Will I receive documentation for recycling mattresses?**

MRC's transporter will provide a Bill of Lading to document the shipment. Keep a copy for your records.

**Can I recycle mattress related items?**

No. Only eligible mattresses and box springs are accepted. See Ineligible and Unacceptable Items section above.

**Can I recycle mattresses that are infested with bed bugs, damaged, wet, twisted, frozen, or heavily soiled?**

No. Mattresses in these conditions should be disposed of as solid waste at the participant's expense.

**Keep collected units dry.**

- Provide a minimum of two staff to load units into the provided trailer.
- Fold-out sofa beds
- Futons
- Juvenile products, including: cribs, cots, bassinets, dressing tables, cribs, strollers, infant carriers, lounge pad, crib bumpers
- Loose bedding, blankets or sheets
- Mattress pads and toppers
- Metal bed frames
- Pillows and cushions
- Sleeping bags
- Water beds

**bye bye mattress**  
A Program of the Mattress Recycling Council

## the guide

The Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) is a nonprofit dedicated to recycling, because there is more to every mattress.

**Mattress  
Recycling  
Council**

2023

2022

2021

2020

2019

2018

2017

1 million

# 12 million mattresses RECYCLED

and counting!

**bye bye mattress**  
A Program of the Mattress Recycling Council

## WE ARE TAKING A LOAD OFF OF RETAILERS.

If you operate in California, Connecticut or Rhode Island, we can recycle the old mattresses you've taken back from your customers. Ask us how to receive no-cost recycling and transportation of your collected units.

**bye bye mattress**  
A Program of the Mattress Recycling Council

To learn more, visit  
[ByeByeMattress.com/Commercial-Recycling](http://ByeByeMattress.com/Commercial-Recycling)

## SOCIAL MEDIA

MRC uses Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube. Collectively, MRC has more than 1,800 followers on social media, comprised of a mix of individuals, civic/environmental groups, retailers, local and state government, waste haulers and recyclers.

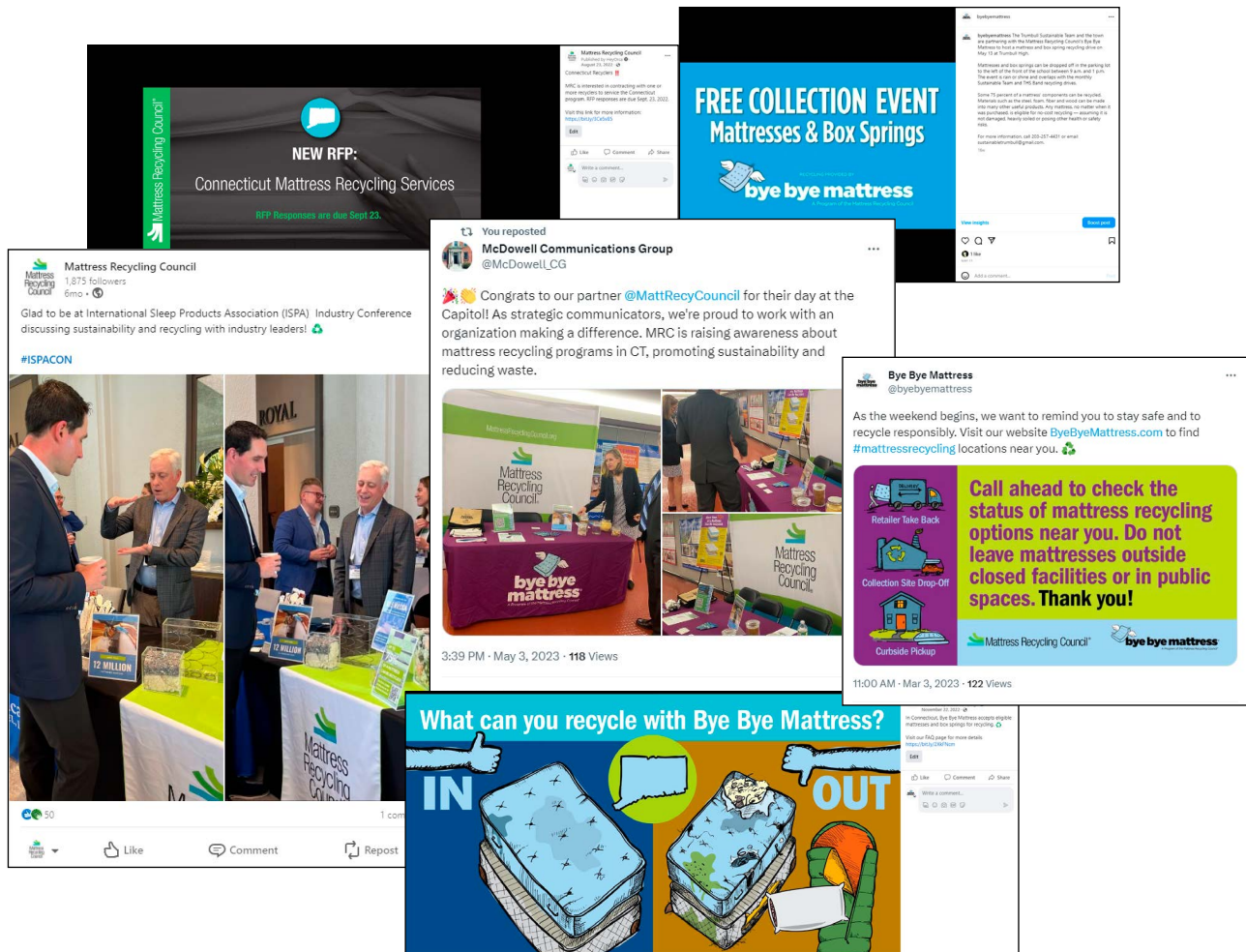
In addition to sharing Bye Bye Mattress content, MRC uses its social media accounts to announce program developments, promote MRC's presence at industry events, distribute marketing collateral, interact with industry stakeholders and monitor industry news. #FAQFriday also draws attention to frequently 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 36% and content received 127,923 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.

## FOLLOW & LIKE

@MATTRECYCOUNCIL





MRC collects mattresses from 154 communities and 375 public and private entities that dispose of large and small volumes of discarded mattresses.

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## PERFORMANCE GOALS & EVALUATION

# PERFORMANCE GOALS & EVALUATION

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## CONNECTICUT'S MATTRESS COLLECTION NETWORK

The success of Connecticut's program relies largely on MRC obtaining discarded units from the existing statewide network 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 that possesses a mattress 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.

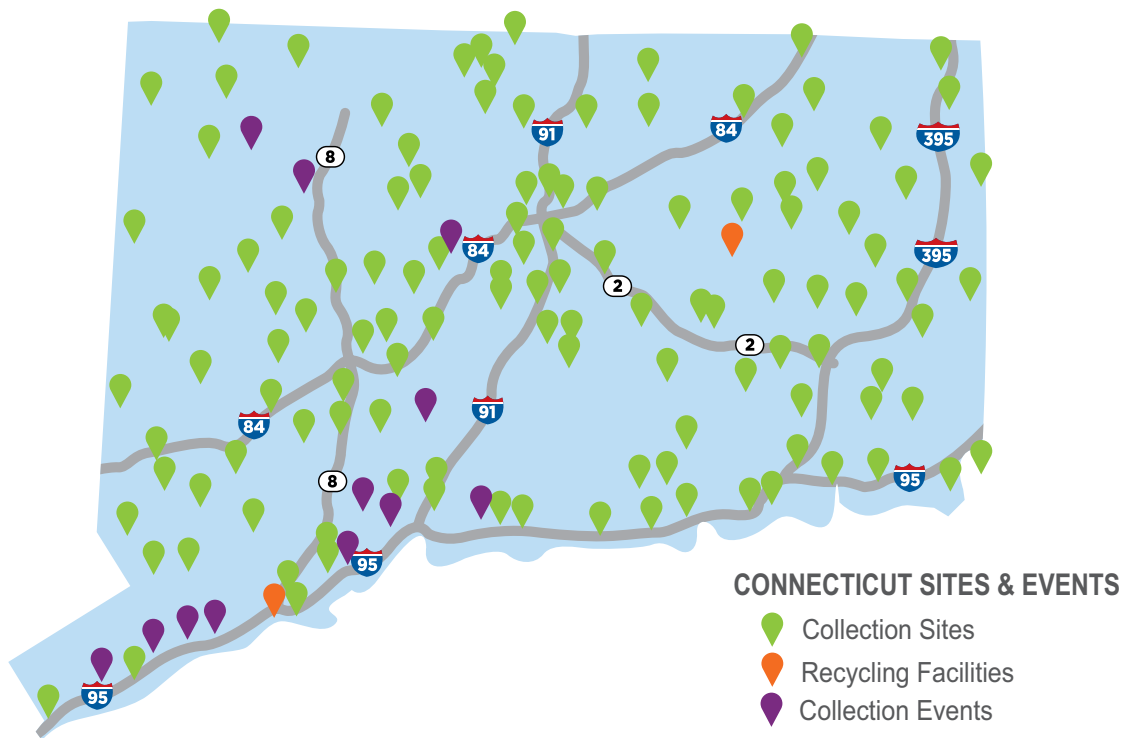
During this reporting period, residents in 154 cities and towns had no-cost drop-off options to recycle discarded units at collection sites or collection events. Additionally, residents in four municipalities could access mattress recycling through their curbside bulky item collection program. While many collection sites limit access to their residents and curbside collection is restricted to the waste hauler's service area, all state residents may drop off discarded mattresses for recycling at Park City Green in Bridgeport or the Salvation Army stores in Newington and Hartford.

