

CT Mattress Stewardship Working Group
Meeting Summary
October 28, 2013
CRRRA Visitor's Center, Murphy Road, Hartford, CT

All presentations for this meeting will be posted on the DEEP website. See below for attendee list.

Notes submitted by Tom Metzner.

Meeting began at 1:30pm.

Mike O'Donnell started the meeting with some background from the Connecticut law. He then spoke about the target dates for submitting the plan (July 1, 2014) and implementing the program (sometime between January and June of 2015). Mike mentioned that in order to determine program costs and estimate what the fee at point of sale would be, they are going out to bid for transportation and recycling services. Marilyn Cruz-Aponte suggested a pre bid conference to educate potential bidders on the process.

Mike outlined the first steps the mattress recycling council will be taking to develop the plan. One of the first steps is to identify and reach out to the various municipal groups in Connecticut. Because Connecticut does not utilize a county system for solid waste, the council needs to identify the regional groups best suited to assist municipalities in planning for the collection and transportation of mattresses. Mike presented a list of regional organizations in Connecticut he was using as a starting point and to solicit feedback. There are different regional groups involved in solid waste issues including solid waste authorities, councils of government, and operating committees. Certain groups reach chief elected officials and others include solid waste and public works officials.

Besides outreach to municipalities, Mike will be studying the current volumes and flows of discarded mattresses. Various people in attendance described systems currently used including a town transfer station, private subscription haulers picking up bulky waste at the curbside, and municipal contracts for collecting bulky waste on certain days or by scheduling. One bulky waste hauler has a facility that accepts mattresses with other bulky waste and then has the ability to separate them on the tipping floor.

Mike then talked about the councils plans for developing standards for recycling of mattress including the identification and verification of downstream markets for the commodities, verifiable recovery rates, tracking and material flow. The law also describes a financial incentive

for recovery of the mattresses and Mike and Chris have explored some options for offering this incentive.

Mike gave some details on the plans for remittance of the fee charged at retail. The mattress recycling council intends to use a website, ecofereporting.com to handle the payments from retailers. This website is currently used for other eco fees in the US and Canada including paint and mercury containing lights. The fee is subject to the sales tax. This is based on interpretation of the paint eco fee by the Department of Revenue Services. The fee needs to be identifiable on the receipt.

Attendees:

Name	Affiliation	email
Adrienne Houel	Park City Green	ahouel@aol.com
Jennifer March-Whackers	Capitol Region Council of Governments	jwhackers@crcog.org
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Marilyn Cruz Aponte	City of Hartford	Cruz002@hartford.gov
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Sheila Baummer	City of Naugatuck	sbaummer@naugatuck-ct.gov
Tim Phelan (on phone)	Connecticut Retail Merchants Association	tim@crmaonline.com
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Mike O'Donnell	Product Care	mikeO@ecolights.com