



Mattress Recycling Council®

BYE BYE MATTRESS
NORTHEAST
COLLECTION GUIDELINES

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bye bye mattress®

A Program of the Mattress Recycling Council®

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About the Guidelines

Staff at all participating collection sites must be knowledgeable regarding these guidelines before accepting mattresses. For simplicity, these guidelines will refer to mattresses and box springs as mattresses. These guidelines describe the program and what is required to participate. MRC reserves the right to update, change, modify, amend, add or remove terms or otherwise alter these guidelines at any time with or without prior notice.

About the Mattress Recycling Council

The bedding industry established the Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) to develop and operate the recycling program known as Bye Bye Mattress. MRC contracts with service providers to transport and recycle mattresses and boxsprings from collection sites throughout each program state.

What MRC Provides

MRC provides the following to participating collection sites:

- A collection container to store mattresses that is appropriate for the number of mattresses that the collection site expects to generate and the site's available space
- Transportation from the collection site to a contracted recycler
- No-cost mattress recycling services

CONTACTS

MRC Program Coordinator
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Please contact MRC directly with any questions or concerns, or if you need additional information.

PROGRAM MATERIALS

INCLUDED PRODUCTS

Mattresses: Defined as any sleep surface covered with ticking or fabric that contains resilient material such as steel innersprings, foam, fiber or other filling or upholstery materials, used alone or in combination, regardless of size or shape. This definition includes foam mattresses.

Box springs (also commonly called foundations): A ticking or fabric-covered structure used to support a mattress or sleep surface and may be comprised of a frame, foam, springs or other structure, or other materials, used alone or in combination, regardless of whether the product is stationary or adjustable.

All items accepted for recycling by MRC must have been used and discarded in the program state.



A participating collection site may not charge for mattresses that are dropped off at its site and recycled through the program but may charge for the service of collecting a mattress at curbside or through other means that is then taken to a collection site for recycling.

PROGRAM MATERIALS

EXCLUDED PRODUCTS

- Adjustable bases not covered in ticking or fabric
- Air mattresses that contain no upholstery material (such as camping beds)
- Bed frames
- Car beds
- Collapsible roll-away beds
- Fold-out sofa beds
- Futons
- Futon frames or bases
- Juvenile products including, carriages, baskets, dressing tables, strollers, playpens, infant carriers, lounge pad, crib bumpers
- Loose bedding, blankets or sheets
- Mattresses infested with bed bugs or other living organisms
- Mattress pads and toppers
- Out-of-state mattresses
- Pillows and cushions
- Severely damaged, twisted, wet, frozen or soiled mattresses
- Sleeping bags
- Water beds



PROGRAM MATERIALS

MATTRESS INSPECTION AND EXAMINATION

Collection site staff should screen incoming mattresses to determine whether they are suitable for recycling and should remove mattresses that are:

- Excessively wet or frozen
- Severely twisted, punctured or crushed
- Infested with bed bugs or other living organisms
- Exceptionally soiled or moldy

Mattresses not suitable for recycling should be disposed of through your existing solid waste stream.

Bed Bug Identification

Mattresses and box springs infested with bed bugs are unacceptable for recycling and should be disposed of through your existing solid waste stream. Staff at collection sites should evaluate program materials for evidence of bed bug infestation. A training webinar focused on dispelling health related myths, identifying bed bugs and offering best practices for protecting staff can be found here: <https://www.mattressrecyclingcouncil.org/resources>



Bed bugs are tan to brown in color, but may appear redder if they have fed.

Adult Bed Bugs are dorsally flat insects, broadly oval and the size of an apple or melon seed (1/4").

Nymphs look like adults in shape but are smaller.

Eggs are white and barrel-shaped.

Signs of bed bug activity may be more obvious than the insects themselves. Look for clusters of dark spots or smudges on mattresses (fecal spots), especially along seams. Eggs, shed skins and all life stages of bed bugs may also be present in these 'soiled' areas.



For more information on bed bugs, please refer to the resources made possible by the **Connecticut Coalition Against Bed Bugs** at www.ct.gov/caes/CCABB

QUALITY STANDARDS

Acceptable Quality

IMPORTANT: MRC only accepts units used and discarded in the program state.

Shown here are examples of acceptable units.



Unacceptable Quality

Shown here are examples to illustrate severe damage, heavy soiling and infestation.

Other Conditions:

- Out-of-state mattresses
- Severely damaged or soiled mattresses
- Mattress that have been stripped of padding components.
- Pillows and cushions
- Fold-out sofa beds and futon frames or bases
- Loose mattress pads, toppers
- Loose bedding, blankets, or sheets
- Water beds
- Fire damaged units



MATERIALS COLLECTION & HANDLING

Each collection site will have unique operational considerations. Participating sites must make their own decisions about how to best manage their operations in the safest manner possible in accordance with applicable laws. At a minimum, each participating site must meet these requirements:

MINIMUM PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS	
SITE	Each collection site must be secure with adequate space and staffing to handle and store acceptable mattresses.
PERMITS	Each collection site must have knowledge of, and comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws. These may include, but are not limited to, zoning requirements, state permit requirements and OSHA or other workplace requirements. It is the collection site's responsibility to confirm if it is in compliance with all applicable notifications or requirements for accepting mattresses for recycling at the site.
INSURANCE	Each collection site must maintain general liability insurance of at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence.
TRAINING	Staff at each collection site must be trained and knowledgeable regarding these guidelines before accepting mattresses for recycling.
STORING & LOADING MATTRESSES See page 8 for photos and guidelines	<p>A collection site that has a General Permit for Municipal Transfer Stations must store program materials in weather proof containers, or under cover, to maximize their recyclability. In addition, all collection sites must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make every effort to place mattresses in MRC-designated storage containers immediately upon acceptance• Keep mattresses intact and not intentionally crush or puncture them• Efficiently stack mattresses to maximize the number of units loaded in each storage container• Provide oversight to keep unacceptable items out of MRC-designated storage containers• Remove any non-program materials from MRC-designated storage containers before transport to MRC recyclers• Practice good housekeeping standards, and keep storage containers and program materials in a neat and orderly condition
SITE ACCESS	Collection sites must allow MRC access to confirm compliance with these guidelines.