In addition to these residential collection options, 375 other entities that dispose of discarded mattresses are also recycling their used units through the program. Fifty-two new entities joined the program this reporting period, representing a 13% increase over the previous reporting period.

Finally, 47 retailers throughout the state that sell mattresses to Connecticut residents are registered to participate in the program. They collect discarded units from customers at the time a new mattress is delivered and then send these mattresses to MRC's recyclers.

MRC continues to bring new municipalities and other entities into the program. They may contact MRC to host a collection site or one-day event, drop off at a recycling facility, or request no-cost transportation services if they have collected the minimum number of units.

## MAP OF CONNECTICUT SITES & EVENTS



## EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE GOALS & METHODS

As required by Connecticut General Statutes §22a-905a(f)(2), MRC submitted updated performance goals based on its experience administering the program following the first year of the program's operations. DEEP accepted the updated goals on November 2, 2017. Below is an evaluation of the goals and the methods used to achieve them.

### MUNICIPALITIES

#### GOAL:

MRC to secure participation from 111 municipal transfer stations by Fiscal Year 2019. MRC will also increase access for Connecticut residents through special collection events and other programs.

ACHIEVED - MRC exceeded the municipal transfer station participation goal by the end of Fiscal Year 2019 and added six more transfer stations this reporting period, bringing the total to 128. In addition, 12 municipalities held collection events during this reporting period. Through these sites and events, residents in 154 Connecticut cities and towns have direct access to the program.



## **METHODS:**

In the eight years of administering this program, MRC has recruited a large majority of the state's municipal transfer stations and recycling centers to participate in the program. MRC attributes this success to maintaining regular communication and providing excellent service with existing entities and proactively addressing barriers to participation for potential new entities.

Our outreach to existing and potential participants consisted of phone calls, emails, and site visits. As well as regular participation in group meetings such as those held by the Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management and DEEP's Solid Waste Advisory Committee. MRC also attended conferences held by the Connecticut Recyclers Coalition (CRC) and the Northeast Recycling Council (NERC) during this reporting period.

In addition to in-person meetings, MRC sent updated Collection Site Guidelines to all participants to reinforce product acceptance and contamination criteria. These contacts also received MRC's monthly newsletter and seasonal reminders throughout the year that encouraged proper screening, handling, storing and loading of mattresses to improve quality and collection efficiency.

To further explain program requirements and expectations, MRC maintains a video series to assist in training collection site staff and onboarding new sites. This series includes four videos that address bedbug identification and management, efficient mattress stacking and loading, effective collection site operations, and identifying included and excluded program products. These videos are available in English and Spanish at [MattressRecyclingCouncil.org](http://MattressRecyclingCouncil.org).

For municipalities that lacked space for a collection container or other resources to handle mattresses, MRC offered to host a collection event and pay for all event costs, including staffing the event, transporting and recycling the collected mattresses and assisting with event publicity and signage. Twelve municipalities held a total of 23 collection events during this reporting period. This includes the City of New Haven which hosts two permanent containers, but also held a Hometown Recycling Day to increase awareness of these resources and expand program access.

Collectively, this outreach resulted in adding six municipal transfer stations and two new municipal events to the collection network during this reporting period.

## VOLUME REDUCTION FACILITIES

### GOAL:

Volume reduction facilities (VRFs) are permitted facilities that process construction and demolition materials, oversized municipal solid waste, clean wood and recyclables. MRC will continue to work with VRFs not in the program to evaluate their mattresses for recycling and work with upstream sources to divert them for recycling before they are processed by VRFs and can become contaminated.

ACHIEVED – MRC collected 16,163 units from VRFs for recycling and registered one new VRF with the program during this reporting period. MRC also coordinated with upstream sources to divert mattresses to recycling.

### METHODS:

MRC collects mattresses from 18 VRFs, one of which began participating with the program this reporting period. We encourage these facilities to collect and divert their units in a manner that maintains their recyclability. MRC also encourages VRFs to educate their customers that rent disposal containers for household cleanouts to stack or store mattresses in containers properly to avoid damaging or contaminating the units. Through these efforts, MRC collected 16,163 units from VRFs for recycling during this reporting period.

MRC also focused on collecting mattresses from upstream sources such as small commercial haulers before they were collected by a VRF. During this reporting period, MRC increased the number of “other entities” participating in the program by 5.6%. In total, these upstream sources delivered 8,469 units directly to the program, and not VRFs.

MRC will continue to work with VRFs and haulers on educational opportunities to increase the recyclability and diversion of incoming units and encourage their customers to discard mattresses at an MRC collection site or recycler (as opposed to dumpsters provided by VRFs).

## RETAILERS

### GOAL:

Recycle approximately 30,000 mattresses from retail sources annually.

ACHIEVED – Retailers recycled 34,213 units during this reporting period.

**METHODS:**

MRC provides no-cost recycling to retailers that comply with the program and makes delivery and 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 provides no-cost transportation to retailers that collect a minimum of 50 units.

Four retailers joined the program during the reporting period, bringing the total number of retailers that provide units for recycling to 47. The program surpassed its 30,000-unit goal, collecting over 14% more units from retailers than the goal.

Although the exact number of units collected for recycling from retailers annually will fluctuate, MRC anticipates that the impact of economic conditions will result in traditional retailers’ share of recycled mattresses declining over the short term.

The following table demonstrates the number of units collected from retailers year over year.

**TABLE 3: UNITS COLLECTED FROM RETAILERS DURING REPORTING PERIOD**

REPORTING PERIOD (JULY 1 - JUNE 30)	UNITS COLLECTED
2020-2021	37,777
2021-2022	37,979
2022-2023	34,213

MRC promotes recycling to the mattress industry through its website (MattressRecyclingCouncil.org), online portal notifications (MRCreporting.org), monthly and quarterly newsletters, articles and advertisements in industry publications, presentations at industry conferences and bedding retailer and manufacturer sales meetings. MRC staff also visit regional and national retailers’ warehouses to discuss recycling solutions tailored to solve their logistical and operational challenges.

Marketing collateral, such as a retailer information sheet and brochure, explains the benefits of recycling, the assistance that MRC provides retailers and how to contact the Northeast Program Coordinator. See **Education & Outreach** for more information on MRC’s industry communications.

## **LODGING**

### **GOAL:**

MRC will continue to promote the benefits of the program among Connecticut lodging establishments and recycle approximately 5,000 mattresses annually from lodging establishments.

NEARLY ACHIEVED - Twenty-five lodging facilities - a 28% increase - joined the program this reporting period bringing the total number of hotels participating in the program to 115. Twenty-two hotels used the program this reporting period recycling 3,304 units.

### **METHODS:**

MRC provides no-cost recycling to lodging establishments that make delivery and scheduling arrangements with MRC's Northeast Program Coordinator.

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.

To communicate with the lodging industry, MRC is an Allied Member of the Connecticut Lodging Association, which represents all segments of the lodging industry, including hotels, motels, inns, bed & breakfasts, attractions and service providers. We distributed our information sheet to area properties through a direct mailer to all members.

MRC also continues to communicate with establishments that have received Connecticut's Green Lodging certification from DEEP. During this reporting period, MRC's information was shared in an email to Green Lodging members.

MRC attributes program success in the sector to our direct outreach to lodging establishments and participating hotels recommending the program to their colleagues.

MRC's ability to meet this goal each year is contingent on several factors. Such as the number of lodging establishments replacing their mattresses, the number of units being discarded during that period and whether those discards are sent to MRC recyclers. As a result, the total number of units the program obtains from lodging establishments will fluctuate from year to year as indicated in Table 4.

Furthermore, MRC has learned from experience that some hotels sell many units that they discard to renovators and does not anticipate that practice will stop. In addition, some owners are transitioning their properties from lodging into another type of use such as a housing complex.

**TABLE 4: UNITS COLLECTED FROM LODGING FACILITIES DURING REPORTING PERIOD**

<b>REPORTING PERIOD (JULY 1 - JUNE 30)</b>	<b>UNITS COLLECTED</b>
2020-2021	1,651
2021-2022	5,090
2022-2023	3,304

MRC will continue focused outreach to the lodging industry through stakeholder meetings and by directly contacting lodging establishments.

### **HEALTHCARE FACILITIES**

#### **GOAL:**

Continue education and outreach efforts while evaluating the recyclability of units discarded by Connecticut healthcare facilities on a case-by-case basis.

ACHIEVED - MRC continued outreach to healthcare organizations this reporting period. Seven new facilities joined the program and a total of 473 units were recycled. Twenty-six healthcare facilities are now registered with the program to recycle their discarded mattresses.

#### **METHODS:**

MRC provides no-cost recycling to 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 sought advertising opportunities in healthcare trade media and continued to use established relationships to distribute information. MRC emailed an information sheet to two nursing home trade associations. MRC also provided EPA Region 1 (whose jurisdiction includes Connecticut) information that was used in an online newsletter distributed to the agency's Healthcare and Social Assistance Sector contacts.

MRC continues to respond to inquires from healthcare facilities regarding mattress recycling. However, many healthcare facilities have been hesitant to recycle discarded mattresses due to continued pathogen concerns, breached outer ticking or physical contamination. These units are instead disposed of as solid or biological waste due to these liability concerns.

MRC will continue to focus on reaching the healthcare industry through targeted messaging to healthcare industry association members and assist those interested in participating.

## PRISON MATTRESSES

### GOAL:

MRC will evaluate the units on a case-by-case basis for recycling. MRC is researching alternative end markets and uses for mattress materials that can be removed from prison mattresses to increase the recyclability of those products.

ACHIEVED - MRC is researching alternative end markets and uses for mattress materials to increase the recyclability of products from all sources.

