



# MassRecycle

- Formed c.1990
- MassRecycle is a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit, statewide coalition of individuals, governments, businesses, institutions and nonprofit organizations dedicated to promoting and realizing the vital environmental, social and economic benefits created by reducing, reusing and recycling waste materials, and by increasing the utilization of recycled products.
- [Massrecycle.org](http://Massrecycle.org)
- Recycling Summit on March 25, 2019 at the Sheraton, Framingham, MA



# MassRecycle

- Diverse group of board members
  - Solid waste industry
  - Municipalities
  - E-waste recycling
  - Reuse- furniture, relocation services
- Pragmatic solutions that can be implemented
- Creates platforms for discussion with all stakeholders and looks at a systems approach
- Piloting recycling on the Red Line with the MBTA

# MA PSC

- The Mass Product Stewardship Council was launched in 2010 by Clean Water Action, under the leadership of Lynne Pledger
- Claire Galkowski of the South Shore Recycling Cooperative played a leading role as well
- MassRecycle incorporated MA PSC into its structure in 2016
- Currently no dedicated staff
- Run by the officers on the board representing municipalities

# Previous efforts

- Supported bills
  - Paint
  - E-waste
  - Packaging
  - Mattresses
- Education
- Worked with industry; American Coatings Association and International Sleep Products Association
- Worked with Product Stewardship Institute

# Mattress Recycling Study Commission Bill

- Last legislative session The Mattress Recycling Study Commission Bill S.2174, filed by Senator Donoghue of Lowell
- No new regulations, policies or funding
- Create a group of diverse stakeholders tasked with gathering data and researching mattress recycling models from other states
- Did not pass



State Sen. Eileen Donoghue (D-Lowell) joined representatives from MASSRECYCLE and UTEC to host a live mattress recycling demonstration in the Great Hall of the Massachusetts State House  
Photo courtesy of The Lowell Sun

# Massachusetts

- Bottle bill in the 1980s, difficult to update, complicating factors with processors relying on PET for income to pay for facilities
- Passed first state drug take-back program recently but as part a larger bill
- Paint EPR got close but failed in the House Ways and Means
- Opponents call it a tax
- Resistance from retailers

# Current Situation

- Challenges
  - MassRecycle has limited funds and currently there is no staff
  - Obstacles at the Legislature
  - No coordinated momentum with a diverse group of stakeholders
  - MA state government not actively supporting EPR
- Opportunities
  - China's import restrictions have raised awareness
  - Municipalities are feeling the financial impacts more than ever
  - EPR cited more and more as long-term solution
  - Consumers want to help
  - Surrounding states have programs for mattresses and paint



Wells, ME

# MA PSC strategy for 2019

- Focus limited resources
- File a mattress bill to create a recycling council in MA; learn from others first
- Summit
  - Education and awareness
  - Coalition building to breakthrough obstacles at the Legislature
- Grow MAPSC participation and communications
- Comment on MA DEP's Solid Waste Master Plan update
  - Letter already sent to DEP staff as they prepare for the plan for public comment in 2020
- Partners; NEWMOA, NERC, MA Municipal Association, PSI, SNE SWANA, EBCNE
- Work with and learn from industry associations and other PSCs such as CA PSC
- Monitor and comment on bills of others; paint, packaging, e-waste
- Build on success of MA DEP grant programs for mattresses and latex paint



# MassRecycle R3 Summit

Monday, March 25, 2019

Sheraton, Framingham, MA

[Massrecycle.org](http://Massrecycle.org)

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