LOADING INFORMATION

LOADING MATTRESSES IN STORAGE CONTAINERS

Expected number of mattresses that should fit in various container sizes:

Container Type	Number of Mattresses
20-foot sea container	30-45
20-foot trailer	60-95
40-foot sea container	75-95
40-yard roll-off container	35-50
48-foot trailer	110-180
53-foot trailer	125-190

Acceptable Loading

- 1. Begin each stack with a queen or full size box spring.**
This acts as a base pallet to create a secure stack and makes unloading of mattresses quick and efficient.
- 2. Mattresses should be stacked horizontally** to the top of the trailer to maximize space.
- 3.** In small quantities, king size mattresses can be placed vertically next to a stack of horizontal mattresses.
- 4.** If there are more than 10 king size units, stack horizontally.



Unacceptable Loading

IMPORTANT: Do not load units in an unsafe manner.

Please contact your Program Coordinator to learn more about acceptable/non-acceptable units and appropriate stacking and loading techniques.



TRANSPORTATION & PROCESSING

TRANSPORTERS

MRC will assign each collection site a transporter to provide a storage container and transport services.

- MRC-contracted transporters will provide participating locations with evidence of automobile insurance coverage of at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence
- Each collection site should notify transporter at least two business days before a storage container is full of mattresses
- The assigned transporter will pick up full containers within two business days of notification and drop off an empty container at the same time
- On the scheduled pick up day, the collection site must make the collection container readily accessible to the transporter
- At the time of pick-up, collection site staff must be present to sign a three-part Bill of Lading (BOL) supplied by the transporter that details the quantity of mattresses in the container and must provide appropriate copies of the BOL to the transporter

A collection site may choose to provide its own storage containers and transportation at its own cost. MRC requests that such sites contact MRC in advance to schedule a convenient drop-off time.

RECYCLERS

Recyclers under contract with MRC will meet established recycling standards and accurately account for all mattresses received, the mattress components recycled (e.g., foam, steel, wood, fiber, etc.) and any residual disposal. Collection sites will be assigned an MRC recycler to best service your facility.



RECORDKEEPING

Bill of Lading:

A Bill of Lading (BOL) will be provided by the transporter. Before a full container leaves the site, the BOL must be completed and signed by facility staff. Following is a sample BOL and required information:

BILL OF LADING		DATE:
Unique BOL #: pre-printed #		
Collection Site/ Generator		
Name: _____		
Address: _____		
Type of Collection Site:	<input type="checkbox"/> municipal transfer station <input type="checkbox"/> mattress retailer <input type="checkbox"/> other _____	
Collection Container Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> 20 ft. sea container <input type="checkbox"/> 30 yd. roll off <input type="checkbox"/> 40 yd. roll off	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 153 ft. trailer <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	
Collection Site Count:	Mattress & Box Spring Units: _____ Collection Site Certified Net Weight (if available): _____ lbs.	
Please check to confirm:	<input type="checkbox"/> To the best of my knowledge, <u>ALL</u> of these units were used and discarded in Rhode Island.	
I hereby certify that I have personal knowledge of the information I have provided on this form, that this information is accurate to the best of my knowledge, and that I am authorized by my employer to complete and sign this form. I acknowledge that if I have provided false information on this form with an intent to deceive or misrepresent, my actions may expose my employer and me to criminal prosecution for fraud under federal or state law (including, but not limited to 18 U.S.C. § 1341 et seq.), and that if convicted, my employer and I may face punishment which could include substantial fines and jail.		
Name (print), Title	Signature	Date
Transporter		
Company Name: _____		
Address: _____		
Truck #: _____	Vehicle License Plate Number: _____	State: _____
Name (print), Title		
Signature		
Date		
Mattress Recycler		
Company Name: _____		
Address: _____		
Recycler Count:	Mattress & Box Spring Units: _____ Collection Site Certified Net Weight (if available): _____ lbs.	
Please check to confirm:	<input type="checkbox"/> To the best of my knowledge, <u>ALL</u> of these units were used and discarded in Rhode Island.	
Comments/Count Discrepancies: _____		
I hereby certify that I have personal knowledge of the information I have provided on this form, that this information is accurate to the best of my knowledge, and that I am authorized by my employer to complete and sign this form. I acknowledge that if I have provided false information on this form with an intent to deceive or misrepresent, my actions may expose my employer and me to criminal prosecution for fraud under federal or state law (including, but not limited to 18 U.S.C. § 1341 et seq.), and that if convicted, my employer and I may face punishment which could include substantial fines and jail.		
Name (print), Title		
Signature		
Date		

PROGRAM WITHDRAWAL & TERMINATION

A collection site's participation in MRC's Bye Bye Mattress program is voluntary. Either party may withdraw from participation with 10 days written notice to the other party. MRC reserves the right to remove any collection site not in compliance with these guidelines from further participation in the program.