### METHODS:

MRC remains in contact with the Department of Corrections. During this reporting period, the department did not recycle any mattresses through the program. The current units used by the department are not recyclable because they are made primarily of polyester batting and no demand exists at this time for post-consumer polyester batting. MRC continues to explore recycling options for mattress materials with companies that buy recycled fiber or textiles. See [Research](#) for more information on these efforts.

## EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

### GOAL:

MRC will recruit 25 educational facilities to participate in the program by Fiscal Year 2019.

ACHIEVED - This goal was previously achieved in Fiscal Year 2019. There are currently 33 registered educational facilities, of which 16 used the program this reporting period, recycling 4,053 units.

### 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.

Sixteen educational facilities recycled 4,053 units this reporting period. Of the 16 educational facilities that used the program this reporting period, 14 were colleges and universities and two were boarding schools.

MRC continues seasonal outreach to boarding schools, colleges and universities to encourage the facility and its student population to use the program.

## MILITARY BASES

### GOAL:

MRC will continue to recycle mattresses from the Naval Submarine Base New London on an as-needed basis. MRC will reach out to other military facilities in Connecticut, such as military training camps and Army National Guard, to determine if they have mattresses that are eligible for recycling.

ACHIEVED – The Naval Submarine Base continues to use the program to recycle mattresses and MRC remains in contact with the Army National Guard.

### METHODS:

The Naval Submarine Base used the program seven times during this reporting period, recycling 743 units. Additionally, a military base hotel recycled 286 units, for a total of 1,029 military units recycled during this reporting period.

MRC remains in contact with military facilities and evaluates requests on a case-by-case basis. In a previous reporting period, National Guard personnel confirmed that they do not generate units to recycle from their own permanent facilities.

## WASTE-TO-ENERGY FACILITIES

### GOAL:

MRC will work with waste-to-energy (WTE) facilities not in the program to evaluate their mattresses for recycling and work with upstream sources to divert them for recycling before they become contaminated.

ACHIEVED – During the reporting period, no WTE facilities requested the recycling of mattresses or box springs through the program. Additionally, MRC registered 52 new entities with the program to recycle their mattresses and divert them from the waste stream.

### METHODS:

MRC has learned from experience that mattresses received by WTE facilities are not recyclable because the trucks that transport discarded units to them also collect putrescible solid waste, which contaminates the discarded units and renders them unfit for recycling.

Therefore, MRC's primary focus has been to divert units collected by sources upstream, such as municipalities and commercial haulers, to recyclers before they can reach a WTE facility. As a result of these efforts, MRC enrolled 12 new participants – six new municipal transfer stations, one VRF and five small commercial haulers this reporting period. The units from these sources are diverted directly to recyclers and not delivered to WTE facilities.

MRC continues to contact non-participating municipalities, transfer stations and waste haulers to encourage them to participate in these diversion efforts.

## OTHER ENTITIES

### GOAL:

MRC proposes to recycle 3,500 mattresses annually from other entities and to document their participation in the annual report. MRC will continue to respond to other entities interested in participating in the program.

ACHIEVED - MRC is now providing no-cost mattress recycling to 132 other entities. During this reporting period, MRC surpassed this goal by recycling 8,469 units.

### 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.

During the reporting period, MRC's Northeast Program Coordinator received requests from nonprofit organizations, apartment complex property managers, moving and storage companies, small/independent junk haulers, clean-out services and real estate agents that wanted to recycle discarded mattresses through the program.

MRC is now providing no-cost recycling to 132 other entities, of which nine joined during this reporting period. MRC will continue to collect information from other entities that desire to use the program and develop other sector-specific outreach.

## STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH

### GOAL:

Distribute point-of-sale materials that explain the purpose of the recycling fee to consumers.

ACHIEVED - See [Education & Outreach](#) for details regarding MRC's point-of-sale materials and [Appendix E](#) for examples.

### GOAL:

Identify non-compliant Connecticut mattress retailers, require them to register with MRC, and collect and remit the fee.

ACHIEVED - See [Education & Outreach](#) for details regarding MRC's communication with the mattress industry.



**GOAL:**

Continue to conduct stakeholder meetings for each covered entity subgroup and other interested parties.

ACHIEVED – Stakeholder outreach is discussed above. **Appendix C** provides a list of meetings, site visits and other stakeholder interactions.

**GOAL:**

Contact and visit stakeholders to educate them about the benefits and obligations of program participation.

ACHIEVED – Stakeholder outreach is discussed above. **Appendix C** provides a full list of meetings, site visits and other stakeholder interactions.

**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.

MRC’s annual consumer survey indicates consumer outreach is increasing awareness. In addition, MRC’s achievement of all of the covered entity-focused performance goals signals that MRC’s communications and outreach materials are generating awareness and interest in the program from among all of its target audiences.

**RECYCLING MATTRESS COMPONENTS**

**GOAL:**

MRC will strive to recycle 75% (by weight) of the recyclable materials generated from dismantling collected mattress units.

NEARLY ACHIEVED – MRC recyclers attained a 74% recycling rate this reporting period and MRC’s research activities are working to increase the recycling rate and recyclability of a mattress.

**TABLE 5: RECYCLING RATE PER REPORTING PERIOD**

REPORTING PERIOD (JULY 1 - JUNE 30)	RECYCLING RATE
2020-2021	73%
2021-2022	72%
2022-2023	74%

**METHODS:**

Once discarded mattresses arrive at a recycling facility, the recycler unloads the container and evaluates the condition of the mattresses. Units contaminated with bedbugs or putrescible solid waste cannot be recycled and are separated for disposal to minimize facility contamination and worker exposure.

The disassembly process varies from one recycler to the next, but most use a combination of manual and mechanical processes. The steel wire found in most mattresses and box springs is usually the most valuable and readily recyclable commodity. The recycler will separate the steel manually or mechanically from other mattress materials. Depending on the requirements of the parties purchasing this material, the recycler may transport loose loads of the steel wire to a metal recycler, or shred or compress it prior to shipment. The recycler will then separate the foam, fiber, wood and other commodities for sale in secondary markets, if possible.

For those materials that cannot be sold in scrap markets for use in making new products, MRC encourages its contracted recyclers to explore alternative uses to minimize the amount of material landfilled or incinerated. For example, although composting or mulching wood reclaimed from dismantled box springs is a potential end use, nails and staples used to fabricate mattress box springs may render the wood unusable for these applications if they cannot be thoroughly and efficiently removed. The next best use for foundation wood is biomass fuel used in generating electric power.

Currently, recyclers sell foam and quilt panels from mattresses to companies that manufacture carpet padding. In this reporting period our recyclers sustained consistent end markets for these materials which maintained their recycling rates.

In addition to fiber in the quilt panel, mattresses may contain shoddy pads and other non-woven materials made of fiber. The composition of these layers varies by mattress type and may be made from cotton, coconut husk, other natural fiber, rayon, polyester or other synthetic fibers. These mixed fiber materials have few viable secondary markets. Cotton has a limited market as an insulation product and the primary buyer of cotton has stopped accepting this material due to excessive transportation costs.

The condition of units and the lack of markets for some post-consumer mattress components contributed to a recycling rate slightly lower than the 75% goal set in the plan. This metric is highly dependent on buyers for the recycled materials that can be particular about product quality and volume. For example, many scrap metal recyclers will stop accepting pocketed coils if they consider the polypropylene fiber encasing the coils (amounting to 8% of the component's weight) to be an unacceptable contaminant. As the frequency of discarded units containing pocketed coils continues to increase, MRC issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on August 15, 2022 for mattress recycling services that mandated pocketed coil recycling as one criteria for acceptance. Currently, both MRC recyclers are actively working to either acquire new equipment or find suitable outlets to process this material.

## 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 New England programs are noted below. Additional information about our recently completed and historical research projects is provided on MRC's website.

### COMPOSTING MATTRESS COTTON AND COCONUT FIBERS

A commercial composter concluded that composting could be a viable solution for mattress recyclers seeking to divert their post-consumer cotton and/or coir from landfills. In the study, shredded cotton and coconut fibers from old mattresses were mixed with green yard waste and composted in covered windrows (long compost piles) from October through December 2023. The finished compost was tested for a variety of characteristics including pathogens, nutrients, metals and physical contamination, compost stability, particle size and maturity. The [full report](#) is posted on MRC's website.



### MATTRESS AGE STUDY

A new study was conducted to estimate the average time between mattress manufacture and consumer disposal. The average age for all units was 13.9 years. Foundations averaged 15.1 years. Innerspring and all-foam mattresses averaged 13.2 years. The results of this study do not necessarily represent the useful life of mattresses and foundations as several factors besides durability can influence a consumer's decision to discard a mattress.

The purpose of the study was to provide stakeholders with data to make informed decisions and develop effective strategies to improve recycling processes, reduce waste, and promote sustainability. The [full report](#) is posted on MRC's website.

## MANUFACTURING BATTERY ELECTRODES FROM RECYCLED MATTRESS MATERIALS

A research team led by Dr. Ram Gupta at the National Institute for Materials Advancement (NIMA) completed a 3-year study that successfully developed dual carbon and lithium-sulfur batteries using recycled mattress materials.



The results were very encouraging with test data indicating that electrodes made from recycled cotton, shoddy pad and coconut fiber had significant performance advantages over common electrode materials, such as carbon black, graphene and carbon nanotubes. In January 2022, NIMA completed follow-up research to construct and test actual batteries using the developed

components and evaluate their performance. When used in lithium-ion test batteries, recycled mattress materials had very high storage capacity and good power density. They retained over 90% performance over 10,000 charge-discharge cycles (roughly equivalent to a 10+ year service life).

