



Rhode Island Mattress Recycling Program for the Lodging Industry

Rhode Island's General Law 23-90 required the mattress industry to create a recycling program for mattresses and box springs used and discarded in the state.

The law does *not* require hotels that dispose of used mattresses in Connecticut to recycle them. Hotels located in the state may *voluntarily participate* in the program.

MRC will provide no-cost transportation and recycling services to hotels discarding 50 or more mattresses at one time.

The Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) is a non-profit organization established by the mattress industry to plan and manage the Rhode Island mattress recycling program.

As of May 1, 2016, retailers and other businesses selling mattresses began collecting a recycling fee on each mattress and box spring that is sold to a Rhode Island consumer. These fees are remitted to MRC and used to recycle mattresses.

Participant Eligibility

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

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

What MRC Provides

- Transportation from your collection site to the contracted recycler
- No-cost recycling services.

Participation Requirements

- Must register with MRC Program Coordinator for no-cost recycling services
- Must accumulate a minimum of 50 units prior to MRC providing transportation services
- Keep mattresses dry and segregated
- Staff must load accumulated mattresses into the provided collection truck upon its arrival
- Complete required paperwork to track outgoing shipments

Which items are accepted and not accepted by the program?

Most mattresses and box springs discarded by Rhode Island retailers are eligible for the recycling program. Mattresses from out of state stores are ineligible.

We are unable to accept:

- Severely damaged, wet, twisted, frozen or soiled mattresses or box springs
- Items infested with bed bugs
- Mattress pads or toppers
- Sleeping bags
- Pillows
- Car beds
- Juvenile products such as carriages, baskets, cribs, bassinets, dressing tables, strollers, and playpens or their pads
- Infant carriers, lounge pads, or crib bumpers
- Water beds or camping style air mattresses
- Fold-out sofa beds
- Futons and furniture



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