

Mattress Recycling (*What to Expect*)



Where onsite are we collecting them and when?

Onsite, the mattress collection for recycling will take place near the Green Waste/ Scrap Metal Diversion area. The first empty trailer will arrive on Friday 6/16/2023. Clear signage will guide customers to the designated drop-off area and mattress stacks.

Why are we recycling mattresses?

- 92-95% of mattresses are recyclable
- Diversion from the Larimer County Landfill (An approximately 2.5-mile-tall stack was landfilled in 2022 alone)
- Less wear/tear on landfill equipment
- Creates new products (recycle steel, foam, wood, and other materials)
- Creates recycling jobs



What mattresses must be rejected?

Bed bug infested, wet, frozen, moldy, and hospital beds (list may be extended once recycling begins)

*****In addition, on mud restriction/rainy days, the access road is not all weather and mattresses will go directly to the landfill working face.**

Why do we charge a separate fee for mattresses?

Fees will remain the same for the rest of 2023 and will increase again in 2024.

Mattresses are large, bulky, and do not compact like other materials in the landfill. They take up a significant amount of airspace and soil cover. In addition, mattresses can cause damage to landfill equipment due to their size and composition, leading to increased maintenance and repair costs.

****So why is there still a charge if they are now being recycled?**

Mattress recycling is an expensive, labor-intensive process that is most often completed by hand. In addition, they need to be managed by landfill staff and transported to Denver which also creates additional costs.

Which company is recycling them?

Spring Back Colorado. They are located in Commerce City, Colorado.

"It is Spring Back CO's goal to help ease the burden of landfill waste collected and increase mattress and box spring diversion from landfills throughout the state. When we receive a mattress, we break it down by hand into individual components. Each of those components (steel, wood, foam, cotton, ticking) are all baled individually into large 500-900 pound bales. When we get around 30,000 pounds of each material, we call for a truck. All materials are loaded onto the truck. The foam and ticking goes to California to be repurposed, the steel stays in state and goes to Rocky Mountain Scrap, the wood goes to BioChar, and the cotton goes to Arizona. We typically recycle about 75,000 pounds of steel per month, 70,000 pounds of foam and ticking per month, and 30,000 pounds of wood per month."

More about the company:

Please visit Spring Back Colorado's website for more information at <https://springbackco.org/>

PEOPLE PLANET PURPOSE

Spring Back Colorado Mattress Recycling is a nonprofit social enterprise, working to achieve a triple bottom line:

PEOPLE	PLANET	PURPOSE
We work to serve the disenfranchised men and women of Colorado through sustainable employment opportunities and offering a supportive culture, a sober work environment, and a fair wage scale.	We work to serve the community of Colorado through our high impact environmental stewardship program. We divert over one hundred thousand mattresses and box springs from the landfill annually and offer the consumer a responsible way to properly get rid of their post-consumer waste while supporting a redemptive employment model.	We work to provide a fully developed mentorship program to the men we employ in concentrated effort to develop high-value employees with transferable skill sets, men of high integrity, and men that have learned how to work daily with intentional purpose.

IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

2011

Year Established

6,200

Mattresses Recycled Each Month

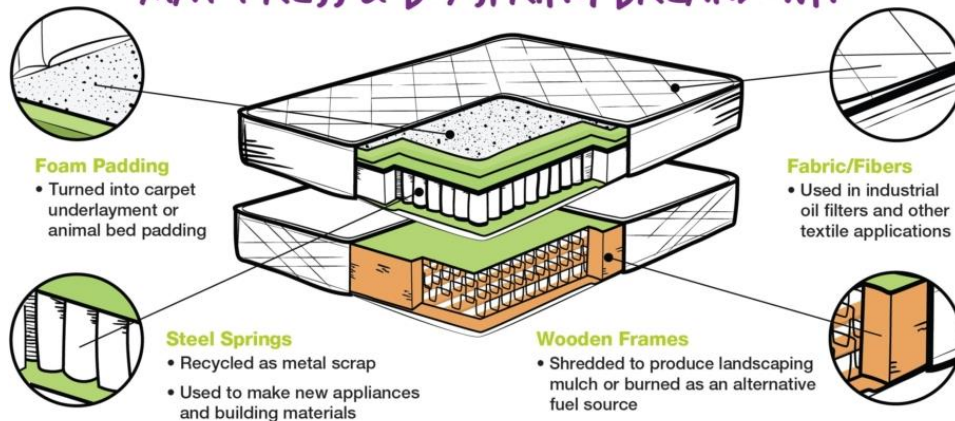
196

Total People Employed

11million

Lbs Diverted From Landfills

MATTRESS & BOXSPRING BREAKDOWN



What happens when a mattress is recycled?

Mattresses are **CUT OPEN & THE LAYERS** are separated.



Interior materials are **ORGANIZED BY TYPE.**



Foam, fiber and other soft commodities are **COMPRESSED.**



Metal & box springs are **EXTRACTED** & sent to scrap recyclers.



Then sold to **STEEL MILLS & FOUNDRIES.**



Wood is recycled & used as a **FUEL SOURCE.**



More than 75% of a mattress can be recycled into new consumer and industrial products.



<https://byebyemattress.com/>