For dual carbon batteries, recycled mattress materials were used to make both the anode and cathode. NIMA also developed cathodes suitable for use in lithium-sulfur batteries and found almost no loss of energy during the charge and discharge process.

The findings are significant for several reasons. The rapid increase in rechargeable battery demand has created a global shortage of carbon feedstocks used to make electrodes. Recycled mattress materials, particularly non-woven textiles, may be an inexpensive, clean and abundant feedstock that can fill current and emerging needs. Presently, a large percentage of mattress textiles are landfilled due to a lack of economically viable markets. Creating a new market channel that uses recycled textiles to make domestically produced carbon electrodes would have significant environmental benefits.

Further details are in the [full report](#) on MRC's website. The NIMA team is interested in developing industry relationships to explore the potential for commercializing this technology.

## LIFE CYCLE ANALYSIS

In 2022, MRC completed a life cycle analysis (LCA) of MRC's California mattress recycling operations. While the data was pulled from MRC's California program, the approach, process and results would likely transfer to other MRC state programs. The analysis measured 11 environmental impacts incurred at each stage of MRC's process (collection, transportation and recycling) and the benefits achieved from landfilling less material and displacing virgin materials resulting from the recycling of post-consumer mattress material.

This analysis demonstrated that mattress recycling provides significant environmental benefits. In processing over 1.6 million mattresses in 2021, the materials MRC recycled reduced carbon dioxide emissions by a net 75 million pounds, water usage by 818 million gallons and energy use by 174 megawatt hours. Stated differently, each mattress recycled is like driving 60 fewer miles, saving 500 gallons of water and saving enough energy to power an average household for three days.

In addition to evaluating the environmental benefits of recycling post-consumer polyurethane foam using the mechanical processes that MRC's California recyclers employ (which prepares this material primarily for use in making carpet padding), the LCA also evaluated for comparative purposes the environmental impacts of advanced recycling processes such as chemical recycling and pyrolysis, as well as incineration. The LCA demonstrates that the advanced recycling processes provide significant net environmental benefits that are similar to mechanical recycling and that all provide significant benefits compared to landfill.

MRC will use the LCA in a variety of ways. First, it provides a benchmark for evaluating future performance. Second, the analysis will help identify potential areas of improvement (transportation, location of recyclers and collection sites, etc.). Third, its information can guide future research and investment decisions. Finally, MRC will use the data to increase the public's awareness of the benefits of recycling.

An independent review of the findings is underway. The [full report](#) is available on the MRC website.



## **RECYCLER EQUIPMENT/VENDOR RESOURCE**

To help its recyclers improve efficiency, MRC assembled an equipment listing of balers, shredders and box spring shearing machines (including equipment specifications) that they may consider purchasing, as well as contact details for over 20 companies that sell this type of equipment. MRC updates this [resource](#) periodically with new vendor and equipment information.

## **NSF-FUNDED FOAM CIRCULARITY RESEARCH**

MRC serves on the Stakeholder Committee for a new project launched by the National Science Foundation (NSF) called the Emerging Frontiers in Research & Innovation Circularity of Cross-linked Polyurethane Foams. This research is being conducted by scientific teams from Arizona State University and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech). The goal of the Stakeholder Committee is to provide insights from essential stakeholders in the U.S. polyurethane foam value-chain that can guide the research team's efforts, decisions and resource allocations. The committee will establish a communication channel between industry members and the research team for the duration of the five-year \$1.9 million NSF-funded project.

## **CIRCULARITY 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 being pursued to work toward a more circular economy for mattresses.

Global interest in creating greater circularity in the mattress industry continues to accelerate. Stakeholders across the value chain cite the need for interdisciplinary collaboration to build infrastructure that can implement full and partial closed loop product use cycles. Industry leaders around the world are also working with public authorities to develop legislation to establish circularity requirements and incentives specifically for mattresses.

Due to regional preferences, business model differences, a mattress' long useful life and regulatory priorities, building a homogeneous global circular economy for mattresses will take considerable time. Developing better mattress designs is a common thread in discussions among manufacturers interested in sharing best practices. However, end-of-life management priorities and strategies diverge significantly from region to region. Rather than invest in conventional recycling infrastructure, which is mostly downcycling, some countries are interested in moving directly to technologies that would upcycle polymeric materials (such as foam and some fibers) through chemical recycling and pyrolysis. We anticipate further debate regarding the best ways to incentivize the global development of advanced recycling technologies and investment in commercial-scale facilities.

Predominantly in Europe but also in other regions, several advanced recycling pilot facilities were established in recent years. With increased experience and a better understanding of the technical risks and business cases, public-private sector entities and industry-led consortia are exploring means to globally expand the most promising technologies. Decisions regarding the size and placement of these future facilities will have significant environmental and economic impacts. MRC has been actively engaged with these organizations to provide volume and feedstock quality data to help inform these decisions.

In the United States, MRC continues its focus first on developing better and new markets for our recycled materials. Although this approach does not create complete closed-loop circularity, it is an important part of the overall strategy because it typically has the most favorable environmental impact, according to MRC's life cycle analysis (see above) in comparison to more energy-intensive approaches like thermo-chemical recycling. Second, MRC thinks that building operational efficiencies 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 idea 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:

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

## **INDUSTRY WORK GROUP ON CIRCULAR DESIGN**

MRC's Industry Workgroup on Circular Design was formed to help members of the value chain take end-of-life recycling challenges into account when they design new components and mattresses. MRC shares lessons learned from mattress deconstruction and recycling with the workgroup to help find strategies that will reduce waste generation and create value by recycling post-consumer mattress components. MRC created a video demonstrating the deconstruction process and why some post-consumer mattress components are challenging to deconstruct or sell to a secondary market. The [video](#) has been distributed to the workgroup and other members of the value chain and can be found on MRC's YouTube channel.

The workgroup held its first meeting in early 2022 with a focus on adhesives. The workgroup met again after the ISPA Sustainability Conference in November 2022 and expanded the discussion to include foam suppliers and manufacturers. MRC will continue to engage other component suppliers.

The primary goals of the committee are to:

1. Discuss how to improve the circularity of mattresses.
2. Share recyclers' experiences with suppliers, designers and manufacturers to understand design impacts on mattress deconstruction and end-of-life component recycling.
3. Anticipate whether new materials and assembly techniques will require adjustments to recycling infrastructure when a mattress is discarded.
4. Establish consensus circular design principles for the mattress industry.

Through MRC's facilitation, end-of-life knowledge and the workgroup's input, the group developed a working paper to inform the industry about adhesive design opportunities to help improve mattress recycling. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list of opportunities, nor does it imply that all recycling challenges are related to adhesives. The paper describes why a particular process or application affects mattress deconstruction or the market value of post-consumer materials and offers short-term and long-term considerations to improve recyclability.

## **INDUSTRY WORK GROUP ON NEW MATERIALS**

The objectives of MRC's Industry Workgroup on New Materials 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.

The second workgroup meeting was held at the 2022 ISPA EXPO in Orlando, Florida.



Members of the workgroup represent foam, textile and spring manufacturers as well as MRC board members. During the meeting, MRC shared results of its waste characterization and mattress composition studies and members shared information about new materials that had been released since the last workgroup meeting. Participants evaluated the implications that new materials may have on future mattress recycling. The workgroup's efforts will guide MRC's research team and assist recyclers in preparing for these challenges as well as forecast future types and quantities of mattress materials available for secondary markets. The workgroup meets with MRC annually.

### **CIRCULAR ECONOMY FOR POLYURETHANE FOAM**

Polyurethane foam is an important material used in most mattresses. At present, only about 6% of polyurethane foam is recycled globally. An interdisciplinary international effort to improve polyurethane foam circularity has been underway for several years.

Most major polyurethane chemical suppliers have established goals to reduce their carbon footprint and as part of these initiatives, researchers are actively working on feedstocks derived from bio-based and thermochemically recycled materials. While several manufacturers have already introduced products with increased bio and/or recycled content, MRC understands that these new products have low industry adoption rates.

To further enhance circularity in the European Union, several chemical companies have partnered with recyclers to develop end-of-life solutions for post-consumer foam. This field is very active with several pilot and commercial facilities under development, subsidized by EU funding. These recycling processes and their resulting outputs are dependent on facility design. At this point, the cost to generate chemicals from a recycled material feedstock exceeds the cost of production from virgin sources. Therefore, investment to generate recycled chemicals on a commercial scale will require subsidies.

MRC's current recycling rate for polyurethane mattress foam exceeds 80% (almost all of which is mechanically recycled into carpet padding). Nevertheless, MRC is interested in finding other uses for recycled polyurethane foam. MRC anticipates that demand for carpet padding will fall over time because carpet's share of the U.S. floor covering market is declining. Furthermore, as more states enact their own mattress recycling laws, the supply of post-consumer mattress foam will increase. Finally, demand for carpet padding is highly cyclical, rising and falling in tandem with the housing market.

To sustain the currently high recycling rate for polyurethane mattress foam, it is imperative that MRC develop new markets for this material. Our recent life cycle analysis demonstrates that mechanical and chemical recycling processes have

similar environmental benefits. MRC is also exploring alternative low intensity thermomechanical recycling processes which also show promise. While these are not purely circular solutions, preliminary assessments indicate that they might offer favorable environmental benefits. MRC thinks that investment in all options will be necessary to substantially improve the global recycling rate for mattress foams and for polyurethane in general.



