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Mattress Recycling Council®

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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

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This year, MRC's Connecticut Bye Bye Mattress program collected 212,789 mattresses and foundations and recyclers diverted 3,643 tons of material from disposal.

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The mattress industry created the Mattress Recycling Council (MRC), a nonprofit organization, to provide states an innovative mattress recycling solution.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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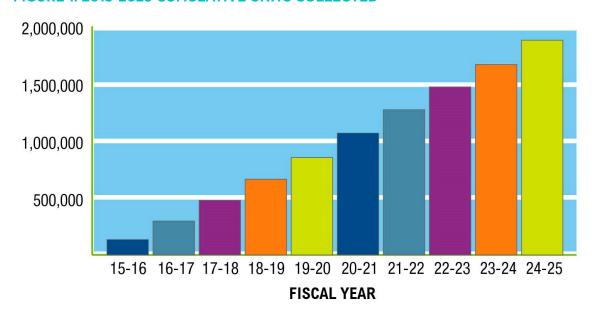
Pursuant to Section 2(j) of Connecticut Public Act 13-42, as amended (the Act), as codified at Sections 22a-905a, et seq. of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Mattress Recycling Council Connecticut, LLC (MRC) submits to the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) this 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 2025 Fiscal Year (July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025) (the reporting period).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On May 1, 2025, MRC marked a decade of successful operations in Connecticut, our inaugural program state. Since the program's launch, MRC has collected nearly 1.9 million mattresses and foundations, resulting in the recycling of more than 65.5 million pounds of valuable materials, including steel, foam, fiber and wood. Our program has significantly reduced the volume of waste entering Connecticut's disposal stream, contributing to a more sustainable and environmentally responsible waste management system.

During this reporting period, MRC collected 212,789 units and recyclers reclaimed 3,643 tons of materials, achieving a recycling rate of 67%. These outcomes are the result of achieving 14 performance goals and underscore the continued effectiveness and impact of the program as it enters its second decade.





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 foundations 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 other states with similar mattress recycling laws.

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. In 2017, the Council and DEEP agreed to revised performance goals based on the program's first full year of operations.

The Council subsequently created separate limited liability companies (LLCs) to administer the Connecticut program, as well as similar programs that the Council administers in other states. 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 four statewide programs have collectively recycled over 15 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 as 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.

YEAR TEN - PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS & HIGHLIGHTS

Achievements and highlights of the program's tenth year include:

- Collected 212,789 units and recycled 3,634 tons of material.
- Maintained broad statewide engagement 157 of Connecticut's 169 municipalities participate in the program.
- Obtained nearly 34,800 units from the retail sector a growth of more than 2,850 from the previous reporting period and recruited three retailers to begin recycling with the program.
- Worked with 16 educational institutions to recycle over 7,000 units an increase of 4,100 from the previous period.
- Picked up more than 4,370 units from lodging facilities and added four new participants to the program.
- Assisted the Naval Submarine Base New London with recycling 1,600 units the largest, single-year unit count in the history of their participation.
- Collected nearly 6,000 mattresses from small solid waste haulers and other similar entities, diverting these units to recycling and away from volume reduction and waste-to-energy facilities, surpassing the performance goal by 71%.
- Commemorated the program's 10th anniversary with a press conference which generated coverage across TV, radio, online, print and social media.
- Advanced industry engagement by participating in ISPA's fourth Sustainability Conference, focused on mattress design, innovation, end-market development, and carbon accounting.
- Supported regional expansion efforts by providing ISPA operational insights as it worked to pass mattress recycling legislation in Massachusetts, New York, and New Jersey.

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: wasteto-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 byproducts 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 through any means, including, but not limited to, remote offerings such as sales outlets, catalogs, or the internet.



MRC collects mattresses from

157 communities and 412 public

and private entities that dispose
of large and small volumes of
discarded mattresses.

COLLECTION NETWORK

COLLECTION NETWORK

OVERVIEW

The success of Connecticut's program relies 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 157 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 service. 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 Salvation Army stores in Newington and Hartford.

In addition to these residential collection options, 412 other entities that dispose of discarded mattresses also recycle their used units through the program - an increase of 23 from the previous period. This includes 48 retailers that collect discarded units from their customers when 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 permanent collection site, one-day event, drop off at a recycling center, or request no-cost transportation services if they have collected the minimum number of units.

CONNECTICUT COLLECTION SITES & EVENTS MAP





MRC achieved 14 performance goals related to securing participation from various industry sectors and conducting outreach.

PERFORMANCE GOAL EVALUATIONS & METHODS

PERFORMANCE GOAL EVALUATIONS & 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. With the addition of two new transfer stations during this reporting period, there are now 133 transfer stations participating in the program. Additionally, nine municipalities held a total of 17 collection events. Reciprocity agreements allow residents in 157 Connecticut cities and towns to have direct access to these transfer stations and collection events.

METHODS:

Over the past 10 years, MRC has recruited a vast 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 reliable transportation and recycling service, 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. MRC staff also participated in regional solid waste events 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, the Northeast Recycling Council, and the Environmental Business Council, among others, 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 encouraging 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 bed bug 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.

MRC's goal has been to create a practical, effective and cost-efficient network to collect, transport and recycle mattresses throughout Connecticut while minizing our environmental impacts. While 93% of Connecticut municipalities participate in the program, MRC continues to explore ways to expand the collection network, particularly in areas that don't yet have access to the program. Specific steps taken during this reporting period include:

- Collaborating with DEEP Twelve municipalities are reluctant to join because
 of either concerns over bed bugs or hesitation to require their employees to
 pack mattress containers. MRC and DEEP staff made phone calls to these nonparticipating municipalities to discuss these issues and identify how to overcome
 these barriers to their participation. While none agreed to join the program as a
 result of these collaborative outreach efforts, MRC will continue to communicate
 with these municipal transfer stations and keep them informed of the program.
- Identifying additional curbside programs In an effort to potentially add to the list of four known municipalities that recycle their curbside collected units through the program (see Appendix B), MRC surveyed all Connecticut municipalities to understand their offering of bulky curbside service and encourage those municipalities with curbside service to segregate and recycle collected units; the findings will be reviewed and published in 2026.
- Offering collection events For municipalities that lack space for a collection container or other resources to manage mattresses, MRC offered turn-key collection events, where MRC provides for event publicity and signage, labor, transportation, and recycling collected units.

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 become contaminated.

ACHIEVED - MRC collected 17,836 units from 14 VRFs for recycling during this reporting period. MRC also coordinated with upstream sources to divert mattresses to recycling. During this reporting period, MRC increased the number of "other entities" participating in the program. In total, these upstream sources delivered 5,988 units directly to the program and not VRFs.

METHODS:

A total of 17 VRFs are actively registered with MRC, of which 14 used 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 units.

MRC also focused on collecting mattresses from upstream sources, such as small commercial haulers, before the units were brought to a VRF for collection. MRC will continue to work with VRFs and haulers to increase program registration and to provide educational opportunities to increase the recyclability and diversion of incoming units. MRC will also encourage the customers of these VRFs and haulers to discard mattresses directly 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 34,795 units during this reporting period. There are now 48 retailers participating in the program, an increase of three from the previous reporting period.

METHODS:

MRC provides no-cost recycling to retailers that comply with the program and make delivery and scheduling arrangements with MRC's Northeast Program Manager. 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. The number of units collected for recycling from retailers annually will fluctuate based on national and regional economic conditions and demand from renovators that commonly purchase discarded mattresses from retailers.

The following table demonstrates the number of units collected from retailers from the previous three reporting periods.

TABLE 1: UNITS COLLECTED FROM RETAILERS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

REPORTING PERIOD (JULY 1 - JUNE 30)	UNITS COLLECTED
2022-2023	34,213
2023-2024	31,942
2024-2025	34,795

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 Manager. See <u>Education & Outreach</u> 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 - During this reporting period, 15 hotels used the program and recycled 4,373 units. There are now 132 participating lodging establishments, an increase of four from the previous period.

METHODS:

MRC provides no-cost recycling to lodging establishments that make delivery and scheduling arrangements with MRC's Northeast Program Manager. 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, representing all segments of the industry, including hotels, motels, inns, bed and breakfasts, attractions, and service providers. During this reporting period, MRC distributed an information sheet describing how to participate in the program to all area property members through direct mail. Participating hotels are also recommending the program to their colleagues. When asking new participants how they learned of the program, they often say they were refered by someone who had a positive experience.

MRC's ability to meet this goal each year depends on several factors, such as the number of lodging establishments replacing their mattresses, the number of units discarded during that period and whether those discards are sent to MRC recyclers or purchased by mattress refurbishers. As a result, the total number of units the program obtained from lodging establishments will fluctuate from year to year, as indicated in Table 2.

