

Mattress Stewardship Program Meeting Summary

This meeting was held on Sept. 16, 2025

This is a high-level meeting summary from the annual meeting for the Mattress Stewardship Program Advisory Committee



Attendees

Presenters: Mattress Recycling Council – Darcy Perez and Amanda Wall, with Justine Fallon and Mike O'Donnell; Oregon Department of Environmental Quality – Rachel Harding

Mattress Stewardship Program Advisory Committee (MSPAC): Elizabeth Cole, Brandi Kelly-Gustafson, Dave Marland, Celeste Meiffren-Swango, Kristan Mitchell, Kristin Roslund
(not present: Eli Hunt)

Other attendees:

Joey Peralta
Anna K (she/her), Community Warehouse
Jennifer DeFreece
Sam Collins
Craig Campbell
Natalie Zito
Kelsey Ruhland
Mat Cole
Vang, Katalynna, CalRecycle
Lexi
Alex Bertolucci

Jane Comeault
Bryan W.
Danit (she/her), Community Warehouse
Cheryl Grabham, DEQ
Steve Siegel, DEQ
Sara Kirby
Beth
Kelley
Lexi Howell
Aimee Thompson
Dave Larmouth
Angie Marzano

Meeting minutes

- Meeting started at approximately 1:30 pm
- DEQ gave a brief of overview of the law and the objectives for the meeting
 - The law passed in 2022 and was given to DEQ for administrative rulemaking which commenced in 2023
 - Creates a statewide system for collection and management of discarded mattresses
 - Stewardship organization (MRC) develops and implements a program, under a plan approved by DEQ
 - After plan approval, stewardship organization must implement within 7 months – MRC's plan launched on Jan. 1, 2025
 - The MSPAC meets at least once a year to consult with the stewardship organization and advise DEQ on documents submitted, including program plans, plan amendments or annual reports
 - This meeting is for the purposes of reviewing and discussing the annual reporting that MRC submitted to DEQ on July 1, 2025

Translations or other formats

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- DEQ noted that annual reporting data will be light this year, mostly just financial information, given that the program is new; a more robust report will be submitted in 2026 after a full year of data from 2025 is available
- DEQ introduced the MSPAC members who were present
- MRC gave a presentation of the new program for Oregon and new program activities that have been occurring in 2025, including
 - Since program launch more than 2.3 million pounds of mattress materials have been kept out of landfills
 - More than 55,000 mattresses have been collected in first 6 months of the program
 - There have been over 200 media stories about the new program in Oregon
 - 41 events have been held and 10 more are still being scheduled
 - Information was shared about the commercial volume (large volume) program
 - Several online resources were mentioned including
 - [Bye Bye Mattress Oregon page](#)
 - [Bye Bye Mattress media Center](#)
 - [Collection event information](#)
 - [MRC publicity toolkits](#)
- The meeting was adjourned for a short break at approximately 2:20 pm
- When the meeting resumed, input from the public was taken; items discussed included
 - The law does have an incentive to collect mattresses for reuse
 - Convenience not being met; would like to see more collection sites around the state
 - Multiple commentors mentioned that compensation to collection sites does not cover costs to collect and manage mattresses
 - The process for being compensated for non-program mattresses is cumbersome and should be streamlined
 - Mattress processors have capacity to take more mattresses than they're receiving currently through the program
 - Convenience is tied to compensation and locations don't want to be a collection site because compensation is low
 - Rural and coastal areas need better options for drop off; not many locations in these areas
- After public input, the MSPAC gave feedback and asked questions about the activities of the new mattress stewardship program; items discussed included
 - How to increase search engine results, so that the program comes up more readily when people search mattress disposal, or other similar phrases (search engine optimization)
 - Compensation to cover a collection site's reasonable actual costs for collecting and managing mattresses through the program
 - Fulfilling the convenience standard, including where the required additional 25 sites will be placed around the state to extend convenient service
 - Some folks suggested that education be paused or lessened until convenience has been fulfilled more broadly across the state
 - Any outreach that has been done to educate the lodging industry
 - How to do non-collection sites get information about the program
 - The difference between rural and urban pick up times for full containers of mattresses

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- Illegal dumping
- Conversations wrapped up at approximately 3:25; DEQ briefly described next steps
 - Annual documents submitted by MRC will be reviewed and approved by DEQ in the coming weeks
 - The committee will likely meet again around this same time next year, after the next annual report is submitted, which is due by July 1, 2026
 - The program is still being implemented and will continue to evolve and improve over time
 - The approved program is a guiding document that can be changed over time as needed if it's found that processes therein are missing the mark in some way.
 - Meeting materials will be posted online in the coming days; folks can visit [DEQ's website](#) for these materials
- The meeting adjourned at 3:31 pm

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