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## APPENDICES

# APPENDIX A: 2022—2023 FISCAL YEAR



## CONNECTICUT MATTRESS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM - ANNUAL REPORT

### APPENDIX A - TONNAGES OF CT MATTRESSES MANAGED THROUGH THE CT MATTRESS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Report Submitted by: **Mattress Recycling Council (MRC)**

Reporting Period: Fiscal Year (FY) 23: July 1, 2022 thru June 30, 2023

**Table 1 - Summary of CT Mattresses Management through the MRC CT Program**

	FY TONNAGE
<b>MRC CT Mattresses Delivered to an MRC Contracted Mattress Recycling Facility for Processing</b>	<b>5,462.9</b>
MRC CT Mattress Material Recovered (from MRC mattresses processed) & Sent Out for Recycling by MRC Contracted Recycling Facilities	3,759.0
MRC CT Mattress Processing Residue (from MRC mattresses processed) Sent Out for Disposal by MRC Contracted Recycling Facilities	1,354.9

**Table 2 - Sources of CT Mattresses Managed through the MRC CT Program**

SOURCE OR AGGREGATION SITE	FY TONNAGES COLLECTED & MANAGED THROUGH THE MRC CT PROGRAM
CT Municipal Transfer Stations (report details in <a href="#">Table 6</a> )	3,497.2
CT Regional Solid Waste Facilities (e.g. Resource Recovery Facilities, Volume Reduction Plants, Regional Transfer Stations, Recycling Facilities, etc.)	457.5
CT Correctional Facilities	0
CT Hospitals	6.6
CT Hotels	101.0
CT Military Base	24.0
CT Retailers	1,053.2
CT Schools/Universities	90.5
CT Other: Other	232.9
CT Other:	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,462.9</b>

**APPENDIX A: 2022-2023 FISCAL YEAR** *continued*

**Table 3 - Recycling Facilities which Received & Processed CT Mattresses Managed through the MRC CT Program**

<b>FACILITY- NAME AND ADDRESS</b>	<b>FISCAL YEAR TONNAGE MRC CT MATTRESSES RECEIVED</b>	<b>FY TONNAGE MRC CT MATTRESSES PROCESSED</b>
Park City Green, 459 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT	1,553.8	1,518.6
Willimantic Waste, 185 Recycling Way, Willimantic, CT	3,909.0	3,909.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,462.9</b>	<b>5,427.6</b>

**Table 4 - Tonnages & Types of CT Mattress Material Managed and Recycled through the MRC CT Program (Please note: material, other than waste oil, incinerated with or without energy production is not considered recycled)**

<b>TYPE OF MATERIAL RECYCLED</b>	<b>TYPE OF RECYCLING DESTINATION</b>	<b>FY TONNAGE RECYCLED</b>
Scrap Metal	Recycling Processing Facility Other - Specify:	1,452.9
Foam	Manufacturer-End User Other - Specify:	742.6
Cotton	Manufacturer-End User Other - Specify:	0
Wood	Manufacturer-End User Other - Specify:	214.9
Other - Specify type: Quilts & Toppers	Manufacturer-End User Other - Specify:	415.7
Other - Specify type: Felt/Shoddy	Manufacturer-End User Other - Specify:	80.9
Other - Specify type: Cardboard	Recycling Processing Facility Other - Specify:	64.4
Other - Specify type: Plastic	Recycling Processing Facility Other - Specify:	126.0
Other - Specify type: Biomass (wood)	Other-Specify Other - Specify: Biomass	652.8
Other - Specify type: Other Fiber	Manufacturer-End User Other - Specify:	8.9
Other - Specify type:	Other-Specify Other - Specify:	
<b>TOTAL CT Mattress Material Managed and RECYCLED through the MRC CT Program</b>		<b>3,759.0</b>

**APPENDIX A: 2022-2023 FISCAL YEAR** *continued*

**Table 5 - Tonnages & Types of CT Mattress Material Managed and *Disposed* through the MRC CT Program**

TYPE OF MATERIAL DISPOSED	DISPOSAL MANAGEMENT	FY TONNAGE
Residue	Incineration with Energy Production	1,354.9
Residue	Buried in a Landfill	0
	Other	
	Choose from Dropdown	
	Choose from Dropdown	
	Choose from Dropdown	
<b>TOTAL CT Mattress Material Managed and <i>DISPOSED</i> through the MRC CT Program</b>		<b>1,354.9</b>

**Table 6 - Detail Regarding Mattress Tonnage Aggregated at CT Municipal TSs or Other CT Municipally Owned and/or Operated Site and Managed through the CT MRC Program**

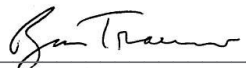
MUNICIPAL TRANSFER STATION OR OTHER MUNICIPAL PROPERTY WHERE MATTRESSES WERE AGGREGATED THROUGH THE CT MRC PROGRAM	FISCAL YEAR TONNAGE
See attached.	

Add additional lines if needed

**Part 2 - CERTIFICATION and SIGNATURE**

This document, which is required to be submitted by the Mattress Recycling Council (pursuant to CGS Sec 22a-905a(j), to the Commissioner of the Department of Energy Environmental Protection , shall be signed by the chief executive officer or a duly authorized representative of such officer as those terms are defined in §22a-430-3(b)(2) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, and by the individual(s) responsible for actually preparing such document, and each such individual shall certify in writing as follows:

“I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments thereto, and I certify, based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, that the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any false statement made in the submitted information may be punishable as a criminal offense under §53a-157b of the Connecticut General Statutes and any other applicable law.”

**Signature of the CEO or duly authorized representative of CEO:**  Date: 9/3/2023  
**Printed name:** Ryan Trainer

**Signature of person responsible for preparing report:**  Date: 9/3/2023  
**Printed name:** Daniel McGowan      **Title:** Northeast Program Coordinator  
**Phone:** (860) 397-4800      **Email Address:** [dmcgowan@mrc-us.org](mailto:dmcgowan@mrc-us.org)

# APPENDIX A: NOTES

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MRC provides the following notes to clarify its interpretation of certain terms used on the form provided by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and to elaborate on certain other information MRC has provided on that form. These notes are to be considered an integral part of the information MRC has provided on the DEEP form that is included in this Appendix.

1. **“Mattresses”** refers collectively to mattresses and box springs. Together, mattresses and box springs are also referred to as **“units.”**
2. **Tonnage:** All tonnage figures reported on this form are based on data provided to MRC by unrelated third parties under contract with MRC. The recyclers submitted actual weights of inbound units throughout the reporting period. The recyclers provide to MRC actual weights for the amount of recyclable material, biomass and residue that their operations generate. MRC estimated the outbound weights specific to Connecticut recyclers which process both program and non-program materials, thus necessitating that estimation.
3. In Table 1:
  - a. Mattresses “Delivered to an MRC Contracted Mattress Recycling Facility for Processing” refers to discarded program mattresses and box springs received by MRC recyclers for dismantling and recycling.
  - b. Material “Sent Out for Recycling” refers to recyclable commodities obtained from dismantled program mattresses and box springs that MRC recyclers sell or transfer to third parties for use in manufacturing new products or as biomass fuel.
  - c. Residue “Sent Out for Disposal” refers to the weight of program mattresses and box springs (in whole or in part) that are not recyclable (e.g. because the material is too soiled or contaminated or there are no viable secondary markets, etc.) and has been transferred for disposal at a Waste-To-Energy facility or landfilled as solid waste.
  - d. Outbound shipments of materials recycled do not include unprocessed units or recyclable material still in inventory. MRC is currently working with recyclers on standard operating procedures and internal controls for the collection and reporting of inbound and outbound weight data.
4. In Table 2:
  - a. The “Consumer Incentive Mattress” category was removed because MRC has no data to report for this topic this Reporting Period.
  - b. “Other” refers to miscellaneous sources not specifically defined in the Law, (e.g. property managers, junk haulers or storage facilities).

## APPENDIX A: NOTES *continued*

5. In Table 4:

- a. “Biomass” refers to wood reclaimed from dismantled box springs that is converted into biomass fuel for use in generating electric power. An MRC recycler processes wood to create a final product for biomass fuel. Since the recycler sells this product to an end user for energy production, MRC classifies it as recycled wood.

6. In Table 5:

- a. “Residue” refers to non-recyclable material removed from discarded mattresses and box springs processed by MRC recyclers that is sent for disposal at a Waste-To-Energy facility or landfill. Residual material includes contaminated or unrecyclable mattress components for which there are no viable secondary markets.



