

DEQ's Mattress Stewardship Program

The Mattress Stewardship Act, or <u>Senate Bill 1576</u> (2022), establishes a statewide system for the financing, collection and environmentally sound management of discarded mattresses. It requires that this system provide free, convenient and accessible opportunities for collection of mattresses discarded in Oregon.

Why is this law important?

By providing locations around the state for discarded mattresses to be dropped off, this law can help decrease illegal dumping and the costs associated with it, including collection and management, which are often borne by local governments. Discarded mattresses can be difficult to dispose of in a landfill due to their bulkiness. Many components of a mattress, including metal, wood and fiber, can be diverted from a landfill and instead, recycled.



What's covered under this law?

Most mattresses and box springs are covered under this law. Some common items which are not included in the program are: foldout sofa beds, futons and futon mattresses, water beds, air mattresses and crib or bassinet mattresses.

Who does this law affect?

This law will primarily affect consumers, producers, retailers and renovators of mattresses.

Mattress producers, retailers and renovators will need to register with a stewardship organization that has a plan approved by DEQ. Only registered entities may sell or offer for sale any mattress in the state of Oregon. Retailers may only purchase mattresses from a producer or renovator that is registered with a stewardship organization. Retailers are required to collect, at the point of sale, a mattress stewardship assessment and must identify it as a separate line item on the consumer's receipt. They must also provide to consumers, at the point of retail sale, information on the collection opportunities available through the mattress stewardship program.

This program will also work in concert with entities already processing mattresses in Oregon including those in the renovation, reuse and recycling industries.



How many collection sites will there be and where will they be located?

State law will require at least one permanent collection site in every county with a population of 10,000 people or more, and an additional 25 collection sites distributed throughout the state in a manner to extend convenient service to residents. These sites can include permitted solid waste facilities, or other suitable sites for collection of discarded mattresses, including organizations that reuse or recycle mattresses.

What will consumers pay?

The stewardship organization will establish an assessment that consumers will pay when purchasing a program mattress. The amount will be based directly on the cost to run the program.

What is DEQ's role in this program?

DEQ will provide administrative oversight to ensure compliance. DEQ will also conduct a rulemaking to clarify items in the statute and will a hold both a public hearing and comment period for the draft rules. DEQ must submit rules to the Environmental Quality Commission for adoption.

What is the timeline?

By law, plans are due from stewardship organizations no later than Oct. 1, 2023. DEQ then has 90 days to approve, reject or request more information. During that time, DEQ must convene a director-appointed program advisory committee to review these plans and must also post the plans to its website, while providing a public comment period. After approval, it is expected that a plan will be implemented during the 2024 calendar year.

For more information or to get involved

Interested parties can find more information on DEQ's Mattress Program web page.

Alternative formats

DEQ can provide documents in an alternate format or in a language other than English upon request. Call DEQ at 800-452-4011 or email deginfo@deq.oregon.gov.



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