TABLE 2: UNITS COLLECTED FROM LODGINING FACILITIES

REPORTING PERIOD (JULY 1 - JUNE 30)	UNITS COLLECTED
2022-2023	3,304
2023-2024	4,217
2024-2025	4,373

MRC will continue to focus 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. One new facility joined the program, bringing the total number of registered healthcare facilities to 28. A total of 341 units were recycled.

METHODS:

MRC provides no-cost recycling to healthcare facilities that make delivery and scheduling arrangements with MRC's Northeast Program Manager 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 provided program information to EPA Region 1 (whose jurisdiction includes Connecticut) for use in its Sustainable Material Management Update newsletter. Twice during the reporting period, MRC sent emails to key decision makers at healthcare facilities across the state, encouraging them to use our program when replacing old mattresses. MRC continues to respond to inquires from healthcare facilities regarding mattress recycling.

MRC anticipates continued hesitancy in recycling discarded mattresses due to concerns about pathogen contamination and compliance with regulations governing the disposal of medical waste. Nevertheless, MRC will continue to distribute program information to healthcare facilities and assist with recycling their discarded mattresses as requested.

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 commodities 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. Units discarded by the department are not recyclable because they are primarily composed of polyester batting and no demand exists at this time for that material. MRC continues to explore recycling options for mattress materials with companies that buy recycled fiber or textiles.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

GOAL:

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

ACHIEVED - This goal was met in Fiscal Year 2019. Since then the number of registered educational facilities has increased to 34. During the reporting period, 16 used the program. These consisted of 11 colleges and five boarding schools. Collectively these facilities recycled 7,064 units, representing a nearly 245% increase from the previous period. One university was a major source of these units, recycling nearly 3,460 mattresses.

METHODS:

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

MRC continues seasonal outreach to boarding schools, colleges and universities to encourage the facility and its student population to use the program. In 2024, MRC sponsored a guide for organizing student move-out activities, including mattress collection events, which was distributed to Connecticut college sustainability directors.

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 utilize the program and recycled 1,559 units during the reporting period. This is the largest amount collected at the base in a single fiscal year in the history of the program.

METHODS:

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. MRC enrolled three new municipal transfer stations and seven small commercial haulers in this reporting period to divert their units directly to recyclers and away from WTE facilities.

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 diverting units collected by sources upstream, such as municipalities and commercial haulers, to recyclers before reaching a WTE facility.

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 surpassed this goal by recycling 5,988 units and is now providing no-cost mattress recycling to 149 other entities. Thirteen businesses joined during this reporting period.

METHODS:

MRC provides no-cost recycling to other entities that make delivery and scheduling arrangements with MRC's Northeast Program Manager. The entity may self-haul or use a third party to deliver discarded mattresses directly to an MRC recycler.

During the reporting period, MRC received requests from nonprofit organizations,

multifamily housing 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.

Of these sectors, MRC focused outreach on multifamily housing property managers. Most notably we worked with the National Association of Housing and Rehabilitation Officials to publish an article in their newsletter encouraging their members to use the program and to collaborate with MRC on educating their tenants about available collection locations.

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 <u>Education & Outreach</u> for details regarding MRC's point-of-sale materials and <u>Appendix E</u> for examples.

GOAL:

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

ACHIEVED - See <u>Education & Outreach</u> 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 within each of the above performance goals. Appendix C lists 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 within each of the above performance goals. **Appendix C** lists meetings, site visits and other stakeholder interactions.

METHODS:

As described in the <u>Education & Outreach</u> 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 registered retailers each year to gauge the use of resources, understanding of requirements, and satisfaction with program services. The performance goals established for each covered entity type also indicate whether MRC's methods were effective at persuading entities to join or use the program.

RECYCLING MATTRESS COMPONENTS

GOAL:

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

NEARLY ACHIEVED - For this reporting period, the recycling rate was 67%. The goal was not fully achieved for two reasons - a continued downturn in the secondary market for polyurethane foam and quilt and topper panels, and the stockpiling of recyclable materials. Due to low prices for foam and quilt panels, both recyclers stockpiled a large number of bales of both materials in anticipation of better market prices. Many of these bales either remain in storage and others were ultimately discarded, resulting in a decrease in our recycling rate.

TABLE 3: RECYCLING RATE PER REPORTING PERIOD

REPORTING PERIOD (JULY 1 - JUNE 30)	RECYCLING RATE
2022-2023	74%
2023-2024	68%
2024-2025	67%

METHODS:

Once discarded mattresses arrive at a recycling facility, the recycler unloads the container and evaluates the condition of the mattresses. Units contaminated with bed bugs or putrescible solid waste may not be recycled and are typically 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 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 buyer's requirements, recyclers typically shred or compress wire coils and frames prior to shipment. The recycler will then separate and prepare foam, fiber, wood and other commodities for sale in secondary markets, if possible.

Foam and quilt panels from recycled mattresses are typically sold to carpet padding manufacturers. However, during the reporting period, demand declined due to economic and housing market downturns and a shift in consumer preferences toward alternative flooring. MRC continues to research new, innovative uses for these materials to help its recyclers find new, more profitable markets. See the <u>Research</u> section for details regarding MRC's most current efforts.

In addition to fibers 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, wool, rayon, polyester or other synthetic fibers. In this reporting period, recyclers sent over 60 tons of cotton and shoddy for recycling in the automotive industry

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. While composting or mulching wood reclaimed from dismantled box springs is a potential end use, the presence of nails and staples often prevent its use, as the metal cannot be effectively removed. The next best use for foundation wood is biomass fuel, which generates electric power.



MRC uses a multichannel, multilingual strategy to inform consumers, retailers, the mattress industry, and other stakeholders about the benefits of recycling, the organization's accomplishments, the fee and the law. We created Bye Bye Mattress as a secondary, consumer-facing brand.

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

OVERVIEW

MRC's education and outreach informs consumers, retailers, the mattress industry, and other stakeholders about mattress recycling in Connecticut and the state's law, using a multichannel, multilingual approach and a mix of controlled, paid and offered efforts.

We use our primary brand (Mattress Recycling Council) for industry and stakeholder communication, and a secondary, consumer-facing brand in each state known as Bye Bye Mattress. Each year, we survey consumers and the mattress industry to measure awareness of key information and the effectiveness of our efforts.

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

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

COMMUNICATION EFFORTS

Outreach falls into one of three categories of communication efforts:

- **Controlled** MRC uses its own assets to provide and publish information (i.e., websites, social media, newsletters).
- **Paid** MRC pays for the ability to distribute information and receive visibility (i.e., advertising or event sponsorships).
- Offered MRC makes information or resources available to others to voluntarily distribute (i.e., a media release or toolkit).

CONTROLLED

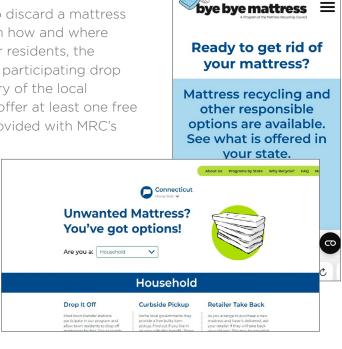
Websites

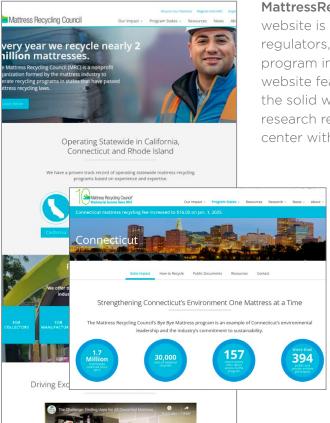
MRC's outreach encourages visiting one of three websites: <u>ByeByeMattress.com</u>, which focuses on consumers; <u>MattressRecyclingCouncil.org</u>, which informs the mattress industry, regulators, and stakeholders; and <u>MRCreporting.org</u>, which mattress retailers, manufacturers, distributors and renovators use to register with MRC and to report and remit recycling fees to MRC.

ByeByeMattress.com: We encouraged Connecticut residents and businesses wanting to discard a mattress to visit ByeByeMattress.com to learn how and where to recycle unwanted mattresses. For residents, the site features a searchable locator of participating drop off locations and a curbside directory of the local governments or waste haulers that offer at least one free pickup each year. Businesses are provided with MRC's

contact information in order to make arrangements for a drop off or pickup.

During the reporting period, more than 391,200 users visited **ByeByeMattress.com**, generating more than 737,470 page views. More than 10,750 users visited the Connecticut program page.





MattressRecyclingCouncil.org: MRC uses this website is to inform industry audiences, regulators, and stakeholders about state laws, program implementation and performance. The website features a robust resource library for the solid waste, recycling and mattress industries; research reports and developments; and a media center with newsletters and announcements.

For this reporting period,

MattressRecyclingCouncil.org
received 49,200 visitors,
generating 150,200 page views.

Nearly 4,380 users visited the
website's Connecticut program
page.