# APPENDIX A: TABLE 6

## PERMANENT COLLECTION SITES 2022-2023

<b>COLLECTION LOCATION</b>	<b>FY2023 TONS</b>	<b>COLLECTION LOCATION</b>	<b>FY2023 TONS</b>
Andover Transfer Station	7.9	East Haddam Transfer Station	25.2
Ansonia Transfer Station	33.2	East Hampton Transfer Station	14.7
Ashford Transfer Station	15.8	East Hartford Transfer Station	127.5
Avon Landfill Transfer Station	21.9	East Haven Landfill	2.7
Beacon Falls Public Works	1.7	East Lyme Transfer Station	38.2
Berlin Transfer Station	24.3	East Windsor Recycling Center	9.7
Bethany Recycling Center	5.9	Eastford Transfer Station	7.8
Bethel Transfer Station	11.5	Ellington Public Works Department	1.2
Bethlehem Transfer Station	8.5	Essex Transfer Station	12.0
Bolton Transfer Station	2.3	Fairfield Collection Event	2.7
Bozrah Transfer Station	2.1	Farmington Department of Public Works	17.1
Branford Transfer Station	54.4	Franklin Transfer Station	1.7
Bridgeport Transfer Station	97.8	Glastonbury Transfer Station/Recycling Facility	48.0
Bridgewater Transfer Station	2.3	Goshen Collection Event	2.3
Bristol Transfer Station	70.4	Granby Transfer Station	19.9
Brooklyn Resource and Recovery Station	23.4	Greenwich - Holly Hill Transfer Station	32.9
Burlington Transfer Station	20.1	Griswold Transfer Station	18.8
Canaan Transfer Station	4.5	Groton Transfer Station	57.9
Canterbury Transfer Station	16.9	Guilford Transfer Station	62.2
Canton Transfer Station	14.6	Haddam Transfer Station	20.3
Chaplin Transfer Station	3.7	Hamden Transfer Station	31.5
Cheshire Collection Event	11.4	Hampton Transfer Station	10.0
Clinton Transfer Station	15.2	Hartford Bulky Waste and Recycling Center	338.9
Colchester Transfer Station	24.3	Harwinton Collection Event	1.6
Columbia Transfer Station	5.2	Hebron Transfer Station	16.3
Cornwall Transfer Station	5.4	Kent Transfer Station	5.3
Coventry Transfer Station	23.3	Killingly Transfer Station	15.8
Cromwell Transfer Station	21.3	Lebanon Transfer Station	15.3
Danbury Mom & Pop Transfer Station	26.0	Ledyard Transfer Station	25.2
Darien Transfer Station	19.3	Litchfield Recycling Center	12.1
Deep River Transfer Station	3.7	Lyme Bulky Waste Transfer Station	2.6
Durham-Middlefield Transfer Station	22.8	Manchester Transfer Station	109.4
East Granby Transfer Station	7.9	Mansfield Transfer Station	18.2

**APPENDIX A: TABLE 6** *continued*

<b>COLLECTION LOCATION</b>	<b>FY2023 TONS</b>	<b>COLLECTION LOCATION</b>	<b>FY2023 TONS</b>
Marlborough Transfer Station	9.6	Salem Transfer Station	8.8
Meriden Transfer Station	45.3	Salisbury-Sharon Transfer Station	17.3
Middletown Recycling Center	98.3	Seymour Transfer Station	18.6
Milford Transfer Station	35.8	Shelton Transfer Station	27.5
Montville Transfer Station	49.2	Simsbury Transfer Station	48.4
Morris Transfer Station	5.2	Somers Transfer Station	20.8
Naugatuck Transfer Station	33.7	Southbury Transfer Station	17.9
New Britain Transfer Station	34.9	Southington Bulky Waste Transfer Station	54.4
New Fairfield Drop Off Center	14.4	Sprague Transfer Station	9.9
New Haven Transfer Station & Collection Event	55.0	Stafford Transfer Station	9.3
New London Transfer Station	65.4	Stamford Collection Event	1.0
New Milford Transfer Station	42.3	Stonington Solid Waste Facility	40.5
Newington Transfer Station	40.6	Stratford Transfer Station	4.6
Newtown Transfer Station	36.2	Suffield Landfill	15.7
Norfolk Transfer Station	5.9	Thomaston Transfer Station	5.8
North Branford Collection Event	2.1	Thompson Transfer Station	26.4
North Canaan Transfer Station	8.2	Trumbull Collection Event	0.8
North Haven Transfer Station	4.9	Union Transfer Station	3.8
North Stonington Transfer Station	14.8	Voluntown Transfer Station	9.1
Norwalk Collection Event	2.2	Washington Transfer Station	5.6
Norwich Transfer Station	74.8	Waterbury Transfer Station	66.9
Old Lyme Transfer Station	30.2	Waterford Transfer Station	40.4
Old Saybrook Transfer Station	32.9	Watertown Transfer Station	25.4
Orange Collection Event	1.2	West Hartford Recycling Center	35.9
Oxford Transfer Station	12.7	West Haven Public Works	17.2
Plainfield Transfer Station	51.3	Westbrook Transfer Station	18.6
Plainville Transfer Station	8.7	Weston Transfer Station	5.1
Plymouth Transfer Station	19.9	Westport Collection Event	3.2
Pomfret Transfer Station	6.1	Wethersfield Transfer Station	26.1
Portland Transfer Station	14.1	Willington Transfer Station	13.1
Preston Transfer Station	10.0	Wilton Transfer Station	2.4
Prospect Recycling Center	11.4	Windham Transfer Station	39.9
Putnam Transfer Station	28.7	Windsor Transfer Station	34.4
Redding Transfer Recycling Center	7.5	Wolcott Transfer Station	21.5
Regional Refuse District #1	36.0	Woodbury Transfer/Recycling Center	13.4
Ridgefield Transfer Station	33.7	Woodstock Transfer Station	14.6
Rocky Hill Transfer Station	35.7		

**TOTAL 3,497.2 TONS**

# APPENDIX B: COLLECTION PARTICIPANTS

As of June 30, 2023

## MUNICIPAL COLLECTION SITES

Site limits access to its residents or service area. MRC's network included 128 sites, serving residents in 143 municipalities.

Andover	Durham# also serves Middlefield	Marlborough
Ansonia	East Granby	Meriden
Ashford	East Haddam	Middletown
Avon	East Hampton	Milford
Beacon Falls	East Hartford*	Montville
Berlin	East Haven	Morris
Bethany	East Lyme	Naugatuck
Bethel	East Windsor	New Britain
Bethlehem	Eastford	New Fairfield
Bolton	Ellington	New Haven
Bozrah	Essex	New London
Branford	Franklin	New Milford# also serves Sherman
Bridgeport	Glastonbury	Newington
Bridgewater	Granby	Newtown
Bristol	Greenwich	Norfolk
Brooklyn	Griswold	North Canaan
Burlington	Groton	North Haven
Canaan	Guilford# also serves Madison	North Stonington
Canterbury	Haddam	Norwich
Canton	Hamden	Old Lyme
Chaplin	Hampton# also serves Scotland	Old Saybrook
Clinton# also serves Killingworth	Hartford*	Oxford Public Works
Colchester	Hebron	Plainfield# also serves Lisbon
Columbia	Kent	Plainville
Cornwall	Killingly	Plymouth
Coventry	Lebanon	Pomfret
Cromwell	Ledyard	Portland
Danbury Mom & Pop# also serves Brookfield	Litchfield	Preston
Darien	Lyme	Prospect
Deep River# also serves Chester	Manchester*	Putnam
	Mansfield	Redding

# serves the surrounding area as noted.  
\* curbside collection program.

## MUNICIPAL COLLECTION SITES *continued*

Regional Refuse# serves Barkhamsted, Winsted, New Hartford	Sprague	Watertown
Ridgefield	Stafford	West Hartford
Rocky Hill	Stonington	West Haven
Salem	Stratford	Westbrook
Salisbury# also serves Sharon	Suffield	Weston
Seymour	Thomaston	Wethersfield
Shelton	Thompson	Willington
Simsbury	Union	Wilton
Somers	Voluntown# also serves Sterling	Windham
Southbury	Washington# also serves Warren, Roxbury	Windsor# also serves Bloomfield
Southington	Waterbury	Wolcott
	Waterford	Woodbury
		Woodstock

# serves the surrounding area as noted.  
\* curbside collection program.

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

### SITE

Cheshire	Spring and Fall drop-off event
Fairfield	Spring and Fall drop-off event
Farmington	Spring and Fall curbside collection
Goshen	Spring and Fall drop-off event
Harwinton	Spring and Fall drop off event
North Branford	3 events this reporting period
Norwalk	3 events this reporting period
Orange	Spring and Fall drop-off event
Stamford	Summer event
Trumbull	Spring event
Westport	Spring and Fall drop-off event
New Haven	Fall Hometown Recycle's Day

## STATEWIDE ACCESS

### SITE

Bridgeport Park City Green  
Hartford Salvation Army  
Newington Salvation Army

# APPENDIX C: STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	STAKEHOLDER GROUP
July 7, 2022	Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry
July 24-28, 2022	Summer Las Vegas Market	Las Vegas, NV	Mattress Industry
Aug. 2, 2022	Mass DEP C&D Subcommittee	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry
Aug. 4, 2022	HRRRA Operations Call	Virtual	Municipalities
Aug. 31, 2022	Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry
Sept. 7, 2022	Deep Dive Forum - Reuse Centers: Creating Local Community Connections & Benefits	Virtual	Municipalities
Sept. 19-21, 2022	Adhesives and Sealants Sustainability Forum	Pittsburgh, PA	Mattress Industry and Research
Sept. 28, 2022	Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry
Sept. 29, 2022	CT Lodging Association 2022 Annual Meeting	Virtual	Lodging Industry
Oct. 17, 2022	Mattress Recycling and Solid Waste Solutions	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry
Oct. 18, 2022	MRC Fire Prevention Webinar	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry
Nov. 1, 2022	DEEP SWAC	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry
Nov. 2-3, 2022	Northeast Recycling Council Fall Conference	Rocky Hill	Waste and Recycling Industry
Nov. 15, 2022	Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry
Nov. 16-17, 2022	ISPA Sustainability Conference	Charlotte, NC	Mattress Industry

