

# MATTRESS & BOX SPRINGS

Mattresses and box springs, like many other material streams, can be recycled. **Mother Earth Recycling**, an Indigenous-owned and operated social enterprise based in Winnipeg, recycles the wood, foam, fabric and metal found in mattresses and box springs.

## 01 REGISTRATION

Mother Earth Recycling does not require registration to accept mattresses and box springs. However, as these are not yet provincially-mandated materials for recycling, there is a \$18 fee per piece to cover the cost of recycling the mattresses or box springs, which is paid when dropping them off at Mother Earth Recycling in Winnipeg.

## 02 COLLECTION & TRAINING

There is no curbside pickup offered, so community members can either take mattresses to the landfill and the community looks after shipping them to Mother Earth Recycling (MER), or they can take mattresses directly to MER in Winnipeg.

There is no training required for landfill staff to collect and store mattresses. Mattresses do not need to be clean or dry in order for them to be recycled. Landfill staff should wear gloves when handling dirty or wet mattresses.

## 03 STORAGE & EQUIPMENT

Mattresses and box springs should ideally be kept dry and clean. The size of the area needing to store them depends on the amount collected each year and the duration of the storage period.

The area should have good signage to instruct community users and designed for ease of access for loading to transport off-site.

Storage areas should be weather protected, clean and prevent the accumulation of water.

## 04 ALTERNATIVE PROCESSING METHOD

Another option waste management crews can use to prevent mattresses from piling up at their waste site is mattress deconstruction. This process involves taking the mattress apart and sorting the different components into different waste piles. For example, the springs can go in with a scrap metal pile, while the textile waste can simply go in with



the household garbage. Wood waste from box springs can be burned, composted or reused in the community for garden boxes or other projects. Check out this link for more information on mattress deconstruction.

[BUDGETDUMPSTER.COM/BLOG/HOW-TO-BREAK-DOWN-MATTRESS-AND-BOX-SPRING/](https://budgetdumpster.com/blog/how-to-break-down-mattress-and-box-spring/)

## 05 TRANSPORT & REMOVAL

Mattresses and box springs need to be delivered to Mother Earth Recycling at 771 Main Street in Winnipeg.

For community members dropping off units, the \$18 payment per piece needs to be made at the time of drop off. If it is a landfill bringing multiple units in, MER can invoice the Band and they can pay via credit card over the phone, mail a check, or pay by e-transfer.

## 06 RECORD KEEPING

It is recommended to keep record of the amount of mattresses received within a year to budget for the drop off fee and to plan how much storage space is needed at the landfill.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Mother Earth Recycling

**TELEPHONE:** 204-942-7900

**WEBSITE:** [MOTHEREARTHRECYCLING.CA/](https://MOTHEREARTHRECYCLING.CA/)