MRCreporting.org: Mattress retailers, manufacturers, distributors and renovators use MRCreporting.org to register with MRC and to report and remit recycling fees to MRC. The portal houses resources about the Connecticut law and program, as well as documents and videos demonstrating the registration, reporting and fee remittance processes. Registered parties receive automatic payment reminders and missed deadline email notices. MRC also pushes important



announcements about available customer education materials and mattress recycling options. As of June 30, 2025, more than 470 companies were registered with the Connecticut program.

Social Media

MRC maintains social media channels for both brands. We use the Bye Bye Mattress branded channels - Facebook, X, Instagram and Threads - to educate consumers, and the Mattress Recycling Council branded channels - Facebook, X, LinkedIn, and YouTube - to communicate with industry audiences. Our social media followers include consumers, retailers, manufacturers, civic and environmental groups, local and state governments, waste haulers, and recyclers.



We've previously used impressions as a metric to evaluate the effectiveness of our social media content. However, platform-specific changes in how this metric is defined, tracked and displayed have reduced its consistency and comparability over time. As a result, we've chosen to begin using audience growth and content volume as more reliable indicators of performance.

Bye Bye Mattress Branded Channels: By June 30, 2025, the collective audience for Bye Bye Mattress had grown to 3,647 followers, a 20% increase from the last report. Instagram continues to be the highest performing channel and the source of much of this growth.

During the reporting period, MRC published 388 posts across Bye Bye Mattress channels. The content reminded consumers about the multiple ways a mattress can enter the recycling stream, shared mattress care advice and encouraged the mitigation of illegal dumping. We also educated consumers about the benefits of mattress recycling, the impact of the program in Connecticut and how the fee is used.

Mattress Recycling Council Branded Channels: In the year ending June 30, 2025, the collective audience for MRC channels grew to 4,818, almost a 13% increase from the last report. LinkedIn continues to be the channel with the largest share of the audience.

During the reporting period, MRC published 362 posts across MRC channels. The content announced program developments, promoted MRC's presence at industry events, shared research announcements, highlighted resources, generated interest in using the Commercial Volume Program (CVP) and increased digital newsletter subscribers.

Newsletters

MRC produces a collection of digital newsletters. Our flagship publication, Highlights, reaches the largest, broadest audience. Meanwhile, quarterly newsletters target specific audiences.

Highlights (Monthly): Highlights is MRC's primary communication tool for announcements, state program updates, posting research accomplishments and sharing our illegal dumping mitigation expertise. We also keep readers informed of the industry's broader sustainability efforts.

MRC distributes Highlights to all registered retailers, renovators, manufacturers, collection site hosts, recyclers, and other stakeholders who subscribe. By June 30, 2025, the mailing list exceeded 7,650 with an average open rate of 41%. MRC also posts each issue on MattressRecyclingCouncil.org and the MRC branded social media channels.





Retailer Spotlight (Quarterly): Retailer Spotlight is distributed to registered retailers and provides tips for using MRCreporting.org, updates on state laws and regulations, new MRC resources for retailers, and insights on mattress recycling. By June 30, 2025, the mailing list exceeded 1,800, with an average open rate of 24%.

Seasonal Reminder (Quarterly): Each of MRC's program coordinators distributes a Seasonal Reminder to the collection site operators within their regions. The primary purpose of the newsletter is to remind operators of relevant MRC best practices (i.e., how to properly stack mattresses) and resources for training their staff or publicizing their site. The April 2025 Northeast issue (the last one distributed during the reporting timeframe) reached 220 subscribers and achieved a 27% open rate.

PAID

Industry Advertising

In the reporting period, to advertise CVP and the fee increase, MRC used digital and print ads, as well as targeted emails to subscribers of trade publications in the bedding, home furnishings, healthcare and lodging industries. Overall, MRC's industry advertising was viewed by 113,730 print readers and 78,12 digital viewers. Appendix E contains examples of these ads.

Mattress Industry Events

During the reporting period, MRC participated in mattress industry events to increase program awareness of legal obligations, promote recycling opportunities, present research findings as well as further sustainability and circularity conversations. These events included:

- Las Vegas Market: Held twice yearly, this event is the largest furniture and bedding show in the United States. It attracts retailers, distributors and manufacturers from across the U.S., and over 80 countries. MRC exhibited in the Home Furnishing Association's Retailer Resource Center and visited bedding showrooms to learn about new products and materials and met with new companies entering the U.S. bedding market.
- Northeast Furniture & Accessory Market: MRC exhibited alongside some of the industry's leading manufacturers, suppliers, and distributors of mattresses, furniture and home goods. MRC interacted with attendees at our booth and engaged in discussions with other exhibitors.

- ISPA Sustainability Conference: In September 2024, ISPA held its third conference to educate, connect and inspire the bedding industry to develop practical solutions for sustainability challenges. MRC exhibited and participated in a panel discussion to create a broader understanding of end-of-life challenges recyclers face with mattresses and generate interest in research projects.
- **ISPA Industry Conference:** In March 2025, MRC updated industry leaders about the 10-year impact of its initial state programs. At MRC's booth, attendees learned about how to comply with state laws, recycle mattresses and promote the program to their customers, as well as the status of research projects.
- Global Mattress Recycling Summit: In May 2025, MRC assisted ISPA with convening an international meeting of recyclers, mattress manufacturers, component suppliers, mattress/furniture stewardship organizations and trade associations from nearly a dozen countries. Participants presented projects focused on improving mattress circularity in each region and efforts to advance efficient collection, transportation, deconstruction or end markets for mattress materials.

OFFERED

Consumer Education Materials for Retailers

MRC provides no-cost point-of-sale materials to the mattress industry. Items include an information card, poster, Consumer FAQ and digital badge. All materials for Connecticut are available in English and Spanish.

A retailer may request these items from MRC or download artwork from MRC's Resources Library.

MRC uses Retailer Spotlight, email notifications via MRCreporting.org, industry publications, and events to regularly inform retailers of these educational materials. For newly registered retailers or those opening new stores in the state, MRC sends a starter kit with a postage-paid response card to request an automatic refill of materials.

In December 2024, in preparation for the charge increase effective January 1, 2025, MRC sent a packet of 100 cards, two English posters in each size and updated Customer FAQs each registered retailer

<u>Appendix E</u> contains examples of these materials.

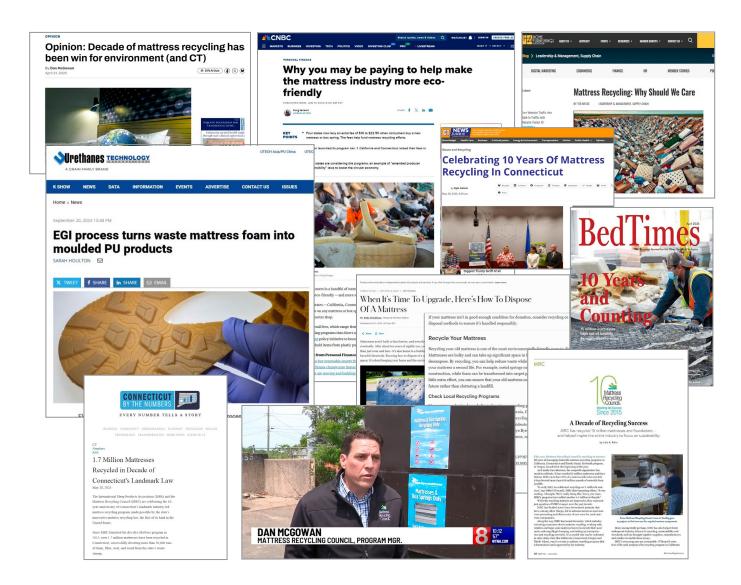


Media Relations

During the reporting period, consumer and industry media coverage mentioning MRC or the Bye Bye Mattress program received more than 434.4 million impressions. This amount of coverage equates to approximately \$511,000 in advertising value.

MRC proactively generated coverage about the 10-year anniversary of the program, the fee increase, and the results of research projects. Other mentions of MRC or Bye Bye Mattress resulted from ISPA's announcements, reporters attributing MRC as their source for mattress recycling information or referencing our program as an example of industry-led recycling.

In Connecticut, MRC placed 28 local stories that netted an estimated 2.4 million views. A majority of this coverage was the result of the press event held in Hartford celebrating the program's 10-year anniversary.



Publicity Toolkits

MRC provides recyclers, collection sites, and event hosts with a toolkit containing a news release template, flyer, signage, and suggested content they can use to publicize their participation in the program through online and social media outlets, city/ organization websites, and newsletters. The toolkit allows customization of messaging such as hours of operation and residency restrictions.

MRC also makes these materials available to nonprofits, civic groups, city council members or others that will distribute MRC's information to residents. Toolkits are available online at MattressRecyclingCouncil.org/Resources/Publicity_Toolkits.