## APPENDIX C: STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH *continued*

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	STAKEHOLDER GROUP
Nov. 30, 2022	National Zero Waste Conference	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry
Dec. 20, 2022	Massachusetts Product Stewardship Council Meeting	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry
Jan. 24, 2023	CT Lodging Association Zero-Waste Hotel Tour	New Haven	Lodging Industry
Jan. 26, 2023	DEEP SWAC	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry
Jan. 29–Feb. 2, 2023	Winter Las Vegas Market	Las Vegas, NV	Mattress Industry
Feb. 5–7, 2023	Northeast Furniture & Accessory Market	Edison, NJ	Mattress Industry
Feb. 20–23, 2023	Keep America Beautiful National Conference	Washington, DC	Waste and Recycling Industry
March 6, 2023	Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry
March 15–16, 2023	ISPA Industry Conference	St. Petersburg, FL	Mattress Industry
March 23, 2023	MA Recycle Conference and Trade Show	Marlboro, MA	Waste and Recycling Industry
April 10, 2023	Connecticut Recyclers Coalition Conference	Hartford	Waste and Recycling Industry
April 25, 2023	DEEP SWAC	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry
May 3, 2023	CT Legislative Lobby Day	Hartford	State Legislature
May 30, 2023	MassDEP SWAC 2021 Solid Waste Data Briefing	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry
June 13, 2023	MassDEP Recycling Market Development Work Group	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry
June 20, 2023	Environmental Business Council “Talking Trash” Conference	Westborough, MA	Waste and Recycling Industry
June 27, 2023	DEEP SWAC	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry
June 27, 2023	DOW Polyurethanes The Race to Zero	Virtual	Waste and Recycling Industry

# APPENDIX D: REGISTERED PRODUCERS

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As of June 30, 2023

## ACCOUNT

AC Pacific Corporation  
Airweave, LLC  
Alessanderx SpA  
Allied Aerofoam, LLC  
American Bedding Mfg. Inc.  
American Pacific Plastic Fabricators Inc.  
Apartment Furnishings Company Inc.  
Artaban Therapedic SA De CV  
Ascion, LLC  
Ashley Furniture Industries, LLC  
Avatar Enterprises Inc.  
Barnhardt Manufacturing Company  
Best Choice Products Inc.  
Bestar Inc.  
Bio Sleep Concept Inc.  
Blue Bell Mattress Co., LLC  
Bob Barker Company Inc.  
Bourdon's Institutional Sales Inc.  
Boyd Flotation Inc.  
Brentwood Home, LLC  
Brick Church Manufacturing, LLC  
BRN Sleep Solutions USA, LLC  
Brooklyn Bedding, LLC  
  
Bryte Inc.  
Carico International Inc.  
Carpenter Co.  
CCB Hope Ventures, LLC  
Children's Products, LLC  
Classic Brands, LLC  
COA Inc.  
Columbia Mattress & Upholstery Company Inc.  
Comfort Bedding of the USA, LLC  
Comfort Revolution, LLC

## DBA NAME

AC Pacific Corporation  
Airweave, LLC  
Alessanderx SpA  
Allied Aerofoam, LLC  
American Bedding Mfg. Inc.  
Sterling Sleep Systems  
Apartment Furnishings Company Inc.  
Artaban Bedding  
Reverie  
Ashley Furniture Industries, LLC  
Comfortex  
BedInABox  
Best Choice Products Inc.  
Bestar Inc.  
Bio Sleep Concept  
King Koil Northeast  
Bob Barker Company Inc.  
Bourdon's Institutional Sales Inc.  
Boyd Specialty Sleep  
Simply Modern Mattress  
Brick Church Mfg.  
BRN Sleep Solutions  
Dreamfoam Bedding, Brooklyn Bedding,  
Helix Sleep, Bear Mattress, Nolah Sleep,  
Leesa Sleep  
Bryte Labs  
Carico  
Carpenter Co.  
Hope Mattress  
Simmons Juvenile Furniture  
Classic Brands  
Coaster Company of America  
Columbia Mattress & Upholstery Company  
Comfort Bedding of the USA, LLC  
Comfort Revolution, LLC

## APPENDIX D: PRODUCERS *continued*

### ACCOUNT

Comfort Sleep Systems Inc.  
Corsicana Acquisition, LLC  
Corsicana Bedding, LLC  
Custom Mattress Makers Inc.  
CVB Inc.  
Deluxe Home of USA Inc.  
Denver Mattress Company, LLC  
Dorel Home Products  
DUX Interiors Inc.  
E&E Bedding Co. Inc.  
E.S. Klufft & Company, LLC  
Eastern Sleep Products Co. Inc.  
Eco Bedroom Solutions, LLC  
Elements International  
Elite Comfort Solutions, LLC  
Engineered Sleep, LLC  
Ergomotion Inc.  
Ezine Inc.  
Factory Direct Inc.  
Feng Ben International (HK) Limited  
Fibre Processing Corporation  
Flex-A-Bed Inc.  
Flotation Innovations Inc.  
Foam Sweet Foam Inc.  
Fredman Bros. Furniture Company Inc.  
Friendship Upholstery Company Inc.  
Future Foam Inc.  
FXI Inc.  
GF Health Products Inc.  
Golden Well International (HK) Ltd  
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.

### DBA NAME

Comfort Sleep Systems  
Corsicana Mattress Company  
Corsicana Mattress Company  
Custom Mattress Makers Inc.  
Lucid Mattress, Wellsville, Linenspa  
Deluxe Home of USA Inc.  
Denver Mattress Company  
Ameriwood Industries Inc.  
DUX Interiors Inc.  
Spring Air  
Aireloom Mattress  
Symbol Mattress  
Ergovea Natural Mattress  
Kyvno, LLC  
Elite Comfort Solutions  
Engineered Sleep, LLC  
Ergomotion Inc.  
Eastern Accents  
Lady Americana SW  
Feng Ben International (HK) Limited  
Fibre Processing Corporation  
Flex-A-Bed  
Innovations  
Foam Sweet Foam  
Glideaway Sleep Products  
Friendship Upholstery Company Inc.  
Future Foam Inc.  
FXI  
GF Health Products Inc.  
Golden Well International (HK) Ltd  
Gruppo Industriale Buoninfante SPA  
Shifman Mattress  
Health Care Co. LTD  
Healthcare Arizona, LLC  
Healthcare SC, LLC  
HSM  
HSM  
Hill-Rom Company, Inc.; Hill-Rom Holdings, Inc.;  
Hill-Rom DTC, Inc.



## APPENDIX D: PRODUCERS *continued*

### ACCOUNT

Hong Kong Gesin Technology Company Ltd  
IKEA Supply AG  
Illinois Sleep Products Inc.  
InnoMax Corporation  
Innovative Bedding Solutions Inc.  
Invacare Corporation  
Jeffco Fibres Inc.  
Jiaxing Taien Springs Co. LTD  
Joerns Healthcare, LLC  
Jussi Beds  
Keeson Technology Corporation LTD  
Keetsa Inc.  
King's Castle HK Import and Export Co. Limited  
Kingsdown Inc.  
Klaussner Home Furnishings Inc.  
Kuka (HK) Trade Co. LTD  
Lakewood Candies, LLC  
Latex Foam International, LLC  
Leggett & Platt Automotive Group de Mexico, S. de R.L. de C.V.  
Leggett & Platt Components Co. Inc.  
Leggett & Platt Inc.  
Linon Home Decor Products Inc.  
Lippert Components Inc.  
Live and Sleep, LLC  
Made Rite Bedding Company  
Magniflex USA LTD  
Mantua Manufacturing Company  
Matelas Martin Inc.  
Mattress Team Works Inc.  
McNeillys Inc.  
Medical Depot Inc.  
Medline Industries Inc.  
Mellow Inc.  
Michael Thomas Furniture Inc.  
Moonlight Slumber, LLC  
MTJ American, LLC  
Naturally Beds Inc.

### DBA NAME

Hong Kong Gesin Technology Company Ltd  
IKEA  
ISP  
InnoMax Corporation  
IBS  
Invacare Corporation  
Jeffco Fibres Inc.  
Jiaxing Taien Springs Co. LTD  
Joerns Healthcare  
Colet & Scandinavian Bed Company, Carpe Diem  
Keeson Technology Corporation LTD  
Keetsa  
Deluxe Home of USA Inc.  
  
Kingsdown Inc.  
Enso Sleep Systems  
Gaim Regiomontana, S.A. De C.V.  
Milliard Bedding  
Talalay Global  
Leggett&Platt Automotive Group de Mexico, S. de R.L. de C.V.  
Leggett&Platt Bedding  
Leggett&Platt Inc.  
Linon Home Decor Products Inc.  
Lippert Components Inc.  
Live and Sleep  
Made Rite Bedding  
Magniflex USA LTD  
Rize  
Literie Laurier  
MTW  
McNeilly Furniture  
Drive Medical Design and Manufacturing  
Medical Device Manufacturer and Distributor  
Mellow Inc.  
The MT Company  
University Sleep Products  
MTJ American  
Arizona Premium Mattress

## APPENDIX D: PRODUCERS *continued*

### ACCOUNT

Nature Sleep System, LLC  
Neiser Mattress and Furniture Corp.  
Nitori USA Inc.  
Norix Group Inc.  
Norwalk Mattress Co. Inc.  
Oddello Industries, LLC  
Organic Mattresses Inc.  
Pacific Urethanes, LLC  
Paramount Industrial Cos. Inc.  
Peacelily Sleep  
PPJ, LLC  
Pragma Corporation  
PranaSleep, LLC  
Prestige Fabricators Inc.  
Progressive Products Inc.  
PT. Graha Seribusatujaya  
Puffy, LLC  
Purple Innovation, LLC  
Quality Sleep Shop  
Reliatex of Connecticut LTD  
Resident Home, LLC  
Rest Easy, LLC  
Rest-Medic Sleep Products  
Restmore, LLC  
Restopedic Inc.  
Restwell Mattress Co.  
Safavieh International, LLC  
Safe For Home Products, LLC  
SBL, LLC  
Seahawk Designs Inc.  
Sealy Mattress Manufacturing Company, LLC  
Select Comfort Retail Corporation  
Serta Simmons Bedding, LLC  
Shanghai Shenbao Mattress Factory  
Shen Zhen L&T Industrial Co. LTD  
ShenZhen Yun Lee Sponge Products Co. LTD  
Sherwood Midwest, LLC  
Sherwood Northeast, LLC

