

TIPS FOR REUSING & RECYCLING BULKY WASTES

...In Worcester County, Massachusetts

“Bulky Waste” is an umbrella term used to describe items such as mattresses and box springs, furniture, carpet, and large rigid plastic items. These are difficult to manage at their end of life because they are large and heavy. Dumping of these items is illegal. This handout includes options for properly managing bulky items you no longer need or want.

Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM) Participating Facilities and Organizations in Central Mass:

Athol: 1010 West Royalston Rd. (Rt 32)
www.athol-ma.gov

Blackstone: 14 Chestnut St.
www.townofblackstone.org

Groton: 600 Cow Pond Brook Rd.
www.townofgroton.org

Hardwick: 2011 Barre Rd. (Rt 32)
www.townofhardwick.com

Lancaster: Center Bridge Rd.
www.ci.lancaster.ma.us

Leicester: Mannville St.
www.leicesterma.org

Northbridge: 193 Main St.
(behind fire station)
www.northbridgemass.org

Royalston: 6 Town Dump Rd.
www.royalston-ma.gov

Townsend: 33 Greenville Rd.
www.Townsend.ma.us

Wachusett Watershed Regional Recycling Center: 131 Raymond / Huntington Highway, West Boylston
www.wachusettearthday.org



Mattress Collection Trailer

Approximately 80-90 percent of a mattress and box spring can be recycled!

Reuse

If the item is in good condition – donate it! Many charities and social programs accept good condition items for donation. You may also be able to donate or re-sell good quality used items directly through yard sales, or online exchanges.

Local Online Exchanges:

- Free-cycle - <https://www.freecycle.org>
- Craig's List - <https://worcester.craigslist.org>
- Groton Free Stuff Yahoo Group - <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/GrotonFreeStuff/info> (covers 10 surrounding communities)

Local Reuse or Donation Centers:

- Central MA Housing Alliance Clearinghouse - 6 Institute Road, Worcester; (508) 752-5519 or www.cmhaonline.org
- Goodwill store in Worcester - www.goodwillmass.org
- Habitat for Humanity ReStores (no upholstered items at this time) – 637 Lancaster Street, Leominster; (978) 227-5556 or www.restorencm.org – 11 Distributor Road, Worcester; www.habitatmwgw.org/restore
- Salvation Army family stores and donation centers in Gardner, Fitchburg, Framingham, Spencer, Northbridge, and Worcester - www.salvationarmyusa.org
- Saver's stores in Worcester and Marlborough - www.stores.savers.com

Note: Always call to confirm what types of items they will accept.

Refurbish, Repurpose, Rebuild, & Renovate

Furniture that may not be suitable for donation or re-sale may be able to be repaired or restored. Look for DIY tutorials on the internet or find inspiration through community Facebook pages and Pinterest boards.

Recycling

If the items have been stored improperly or are simply too old, torn, cracked, stained, or broken, they would not be suitable for reuse. Before sending these “unusable” items to a landfill – recycle them!



Bulky Rigid Plastics

Most large rigid plastics are made from #2 - high density polyethylene (HDPE) or #5 - polypropylene (PP) and are generally collected, baled, and sold together as so-called “mixed bulky rigids”.

Where Can I Locally Recycle...

ITEM	FACILITY	FEES	LOCATION / CONTACT INFO.	HOURS OF OPERATION
Mattresses, Furniture, Bulky Rigid Plastics	Raw Material Recovery Corporation	Specific to item: contact facility for details	461 West Broadway Gardner, MA (978) 730-8266 www.rawmatrec.com	Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Disposal

Unfortunately, items that are severely damaged, wet or moldy, or otherwise contaminated probably have to be disposed of because these problems can affect the recyclability of the materials. There are fees associated with bulky waste disposal at both SW transfer stations and C&D facilities – please contact facility for details.

Local Bulky Waste Disposal

FACILITY/ EVENT	LOCATION / CONTACT INFO.	HOURS OF OPERATION
Athol Transfer Station	1010 West Royalston Road www.athol-ma.gov/transfer-and-recycling-center	Wednesday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 pm Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 pm
Blackstone Valley Regional Recycling Center	14 Chestnut Street www.townofblackstone.org/Pages/BlackstoneMA_BOH/Recycling/index	Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Royalston Transfer station	www.royalston-ma.gov/?page_id=549	Hours vary by facility
Townsend Transfer Station	33 Greenville Road www.townsend.ma.us/Pages/TownsendMA_Recycling/index	First and third Saturday of the month 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Construction & Demolition (C&D) Facilities

COMPANY / FACILITY	LOCATION / CONTACT INFO.	HOURS OF OPERATION
AKS Management Transfer Station	115 Cobbler Drive Fitchburg, MA www.aksrecycling.com	Monday-Friday 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Saturday 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Devens Recycling Center	45 Independence Drive Devens, MA www.devensrecycling.com	Monday-Friday 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Saturday 7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
E.L. Harvey & Sons	68 Hopkington Road Westborough, MA 350 Arbor Way Fitchburg, MA www.elharvey.com	Monday-Friday 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Saturday 7:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Tri-County Recycling	198 East Street, Ware, MA www.tri-countyrecycling.com	Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Waste Management	259 New Lancaster Road Leominster, MA www.wm.com	Monday-Friday 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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 NORTH EAST WASTE MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION
www.newmoa.org