Public Service Announcement

In February 2025, MRC introduced a new Public Service Announcement, "The Influencer." Meanwhile, "Break Up the Right Way With Your Old Mattress" continues to run in some markets.

"The Influencer" has generated 2.1 million impressions program-wide, but has not yet been picked up in Connecticut. However, "Break Up" continues to run in the Hartford-New Haven market, earning more than 2.7 million impressions.



Both PSAs are available as TV and radio spots in English and Spanish. <u>Appendix E</u> contains copies of the scripts. "The Influencer" can also be downloaded from the Media Center on ByeByeMattress.com.

COMPLIANCE OUTREACH

MRC continues to monitor various 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 certified mail notice 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 remains unresponsive, MRC requests legal counsel or DEEP to contact the party.

MRC's database of potential retailers, manufacturers, distributors, and renovators is a compilation of information from Connecticut Bedding and 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. MRC also receives leads for potential registrants from MRC staff as they travel the state.

MRC also monitors whether retailers and other mattress sellers submit monthly reports and remit collected recycling fees on time. MRC uses a protocol to alert parties more than 90 days delinquent of late fees and associated interest.

As the law requires, <u>Appendix D</u> contains a complete list of registered producers as of June 30, 2025.

TABLE 4: LATE REPORTING AND REMITTING PROTOCOL

DELINQUENCY STAGE	LATE REPORTER	LATE REMITTER	
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	

EVALUATIONS

MRC tracks consumer awareness annually and conducts an annual industry survey to measure and improve compliance outreach and education.

CONSUMER AWARENESS

From April-May 2025, MRC contracted with KB Insights, a 35-year marketing consultant and experienced analyst, to create and implement a survey of consumers across the entire state of Connecticut (N=201). All responses were collected online.

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

TABLE 5: MRC'S CONSUMER AWARENESS KEY PERFORMANCE INDICES 2023-2025

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	2023	2024	2025
Knowledge that a mattress can be recycled	53%	43%	46%
Knowledge that recycling is free	27%	20%	22%
Knowledge of how to dispose of a mattress so it can be recycled	30%	21%	29%
Recall of Bye Bye Mattress program name	11%	7%	10%

^{*}Margin of error: +/-8.0% at a 90% level of confidence

The survey also provided MRC the opportunity to monitor mattress purchasing and disposal behavior. In 2025, 14% indicated they acquired a mattress in the last year. In this survey, MRC also asked where the mattress was purchased – 91% purchased a mattress in a Connecticut store, while 7% shopped at an out-of-state brick-and-mortar retail location, primarily in Massachusetts.

Similarly, 13% said they disposed of a mattress in the last year. Less than a third (28%) of those who had disposed of an old mattress said their retailer took it back. The use of a municipal curbside pick-up service and taking the old mattress to a recycling center tied at 12% each.

Over half of respondents (56%) said they were "extremely likely" to recycle a mattress in the future. When asked to select the top three reasons for choosing to recycle, "doing the right thing" topped the list (58%), "protecting the environment" ranked second (54%), and "saving space in the landfill" ranked third (44%). Perceived barriers to recycling are a lack of knowledge, not having a vehicle able to haul a mattress and the lack of a free haul-away service. MRC will continue to address the motivating factors and perceived barriers in communications going forward.

MRC's survey strategy in 2026 will include another annual behavioral/awareness study to gauge success against the 2025 survey.

ANNUAL INDUSTRY SURVEY

In 2024, MRC invited all 1,524 registered participants in North America (retailers, institutional sellers, manufacturers, distributors and renovators) to complete its annual survey. Questions varied based on the company's role in the industry. Overall, MRC received 243 responses, representing a 16% response rate. While none of the responses received were from companies based in Connecticut, some were from nationwide retailers and manufacturers.

We asked retailers how they inform customers about the fee and the program. Of the 161 retailers who responded to these questions, a large majority (64%) stated that they provide our consumer education materials with every sale. Meanwhile, 17% provide materials with just some sales and 14% provide information only upon the customer's request.

More than half of all retailer respondents (57%) reported an engagement with MRC's Customer Service staff and 74% of those stated they were satisfied with the experience.



MRC's research is focused on increasing the efficiency of mattress collection, transportation, deconstruction and recycling systems, and identifying new and better markets for recycled mattress materials.

RESEARCH

RESEARCH

OVERVIEW

MRC's research team is focused on increasing the efficiency of mattress collection, transportation, deconstruction and recycling systems while identifying new and better markets for recycled mattress materials.

While demand for foam and quilt in carpet padding declines (our primary market), U.S. mattress recyclers are steadily increasing their output of these materials. To sustain foam recycling rates, our recyclers need additional economically viable markets.

Some recent projects and activities that may benefit our New England programs are noted below. Additional information about these and previously completed research projects are posted on <u>MRC's website</u>.

RECENT PROJECTS: NEW MARKET IDENTIFICATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Oleo Sponge: Treating Mattress Foam Increases Its Potential in Oil Spill Cleanups

Oil spill cleanups also represent a potential new market for recycled polyurethane mattress foam. While organic sorbents are commonly used in clean-up applications, foam use is limited due to its cost, low oil uptake and unfavorable oil:water selectivity. An MRC-sponsored research project at the Biodesign Center for Sustainable Macromolecular Materials and Manufacturing at Arizona State University explored a simple, cost-effective process to change the surface chemistry of post-consumer mattress foam to enhance its oil absorption properties.

Modifying foam surfaces with oleophilic groups in conventional reactors significantly improved oil absorption. One modification tripled oil uptake with a 75% increase in oil:water selectivity. These modified foams exhibited three to four times higher oil absorption capacity than currently available commercial products.

While further research is needed to demonstrate the viability in field applications, these results suggest that chemically modified foam offers a promising, cost-effective solution for oil spill cleanups.

Vitrimerization: A Novel New Process To Recycle Polyurethane Mattress Foam

MRC contracted with Edge Geoscience Inc. (EGI) to explore whether mattress foam can be thermo-chemically converted into covalent dynamic networks (vitrimers). Vitrimers are meltable pellets that can be reshaped and recycled into useful products. EGI successfully scaled this technology using post-consumer mattress foam and has subsequently formed Vitricycle to commercialize the process.



A shoe sole prototype. Photo courtesy of Vitricycle

The project's main objective was to assess the feasibility of creating new consumer and industrial products, like cell phone cases, shoe soles, conveyor belts and tool grips using post-consumer foam as part of the feedstock.

Vitricycle has developed formulations using 50% to 100% post-consumer recycled content and plans to work with end users to fine-tune formulations and establish supply agreements.

This project highlights the importance of providing technical support and funding to innovators working to advance promising technologies on a commercial scale. The successful commercialization of vitrimer technology could create a significant demand for recovered mattress foam, emphasizing the impact of MRC's support for recycling technologies. MRC will continue to collaborate with Vitricycle and other innovators in this space to further advance the technology platform.

CURRENT RESEARCH

Recycled Mattress Foam in Footwear and Automotive Applications

A sponsored project at George Mason University to explore the use of mechanically recycled polyurethane foam in footwear and automotive applications was launched in the fourth quarter of 2024. This research will evaluate the feasibility of integrating recycled mattress foam into these products, focusing on foam segregation and mechanical recycling. The four-phase project will: 1) assess recycled polyurethane foam's suitability for target applications by analyzing its mechanical properties; 2) refine foam separation processes based on these properties; 3) design and create composite products (footwear outsoles/insoles, automotive door panels); and 4) characterize these products to ensure they meet industry standards.

Surface Engineered Powders from Recycled Mattress Foam

In the fourth quarter of 2024, MRC initiated a sponsored research project with RoCo Global to develop powdered, optionally surface-functionalized, foam-based products for potential use in coatings, composites, lubricants, batteries or catalyst supports. This project aims to create engineered, high-surface-area foam additives tailored to specific applications.

Initial prototypes have produced particles having a mean particle size of 100-150 microns without cryogenic processing. Future work will aim to optimize the grinder for fine particle production, scale up the process, demonstrate the functionalization reaction, and evaluate the resulting powders in selected applications.

FUTURE RESEARCH: A REVISED APPROACH

In 2024, MRC launched a new initiative to accelerate promising research projects to commercial scale. In most cases, a concept proven at lab scale requires additional work to produce and refine materials at a larger scale while integrating the concept into final products. Unfortunately, the risk profile of production-scale investment without a clear revenue stream poses a formidable challenge for most enterprises. As a result, promising innovations can stagnate for lack of investment at this stage, a phenomenon often referred to as the "innovator's dilemma."

Driving innovations to commercial scale requires collaboration at multiple levels in the supply chain. Obtaining buy-in from end users, developing prototypes, and investing in pilot-scale production are examples of activities necessary to take technical and commercial readiness to a self-sustainable level. To focus on this challenge, MRC increased technical resources and funding to help create awareness of the potential market value, de-risk scale-up activities, build networks and encourage assembly of end-user sponsored product development teams. Co-investment from the marketplace may take many forms, including government-sponsored small business innovation awards, government grants, corporate sponsorship and private party agreements.