### DBA NAME

Jazvin  
Neiser Mattress and Furniture Corp.  
Aki Home  
Norix Group Inc.  
Norwalk Mattress Co. Inc.  
Oddello Industries, LLC  
Organic Mattresses Inc.  
Pacific Urethanes  
Paramount Sleep  
Peacelily Sleep  
Customatic Adjustable Bedz  
Pragma Corporation  
PranaSleep  
Prestige Fabricators Inc.  
Progressive Products Inc.  
PT. Graha Seribusatujaya  
Puffy Mattress  
Purple  
My Green Mattress  
Reliatex of Connecticut LTD  
Resident  
Pacific Mattress Co.  
Rest-Medic Sleep Products/Luen Tai Global LTD  
Restmore  
Restopedic Inc.  
Restwell Mattress Factory  
Safavieh  
Naturepedic  
SBI, LLC  
Seahawk Designs Inc.  
Sealy Mattress Manufacturing Company  
Sleep Number  
Serta and Simmons  
Shanghai Shenbao Mattress Factory  
Luen Tai Global LTD  
Luen Tai Global LTD  
Sherwood Midwest  
Sherwood Bedding

## APPENDIX D: PRODUCERS *continued*

### ACCOUNT

Shevick Sales Corp.  
Sinomax USA Inc.  
Sleep Studio, LLC  
Sleeping Pure, LLC  
Solstice Sleep Products Inc.  
Somnium Inc.  
Sound Sleep Products Inc.  
South Bay International Inc.  
Southerland Inc.  
Span America Medical Systems Inc.  
Star Seeds Co, LTD  
Suite Sleep Inc.  
Technogel US Inc.  
Tempur Production USA, LLC  
Tempur Sealy International Inc.  
Thanepohn Corp.  
The Bedding Group Inc.  
The Furniture Bank  
The Original Mattress Factory Inc.  
The Standard Mattress Co.  
Therapedic of New England, LLC  
Therapedic Sleep Products Inc.  
Tudor House Furniture Co. Inc.  
University Loft Company  
Ureblock S.A. DE C.V.  
Venture Products, LLC  
Vien Lam Co. Ltd  
Vinyl Products Mfg. Inc.  
Vispring Limited  
Vi-Spring Limited  
VPC Group Inc.  
Werner Media Partners, LLC  
White Dove Mattress, LTD  
Woodhaven Furniture Industries  
Yankee Mattress Factory Inc.  
Zhejiang Alright Home Textiles Co. LTD  
Zinus Inc.  
Zoma Sleep, LLC

### DBA NAME

Sleep on Latex  
Sinomax USA Inc.  
Authentic Comfort  
Sleeping Pure  
Solstice Sleep Products Inc.  
Somnium Inc.  
Sound Sleep Products Inc.  
South Bay International Inc.  
Southerland Inc  
Span America Medical Systems  
Star Seeds Co, LTD  
Suite Sleep  
Technogel US  
Mountain Top Foam  
Tempur Sealy  
Mattress Mill  
The Bedding Group Inc.  
Houston Furniture Bank  
The Original Mattress Factory  
Gold Bond  
Therapedic of New England  
Bedding Industries of America  
Tudor House  
University Loft Company  
Ureblock  
Venture Products, LLC  
Vien Lam Co. Ltd  
Vinyl Products Mfg. Inc.  
Vispring Limited  
Vispring  
VPC Group  
Ghostbed  
White Dove Mattress, LTD  
Woodhaven Furniture Industries  
Yankee Mattress Factory Inc.  
Zhejiang Alright Home Textiles Co. LTD  
Zinus Inc.  
Zoma Sleep

# APPENDIX E: PUBLIC EDUCATION MATERIALS

## IN-STORE INFO CARDS

**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 facility.

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 fillers.

**Find your nearest drop-off location or learn more about the fee and how the Program works at**

 **byebyemattress.com**  
A Program of the Mattress Recycling Council®

**Or contact us at [info@byebyemattress.com](mailto:info@byebyemattress.com) or 1-855-494-8400**

**byebye,  
mattress.**

**El cargo de reciclado financia un programa de reciclado de colchones a nivel estatal.**

El cargo de reciclado mencionado en su recibo, el cual es exigido por la ley para cada colchón y base de resortes vendidos, financia el programa de reciclado de colchones estatal conocido como Bye Bye Mattress.

El programa permite que cualquier colchón o base de resortes, independientemente de la fecha de compra, se pueda dejar sin costo en un punto de recolección, evento o centro de reciclaje participante.

Los vendedores minoristas también pueden utilizar el programa. Si le van a entregar un colchón nuevo, puede pedir que se lleven el viejo. Los cargos que le pueden cobrar por la entrega o el armado siguen aplicándose.

Cuando los colchones y bases de resortes se reciclan, se desarmen. El acero, espuma, fibra y madera se convierten en otros productos como fieltro o filtros industriales.

**Encuentre el punto de entrega más cercano u obtenga más información sobre el cargo y el funcionamiento del program en**

 **byebyemattress.com**  
A Program of the Mattress Recycling Council®

**O póngase en contacto con nosotros a [info@byebyemattress.com](mailto:info@byebyemattress.com) o al 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.



Connecticut law has created a mattress recycling program that requires retailers to collect a \$11.75 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 Connecticut customers may recycle them through the program. Ask your retailer if they participate. *Delivery or set up fees for new mattresses may still apply.*



**byebyemattress.com**

A Program of the Mattress Recycling Council®

Visit [ByeByeMattress.com](http://ByeByeMattress.com) to learn more.

## CONSUMER FAQ'S



**bye bye mattress**

A Program of the Mattress Recycling Council

### 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](http://www.MattressRecyclingCouncil.org). To learn how to recycle your mattress or to find a collection location or event near you, visit [www.ByeByeMattress.com](http://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](http://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 -

PAGE 2 (MATTRESS RECYCLING FEE FAQS)

**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](#).

**SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER:** [Sign up here](#) 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.**

## 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=xYqdlU\\_eGHY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xYqdlU_eGHY)

#### MANDARIN

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A4cG7O9-ORo>



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

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

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.*

*SFX: upbeat music.*

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

Hey, I'm your mattress.

(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).

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

Door closes behind MM.

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

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.

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.

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

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

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

Check out **ByeByeMattress dot com.**

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

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

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

File name: VYMI0100000H (1)\_VO  
 Client: Williams Whittle (Bye Mattress)  
 Job ID: US1139221  
 Transcribed by TransPerfect

Timecode	Source	Translation
00:00:08 00:00:23	Hey, I'm your mattress. We've been together for a while now, 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.	Hola, soy tu colchón. Hace mucho que estamos juntos, pero a decir verdad, creo que ambos estamos listos para un nuevo comienzo. 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.
00:00:24 00:00:36	I want to be recycled into new things. There's still a lot of good parts here to use. Check out ByeByeMattress.com. Learn more about recycling and the easy ways to get rid of an old mattress, like me, for free!	Quiero que me reciclen y convertirme en algo nuevo. Partes de mí 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.

File name: VYMI0100000H (1)\_VO  
 Client: Williams Whittle (Bye Bye Mattress)  
 Job ID: US1139221  
 Transcribed by TransPerfect

Timecode	Source	Translation
00:00:08 00:00:23	Hey, I'm your mattress. We've been together for a while now, 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.	嗨，我是您的床垫 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 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，我可能不只是一张床垫
00:00:24 00:00:36	I want to be recycled into new things. There's still a lot of good parts here to use. Check out ByeByeMattress.com. Learn more about recycling and the easy ways to get rid of an old mattress, like me, for free!	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！

Bye Bye Mattress

TV :15

# PSA TV #1 “the break-up” v1



# :30

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

SFX: upbeat music.

Door closes behind MM.

Hey, I'm your mattress... and we both know it's time I get recycled into something brand new.

Things that the MM could be recycled to pops up (I-beams, carpet foam, mulch...)

Scene of mattress in alley pops up behind MM.

Just don't toss me outside before checking out **ByeByeMattress dot com** -- where you can learn the easy ways to get rid of an old mattress, like me, for free!

MM holds up a sign with ByeByeMattress.com on it and alley scene fades away.

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

File name: VYMI0101000H MRC - Break Up\_15-FINAL\_FINAL\_VO  
Client: Williams Whittle (Bye Bye Mattress)  
Job ID: US1139221  
Transcribed by TransPerfect

Timecode	Source	Translation
00:00:01 00:00:14	Hey, I'm your mattress, and we both know it's time I get recycled into something brand new. Just don't toss me out before checking out ByeByeMattress.com and learn the easy ways to get rid of an old mattress, like me, for free!	Hola, soy tu colchón y ambos sabemos que es hora de reciclarme. No me descartes sin consultar ByeByeMattress.com. Descubre formas fáciles de deshacerte de tu colchón viejo, ¡y gratis!

File name: VYMI0101000H MRC - Break Up\_15-FINAL\_FINAL\_VO  
Client: Williams Whittle (Bye Bye Mattress)  
Job ID: US1139221  
Transcribed by TransPerfect

Timecode	Source	Translation
00:00:01 00:00:14	Hey, I'm your mattress, and we both know it's time I get recycled into something brand new. Just don't toss me out before checking out ByeByeMattress.com and learn the easy ways to get rid of an old mattress, like me, for free!	嗨，我是您的床垫，是时候让我焕发新生了 不要把我随意丢弃，请先访问 ByeByeMattress.com，了解免费处理像我一样的旧床垫的简单方法！