SUSTAINABILITY

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.

Designing mattresses that are easier to recycle 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 recycle 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 chemical recycling technologies and investment in commercial-scale facilities.

In Europe, several pilot and commercial chemical recycling facilities convert post-consumer polyurethane foam back into its chemical building blocks that can then be used to make new foam or other materials. 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 expand the most promising technologies globally. 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 estimates and feedstock quality data to help inform these decisions.

In the United States, MRC continues focusing on developing better and new markets for recycled materials. Although mechanical recycling does not create full circularity, it is an important part of the overall strategy because it typically has a favorable environmental impact.

Second, MRC thinks that building operational efficiencies to collect, transport and process discarded units is equally important. MRC is taking a leading role in these two areas 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:

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



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGE

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGE

From the program's inception, MRC's goal has been to create a practical, effective and cost-efficient network to collect, transport and recycle mattresses throughout Connecticut while minimizing our environmental impacts. Based on MRC's experience over the past ten years we continue to focus on these areas of potential improvement.

- While 93% of Connecticut municipalities participate in the program, there are 12 that do not. Non-participating municipalities are reluctant to join for two main reasons:
 - 1. Bed Bugs MRC maintains a bed bug training workshop video and material library to educate solid waste facility workers about bed bug identification, behavior and proper disposal of contaminated units. Bed bugs do not carry pathogens and after 10 years of collecting and processing nearly 1.9 million units, our recyclers have yet to report any incidents with their workers.
 - 2. Stacking Requirement Poorly stacked loads greatly increase the cost of transportation which is the primary greenhouse gas contributor to our program. Site managers are reluctant to require their employees to properly pack mattress containers due to unfounded bed bug concerns.

MRC will continue to work collaboratively with DEEP to encourage these non-participating municipalities to learn the facts about bed bug behavior and join the program.

- Adding more states to MRC's regional network would achieve important
 efficiencies and economies of scale to contain costs. ISPA and DEEP should
 continue to advocate for mattress recycling legislation that is similar to the
 Connecticut law. MRC will continue to support regional expandsion efforts,
 providing operational insights as ISPA works to develop mattress recycling
 legislation throughout the New England and Mid-Atlantic regions.
- ISPA recently hosted its fourth annual sustainability conference, featuring a
 dynamic lineup of speakers, panels, and disscusions on topics such as energy
 management in manufacturing, circular design principles, legislative updates,
 and MRC's cutting-edge research. Attendees gained practical insights, forged
 new connections, and explored strategies to drive meaningful change across the
 industry. ISPA will continue to actively engage these stakeholders to emphasize
 the relationship between product design, deconstruction and circularity.



APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: 2024—2025 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 Connecticut, LLC (MRC)

Reporting Period: Fiscal Year (FY) 25: July 1, 2024 thru June 30, 2025

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

	FY TONNAGE
MRC CT Mattresses Delivered to an MRC Contracted <i>Mattress Recycling Facility</i> for Processing	5,704.6
MRC CT Mattress Material Recovered (from MRC mattresses processed) & Sent Out for Recycling by MRC Contracted Recycling Facilities	3,643.1
MRC CT Mattress Processing Residue (from MRC mattresses processed) Sent Out for Disposal by MRC Contracted Recycling Facilities	1,771.5

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 <u>Table 6</u>)	3,697.3
CT Regional Solid Waste Facilities (e.g. Resource Recovery Facilities, Volume Reduction Plants, Regional Transfer Stations, Recycling Facilities, etc.)	500.0
CT Correctional Facilities	0
CT Hospitals	5.8
CT Hotels	129.8
CT Military Base	37.3
CT Retailers	1,063.6
CT Schools/Universities	113.1
CT Other: Other	157.8
CT Other:	
TOTAL	5,704.6

APPENDIX A: 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR continued

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

FACILITY- NAME AND ADDRESS	FISCAL YEAR TONNAGE MRC CT MATTRESSES RECEIVED	FY TONNAGE MRC CT MATTRESSES PROCESSED
Park City Green, 459 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT	1,387.4	1,391.9
Willimantic Waste, 185 Recycling Way, Willimantic, CT	4,317.2	4,317.2
TOTAL	5704.6	5,709.1

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)

TYPE OF MATERIAL RECYCLED	TYPE OF RECYCLING DESTINATION	FY TONNAGE RECYCLED
Scrap Metal	Recycling Processing Facility Other - Specify:	1,759.1
Foam	Manufacturer-End User Other - Specify:	806.8
Cotton	Recycling Processing Facility Other - Specify:	26.3
Wood	Manufacturer-End User Other - Specify:	157.5
Other - Specify type: Quilts & Toppers	Manufacturer-End User Other - Specify:	352.2
Other - Specify type: Felt/Shoddy	Recycling Processing Facility Other - Specify:	36.9
Other - Specify type: Biomass (wood)	Recycling Processing Facility Other - Specify: Biomass	504.4
Other - Specify type:	Other-Specify Other - Specify:	
Other - Specify type:	Other-Specify Other - Specify:	
Other - Specify type:	Other-Specify Other - Specify:	
Other - Specify type:	Other-Specify Other - Specify:	
TOTAL CT Mattress Material Manage	ed and RECYCLED through the MRC CT Program	3,643.1

APPENDIX A: 2024-2025 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	1,771.5
Residue	Buried in a Landfill	0
	Other	
	Choose from Dropdown	
	Choose from Dropdown	
	Choose from Dropdown	
TOTAL CT Mattress Material Managed and DIS	SPOSED through the MRC CT Program	1,771.5

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.	
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."

Date: 9/24/2025

Date: 9/24/2025

Signature of the CEO or duly authorized representative of CEO:

Printed name: Alison Keane

Signature of person responsible for preparing report:

Printed name: Daniel McGowan

Title: Northeast Program Manager

Phone: (860) 830-3832

Email Address: dmcgowan@mrc-us.org

Rev May 23, 2016

APPENDIX A: NOTES

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.

- "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.

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 2024-2025

COLLECTION LOCATION	FY2025 TONS	COLLECTION LOCATION	FY2025 TONS
Andover Transfer Station	7.7	East Hampton Transfer Station	14.3
Ansonia Transfer Station	35.0	East Hartford Transfer Station	138.8
Ashford Transfer Station	15.9	East Haven Landfill	3.0
Avon Landfill Transfer Station	20.5	East Lyme Transfer Station	36.2
Beacon Falls Public Works	2.0	East Windsor Recycling Center	11.5
Berlin Transfer Station	27.0	Eastford Transfer Station	7.7
Bethany Recycling Center	7.6	Ellington Public Works Department	11.0
Bethel Transfer Station	13.5	Essex Transfer Station	9.5
Bethlehem Transfer Station	9.1	Fairfield Collection Event	2.0
Bolton Transfer Station	3.6	Farmington Department of Public Works	22.1
Bozrah Transfer Station	2.3	Franklin Transfer Station	1.6
Branford Transfer Station	54.4	Glastonbury Transfer Station/Recycling Facility	50.0
Bridgeport Transfer Station	44.5	Goshen Collection Event	2.5
Bridgewater Transfer Station	5.5	Granby Transfer Station	23.5
Bristol Transfer Station	58.8	Greenwich - Holly Hill Transfer Station	34.7
Brooklyn Resource and Recovery Station	25.9	Griswold Transfer Station	19.1
Burlington Transfer Station	17.9	Groton Transfer Station	64.8
Canaan Transfer Station	2.3	Guilford Transfer Station	66.7
Canterbury Transfer Station	16.1	Haddam Transfer Station	22.7
Canton Transfer Station	15.6	Hamden Transfer Station	12.1
Chaplin Transfer Station	4.8	Hampton Transfer Station	12.7
Cheshire Transfer Station & Collection Event	15.8	Hartford Bulky Waste and Recycling Center	414.9
Clinton Transfer Station	16.4	Hartland Transfer Station	4.4
Colchester Transfer Station	16.4	Harwinton Collection Event	1.7
Columbia Transfer Station	12.8	Hebron Transfer Station	17.0
Cornwall Transfer Station	5.4	Kent Transfer Station	1.0
Coventry Transfer Station	24.2	Killingly Transfer Station	15.9
Cromwell Transfer Station	22.3	Lebanon Transfer Station	12.5
Danbury Mom & Pop Transfer Station	45.5	Ledyard Transfer Station	27.8
Darien Transfer Station	21.0	Litchfield Recycling Center	14.4
Deep River Transfer Station	15.8	Lyme Bulky Waste Transfer Station	4.1
Durham-Middlefield Transfer Station	23.0	Manchester Transfer Station	116.4
East Granby Transfer Station	7.7	Mansfield Transfer Station	20.7
East Haddam Transfer Station	24.4	Marlborough Transfer Station	10.6

APPENDIX A: TABLE 6 continued

COLLECTION LOCATION	FY2025 TONS	COLLECTION LOCATION	FY2025 TONS
Meriden Transfer Station	43.1	Seymour Transfer Station	19.4
Middletown Recycling Center	5.0	Shelton Transfer Station	48.0
Milford Transfer Station	83.1	Simsbury Transfer Station	48.8
Montville Transfer Station	29.2	Somers Transfer Station	26.8
Morris Transfer Station	44.2	Southbury Transfer Station	20.8
Naugatuck Transfer Station	36.6	Southington Bulky Waste Transfer Station	55.4
New Britain Transfer Station	38.1	Sprague Transfer Station	9.2
New Fairfield Drop Off Center	15.6	Stafford Transfer Station	32.4
New Haven Transfer Station	83.6	Stonington Solid Waste Facility	38.3
New London Transfer Station	52.7	Stratford Transfer Station	4.2
New Milford Transfer Station	35.9	Suffield Landfill	17.8
Newington Transfer Station	40.1	Thomaston Transfer Station	6.1
Newtown Transfer Station	33.7	Thompson Transfer Station	27.2
Norfolk Transfer Station	4.0	Trumbull Collection Event	0.1
North Branford Collection Event	2.7	Union Transfer Station	3.5
North Canaan Transfer Station	11.2	Voluntown Transfer Station	10.0
North Haven Transfer Station	0.0	Wallingford Transfer Station	48.7
North Stonington Transfer Station	15.5	Washington Transfer Station	7.0
Norwalk Collection Event	1.8	Waterbury Transfer Station	58.3
Norwich Transfer Station	100.0	Waterford Transfer Station	47.5
Old Lyme Transfer Station	28.3	Watertown Transfer Station	23.4
Old Saybrook Transfer Station	32.9	West Hartford Recycling Center	31.4
Orange Collection Event	1.4	West Haven Public Works	0.0
Oxford Transfer Station	11.6	Westbrook Transfer Station	19.8
Plainfield Transfer Station	57.4	Weston Transfer Station	8.4
Plainville Transfer Station	8.6	Westport Collection Event	1.9
Plymouth Transfer Station	17.4	Wethersfield Transfer Station	30.8
Pomfret Transfer Station	7.7	Willington Transfer Station	13.6
Portland Transfer Station	17.8	Wilton Transfer Station	6.5
Preston Transfer Station	10.0	Windham Transfer Station	42.5
Prospect Recycling Center	9.3	Windsor Transfer Station	38.1
Putnam Transfer Station	14.9	Wolcott Transfer Station	8.4
Redding Transfer Recycling Center	6.6	Woodbridge Collection Event	0.6
Regional Refuse District #1	42.4	Woodbury Transfer/Recycling Center	10.8
Ridgefield Transfer Station	38.5	Woodstock Transfer Station	16.9
Rocky Hill Transfer Station	33.9	TOTAL 3,69	27 7 TONS
Salem Transfer Station	8.1		//.3 I ONS
Salisbury-Sharon Transfer Station	17.9		

APPENDIX B: COLLECTION PARTICIPANTS

As of June 30, 2025

MUNICIPAL COLLECTION SITES

Site limits access to its residents or service area. MRC's network included 133 sites, serving residents in 148 municipalities.

Andover Durham# Manchester* also serves Middlefield Mansfield Ansonia East Granby Ashford Marlborough East Haddam Avon Meriden East Hampton Beacon Falls Middlebury East Hartford* Berlin Middletown East Haven Bethany Milford East Lyme Bethel Montville East Windsor Bethlehem Morris Eastford Bolton Naugatuck Ellinaton Bozrah New Britain Essex Branford New Fairfield Franklin Bridgeport New Haven Glastonbury Bridgewater New London Granby Bristol New Milford# Greenwich Brooklyn also serves Sherman

Brooklyn

Burlington

Canaan

Canton

Griswold

Griswold

Newington

Newtown

Guilford*

also serves Madison

Norfolk

Canterbury Haddam North Canaan
Chaplin Hamden North Haven
Cheshire Hampton# North Stonington

Clinton# also serves Scotland Norwich also serves Killingworth Hartland Old Lyme
Colchester Hartford* Old Saybrook

Cornwall

Harwinton

Oxford Public Works

Hebron

Plainfield#

Coventry Kent also serves Lisbon
Cromwell Killingly Plainville

Danbury Mom & Pop#
also serves Brookfield

Darien

Deep River#
also serves Chester

Killingly
Lebanon
Lebanon
Plymouth
Pomfret
Litchfield
Portland
Preston

* curbside collection program.

[#] serves the surrounding area as noted.

MUNICIPAL COLLECTION SITES continued

Prospect Southington Watertown Putnam Sprague West Hartford Redding Stafford West Haven Regional Refuse# Stonington Westbrook serves Barkhamsted, Stratford Winsted, New Hartford Weston Suffield Ridgefield Wethersfield Thomaston Rocky Hill Willington Thompson Salem Wilton Union Salisbury# Voluntown# Windham

also serves Sharon Voluntown" vyingnam also serves Sterling Seymour Voluntown" Windsor#

Shelton Wallingford Also serves Bloomfield Washington#

Simsbury also serves Warren, Roxbury Wolcott
Somers Waterbury Woodbury
Southbury Waterford Woodstock

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

SITE

Fairfield Spring and Fall drop-off event
Farmington Spring and Fall curbside collection
Goshen Spring and Fall drop-off event

North Branford Multiple events

Norwalk Three events this reporting period
Orange Spring and Fall drop-off event

Trumbull Spring drop-off event
Westport Spring drop-off event
Woodbridge Spring drop-off event

STATEWIDE ACCESS

SITE

Bridgeport Park City Green Hartford Salvation Army Newington Salvation Army

[#] serves the surrounding area as noted.

^{*} curbside collection program.

APPENDIX C: STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH

July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	STAKEHOLDER GROUP
Jul. 11, 2024	EBC Annual Regional Conference of State Solid Waste Directors	Virtual	Waste and Recycling
Jul. 28-Aug. 1, 2024	Summer Las Vegas Market	Las Vegas, NV	Mattress Industry
Sep. 18, 2024	CT Lodging Assoc. Annual Meeting	Westbrook, CT	Hospitality
Sep. 25-26, 2024	ISPA Sustainability Conference	Charlotte, NC	Mattress Industry
Sep. 30-Oct. 2, 2024	Center for Polyurethanes Industry	Atlanta, GA	Research Community
Oct. 10, 2024	Tour of Casella		Regulators and Legislature
Oct. 16, 2024	COST Town Meeting	Plantsville, CT	Municipalities, Waste and Recycling
Oct. 24, 2024	CT Recyclers Coalition Annual Conference	West Hartford, CT	Municipalities, Waste and Recycling
Oct. 28-29, 2024	NERC Fall Conference	Syracuse, NY	Waste and Recycling, Regulators
Nov. 6, 2024	Do Beautiful Things Podcast Interview	Virtual	Municipalities, Waste and Recycling
Nov. 13, 2024	Resource Recycling Conference	Louisville, KY	Municipalities, Waste and Recycling
Jan. 14, 2025	CCSMM Fall Coalition Meeting	Virtual	Municipalities, Waste and Recycling
Jan. 26-30, 2025	Winter Las Vegas Market	Las Vegas, NV	Mattress Industry
Jan. 28, 2025	CT SWAC	Virtual	Waste and Recycling
Feb. 2-4, 2025	Northeast Furniture & Accessory Market	Edison, NJ	Mattress Industry
Feb. 10-13, 2025	Keep America Beautiful National Conference	Washington, DC	Municipalities, Waste and Recycling
Feb. 19, 2025	MRC State Program Updates - Retailer Webinar	Virtual	Mattress Industry
Feb. 26, 2025	Iheart Radio Interview	Virtual	Consumers
Mar. 18, 2025	MassRecycle Conference	Marlboro, MA	Municipalities, Waste and Recycling
Mar. 19-20, 2025	ISPA Industry Conference	St. Petersburg, FL	Mattress Industry
Mar. 25, 2025	CT SWAC	Virtual	Waste and Recycling

APPENDIX C: STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH continued

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	STAKEHOLDER GROUP
Apr. 1, 2025	EBC New England Regional "Talking Trash" Conference	Virtual	Waste and Recycling
Apr. 23, 2025	WTIC Interview	Virtual	Consumers
May 19, 2025	Casella MRF Grand Opening	Willimantic, CT	Municipalities, Waste and Recycling
May 20, 2025	Global Mattress Recycling Summit	Cologne, Germany	Mattress Industry, Waste and Recycling, Research Community
May 20-22, 2025	Polyurethane Foam Association	St. Petersburg, FL	Research Community
May 28, 2025	MRC 10 Year Event	Hartford, CT	All
May 28, 2025	WTNH Interview	West Hartford, CT	Consumers
Jun. 1, 2025	Product Stewardship Institute	Chicago, IL	Waste and Recycling
Jun. 18, 2025	Massachusetts EPR Commission - Mattress Presentation	Boston, MA	Waste and Recycling, Regulators
June 24, 2025	CT SWAC	Virtual	Waste and Recycling

APPENDIX D: REGISTERED PRODUCERS

July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

ACCOUNT

815 Healthy & Beautiful Co. Ltd

Adven Group, LLC Alessanderx SpA

Allied Aerofoam, LLC

American Bedding Mfg. Inc.

American Pacific Plastic Fabricators Inc.

American Tent, LLC

Apartment Furnishings Company Inc.

Artaban Therapedic SA De CV

Ascion, LLC

Ashley Furniture Industries, LLC

Avatar Enterprises Inc.

Bedgear, LLC

Best Choice Products 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.

Bryte Labs Inc.

Carico International Inc.

Carpenter Co.

CCB Hope Ventures, LLC Children's Products, LLC

Classic Brands, LLC

COA Inc.

DBA NAME

King's Castle HK Import and Export Co. Limited

Nap Queen Sleep Alessanderx SpA Allied Aerofoam, LLC

American Bedding Mfg. Inc.

Sterling Sleep Systems American Tent, LLC

Apartment Furnishings Company Inc.

Artaban Bedding

Reverie

Ashley Furniture Industries, LLC

Comfortex Bedgear

Best Choice Products 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,

Southerland

Bryte Labs Bryte Labs Inc.

Carico

Carpenter Co. Hope Mattress

Simmons Juvenile Furniture

Classic Brands

Coaster Company of America

ACCOUNT

Colchones Wendy SA De CV

Comfort Bedding of the USA, LLC

Comfort Revolution, LLC
Comfort Sleep Systems Inc.
Corsicana Acquisition. LLC

Custom Comfort Mattress Company Inc.

Custom Mattress Makers Inc. Deluxe Home of USA Inc.

Denver Mattress Company, LLC

Dishuo Furniture PTE. Ltd Dorel Home Products DUX Interiors Inc. E&E Bedding Co. Inc.

E.S. Kluft & Company, LLC
Eco Bedroom Solutions. LLC

Elements International

Elite Comfort Solutions, LLC

Engineered Sleep, LLC

EverRest US, LLC

Ezine Inc.

Factory Direct Inc.

Feng Ben International (HK) Limited

Fibre Processing Corporation

Flex-A-Bed Inc.

Flotation Innovations Inc.

Fredman Bros. Furniture Company Inc.

Friendship Upholstery Company Inc.

Future Foam Inc.

FXI Inc.

GF Health Products Inc.

Golden Well International (HK) Ltd

Grand Life Inc.

Gruppo Industriale Buoninfante SPA

Hammer Bedding Corp. Health Care Co. LTD Healthcare Arizona, LLC **DBA NAME**

Colchones Wendy

Comfort Bedding of the USA, LLC

Comfort Revolution, LLC
Comfort Sleep Systems

Corsicana Mattress Company Custom Comfort Mattress Custom Mattress Makers Inc. Deluxe Home of USA Inc.

Denver Mattress Company
Dishuo Furniture PTE. Ltd
Ameriwood Industreis Inc.

DUX Interiors Inc.

Spring Air

Aireloom Mattress

Ergovea Natural Mattress

Kyvno, LLC

Elite Comfort Solutions
Engineered Sleep, LLC

EverRest

Eastern Accents Lady Americana SW

Feng Ben International (HK) Limited

Fibre Processing Corporation

Flex-A-Bed Innovations

Glideaway Sleep Products

Friendship Upholstery Company Inc.

Future Foam Inc.

FXI

GF Health Products Inc.

Golden Well International (HK) Ltd

Grand Life Inc.

Gruppo Industriale Buoninfante SPA

Shifman Mattress Health Care Co. LTD Healthcare Arizona, LLC

ACCOUNT DBA NAME

Healthcare SC, LLC Healthcare SC, LLC

Hickory Springs Manufacturing Company HSM Hickory Springs of California, LLC HSM

Hill-Rom Inc. Hill-Rom Company, Inc.; Hill-Rom Holdings, Inc.;

Hill-Rom DTC, Inc.

Hong Kong Gesin Technology Company LTD Hong Kong Gesin Technology Company LTD

Honor Global Industry PTE. LTD Glory
Honor Home (Laos) Sole Co. LTD Honor Home (Laos) Sole Co. LTD

IKEA Supply AG

IKEA

Illinois Sleep Products Inc. ISP

InnoMax Corporation InnoMax Corporation

Innovative Bedding Solutions Inc. IBS

Invacare Corporation Invacare Corporation

Jeffco Foam, LLC Jeffco Fibres, Inc.

Jiaxing Taien Springs Co. LTD Jiaxing Taien Springs Co. LTD

Joerns Healthcare, LLC Joerns Healthcare

Jussi Beds Colet & Scandinavian Bed Company & Carpe

Diem

Keeson Technology Corporation LTD Keeson Technology Corporation LTD

Keetsa Inc. Keetsa

King's Castle HK Import and Export Co. Deluxe Home of USA Inc.

Limited

Kingsdown Inc. Kingsdown Inc.

Klaussner Home Furnishings Inc.

Kuka Sleep Inc.

Lakewood Candies, LLC

Latex Foam International, LLC

Enso Sleep Systems

Kuka Sleep Inc.

Milliard Bedding

Talalay Global

Legends Home Legends Home

Leggett & Platt Automotive Group de Mexico, Leggett & Platt Automotive Group de Mexico, S.

S. de R.L. de C.V. de R.L. de C.V.

Leggett & Platt Components Co. Inc.

Leggett & Platt Bedding

Leggett & Platt Incorporated

Linon Home Decor Products Inc.

Leggett & Platt Bedding

Leggett & Platt Incorporated

Linon Home Decor Products Inc.

Lippert Components Inc. Lippert Components Inc.

Live and Sleep, LLC

Made Rite Bedding Company

Magniflex USA LTD

Live and Sleep

Made Rite Bedding

Magniflex USA LTD

ACCOUNT

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.

Nature Sleep System, LLC

Neiser Mattress and Furniture Corp.

Nipponflex, LLC Norix Group Inc.

Northeast Mattress, LLC Norwalk Mattress Co. Inc.

Obasan Limited

Oddello Industries, LLC
Organic Mattresses Inc.
Pacific Urethanes, LLC

Paramount Industrial Cos. Inc.

Peace Lily Sleep

Poliuretanos SA De CV

PPJ. LLC

Pragma Coroporation

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

DBA NAME

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

Jazvin

Neiser Mattress and Furniture Corp.

Nipponflex, LLC Norix Group Inc.

Northeast Mattress, LLC Norwalk Mattress Co. Inc.

Obasan Limited

Oddello Industries, LLC
Organic Mattresses Inc.
Pacific Urethanes

Paramount Sleep

Peace Lily

Poliuretanos SA De CV

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.

ACCOUNT DBA NAME

Rest-Medic Sleep Products Rest-Medic Sleep Products/Luen Tai Global LTD

Restmore, LLC Restmore

Restopedic Inc. Restopedic Inc.

Restwell Mattress Co. Restwell Mattress Factory

Safavieh International, LLC Safavieh
Safe For Home Products, LLC Naturepedic
Sandman Bedding, LLC Nest and Wild

SBL, LLC SBI, LLC

Seahawk Designs Inc. Seahawk Designs Inc.

Sealy Mattress Manufacturing Company, LLC Sealy Mattress Manufacturing Company

Select Comfort Retail Corporation Sleep Number
Serta Simmons Bedding, LLC Serta and Simmons

Shanghai Shenbao Mattress Factory Shanghai Shenbao Mattress Factory

Shen Zhen L&T Industrial Co. LTD Luen Tai Global LTD

ShenZhen Yun Lee Sponge Products Co. LTD Luen Tai Global LTD

Sherwood Midwest, LLC Sherwood Midwest
Sherwood Northeast, LLC Sherwood Bedding
Shevick Sales Corp. Sleep on Latex

Sinomax USA Inc.

Sleep Studio, LLC

Sleeping Pure, LLC

Sleeping Pure

Solstice Sleep Products Inc. Solstice Sleep Products Inc.

Somnium Inc. Somnium Inc.

Sound Sleep Products Inc.

South Bay International Inc.

South Bay International Inc.

Southerland Inc. Southerland Inc.

Span America Medical Systems Inc.

Span America Medical Systems

Spring Coil of the USA, LLC

Comfort Bedding of the USA, LLC

Star Seeds Co. LTD Star Seeds Co. LTD

Suite Sleep Inc.

Suite Sleep
Technogel US Inc.

Technogel US

Tempur Production USA, LLC Mountain Top Foam

Tempur Sealy International Inc.

Tempur Sealy

The Bedding Group Inc.

The Bedding Group Inc.

The Furniture Bank

Houston Furniture Bank

The Original Mattress Factory Inc.

The Original Mattress Factory

ACCOUNT

The Standard Mattress Co.

Therapedic of New England, LLC

Therapedic Sleep Products Inc.

Transcosmos America 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

Wings on Furniture Inc.

Woodhaven Furniture Industries

Yankee Mattress Factory Inc.

Zhejiang Alright Home Textiles Co. LTD

Zinus Inc.

Zoma Sleep, LLC

DBA NAME

Gold Bond

Therapedic of New England

Bedding Industries of America

Transcosmos America Inc.

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

Wings on Furniture, Inc.

Woodhaven Furniture Industries

Yankee Mattress Factory Inc.

Zhejiang Alright Home Textiles Co. LTD

Zinus Inc.

Zoma Sleep

APPENDIX E: PUBLIC EDUCATION MATERIALS

CONSUMER EDUCATION MATERIALS FOR RETAILERS

INFORMATION CARD





DIGITAL BADGE





Rest Easy! Your Old Mattress CAN Be Recycled.

Drop it off at a participating location, use your solid waste provider, or ask your retailer about taking it back.

Connecticut's Mattress Recycling Fee Is \$11.75 Per Unit

Bye Bye Mattress is a program of the Mattress Recycling Council. Fees are used to provide participating locations with containers, transportation and recycling discarded mattresses as well as consumer outreach, industry communication and program administration.



YOUR MATTRESS RECYCLING OPTIONS

Drop Off At A Participating Location

There are collection sites throughout the state. Residency requirements, access stickers and unit limits may apply.



Ask Your Retailer To Take It Back

If you are having your mattress or box spring delivered, ask your retailer if they will take back an unwanted one. Retailers may choose to recycle with Bye Bye Mattress. Discuss

during your purchase.



Contact Your Solid Waste Provider



Your solid waste provider may offer pickup of large, bulky items at the curb. See which ones recycle with Bye Bye Mattress on our website.

ve bve n

VISIT ByeByeMattress.com FOR DETAILS. Contact info@byebyemattress.com or 1-855-494-8400.





Rest Easy! Your Old Mattress CAN Be Recycled.

Drop it off at a participating location, use your solid waste provider, or ask your retailer about taking it back.

Connecticut's Mattress Recycling Fee Is \$16.00 Per Unit

Bye Bye Mattress is a program of the Mattress Recycling Council. Fees are used to provide participating locations with containers, transportation and recycling discarded mattresses as well as consumer outreach, industry communication and program administration.



YOUR MATTRESS RECYCLING OPTIONS

Drop Off At A Participating Location

There are collection sites throughout the state. Residency requirements. access stickers and unit limits may apply.



Ask Your Retailer To Take It Back

If you are having your mattress or box spring delivered, ask your retailer if they will take back an unwanted one. Retailers may choose to recycle with Bye Bye Mattress. Discuss during your purchase.



Contact Your Solid Waste Provider



Your solid waste provider may offer pickup of large, bulky items at the curb. See which ones recycle with Bye Bye Mattress on our website.

VISIT ByeByeMattress.com FOR DETAILS. Contact info@byebyemattress.com or 1-855-494-8400.





CUSTOMER QUESTIONS ABOUT THE MATTRESS RECYCLING FEE

This list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) is here to help. Please share with your staff.

1. Why do I have to pay the recycling fee and what is it for?

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

2. Who is the Mattress Recycling Council?

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

3. If I don't plan to discard a mattress now, why do I have to pay this fee?

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

4. If I decide to take my old mattress to a recycler myself, do I still pay the fee?

Yes, state law requires retailers to collect this fee on any mattress and box spring sale at the time of purchase to fund the mattress recycling program. You may receive a modest financial incentive if you drop off your used mattress or box spring at a designated recycling location. Visit www.ByeByeMattress.com to find the location nearest you.

5. I didn't pay this fee when I bought my old mattress, so will it be accepted for recycling?

Yes, MRC's Bye Bye Mattress program will accept your old mattress no matter when it was originally purchased. To be recycled, units must be clean and dry. Normal wear and tear is expected. Units infested with bed bugs or that are heavily soiled or damaged cannot be recycled.

6. My old mattress was "unacceptable" for recycling. Can you refund my recycling fee?

No, state law requires retailers to collect this fee on any mattress and box spring sale to fund the mattress recycling program. The law does not force retailers to accept every mattress for recycling out of concern for employee health and safety. Store policy, in addition to the guidelines of the recycling program, determine what we will and won't accept. If your mattress is unacceptable for recycling, contact your city or town to learn what disposal options are available.

MORE FAQs ON NEXT PAGE -

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.)

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 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.

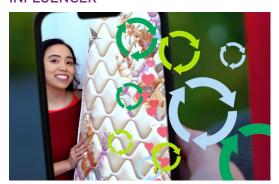
SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER: Sign up here for customer education tips, program news and free resources.

NEED MORE INFORMATION? Please contact <u>info@byebyemattress.com</u> or call 1-855-494-8400.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE MATTRESS RECYCLING COUNCIL'S BYE BYE MATTRESS PROGRAM.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFLUENCER



ENGLISH

30-sec. https://youtu.be/Tei9F-2cTd4
15-sec. https://youtu.be/vSXL5f7U2ec

SPANISH

30-sec. https://youtu.be/IEuxo9dclwA
15-sec. https://youtu.be/fWBtfm4NN08

		<u>r</u>
	English	Spanish
Open on a cell phone being swiped up to show the next reel. Reel has a female influencer (multiracial), in her apartment, with a mattress leaning against the wall in the background. Spot is fast-paced with cuts and lots of "filters" on the non-phone part of the screen.	SFX: upbeat music and individual sfx for cartoon imagery.	
Influencer points to mattress behind her nodding her head. Cartoon stars filter appears on mattress.	Girl Influencer: Hey, all!! GORGEOUS, right???	iHola a todos!
Cartoon crown filter pops up.	OK seriously. My sister gave me her new-ish mattress so it's time to say goodbye to this old queen.	OK, mi hermana me dio su col- chón casi nuevo, así que es hora de decir adiós a mi viejo queen.
Quick cut to girl walking in neighborhood, near a park — view is her phone recording herself.	But we are NOT trashing our neighborhood or the planet today,nowearenot.	iPero hoy NO vamos a contaminar nuestro vecindario ni el planeta! No, no lo haremos.
Quick cut to her spinning in a circle with arms out-stretched.	(techno singing in VO) "It's easy to do the right thing and it feels so good!"	iMi colchón se va a re-ci-clar! iEs fácil hacer lo correcto y se siente tan bien!
Cut back to girl in her room standing next to her old mattress. Recycle symbol art pops up in the background.	This queen is getting re-cy-cled!	
Cut to website popping up on screen. Cut out of girl over website, saying "for free".	Go to ByeByeMattress dot com and see how EASY it is to recycle your mattress! FOR FREE!	Vayan a ByeByeMattress dot com y comprueben lo FÁCIL que es reciclar sus colchones iGRATIS!
Screen behind her switches to end card. She is nods, snaps her fingers and points to logo and web address. Music gets louder.	(under breath, fades in back- ground) Buh bye queen or twin or king	diós queen o twin o king ya saben, lo que tengan.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

BREAK UP THE RIGHT WAY WITH YOUR OLD MATTRESS



ENGLISH

30-sec. https://youtu.be/8wILN8qXz7Q
15-sec. https://youtu.be/bJA4IY3v9mg

SPANISH

30-sec. https://youtu.be/xYqdIU_eGHY
15-sec. https://youtu.be/xgiifOqq6hs

MANDARIN

30-sec. https://youtu.be/A4cG709-0Ro
15-sec. https://youtu.be/MECiUsOt3NU

	English
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
	Mattress Hey, I'm your mattress.
A memory bubble pops up next to the MM of a person sleeping comfortably in bed.	We've been together for a while now, and it's been g-r-e-a-t.
Then, if time allows, the person now has a pillow over their head because their neighbor's music is too loud - wall is vibrating.	
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 wander- ing a trash-filled alley. MM 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.
MM changes back to original talking position scene and things that MM can be recycled into pops up (I-beams, carpet foam, mulch)	I want to be recycled into new thingsthere's still a lot of good parts here to use.
MM holds up sign with ByeByeMattress.com on it	Check out ByeByeMattress.com
Super: Bye Bye Mattress logo (room for local tagging)	Learn more about recycling and the easy ways to get rid of an old mattress, like me, for free!

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

Transcribed by TransPerfect

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

INDUSTRY ADVERTISEMENT

DIGITAL





cvp@mrc-us.org

Connecticut/Rhode Island:

Contact Dan McGowan (860) 397-4800 dmcgowan@mrc-us.org

