



CITY OF FLORENCE  
PUBLIC WORKS

## MATTRESS RECYCLING



Illegal mattress dumping is a rising environmental and public health concern in many cities and rural areas. Abandoned mattresses can be seen on streets, vacant lots, and alleys, creating an eyesore and contributing to pollution.

Recently, Public Works crews retrieved a mattress and other trash that was dumped off one of the future street extensions off of Spruce Street north of Munsel Lake Road. Even with signage indicating no dumping, individuals still find the need to dump their trash alongside the roadways. With great access to disposal opportunities, including new rules on recycling of mattresses, individuals do not need to dump their old mattresses or other trash along our roads or property.

In 2022, Oregon became the fourth U.S. state to enact a law establishing a statewide mattress recycling program. Senate Bill 1576 (2022) requires mattress manufacturers to establish an extended producer responsibility, or EPR, program that will make it easy for consumers to recycle their unwanted mattresses. The law aims to increase mattress recycling, establish new convenient locations in every county for residents to drop off their mattresses, reduce illegal dumping, and create recycling-sector jobs.

The program is funded by an assessment of \$22.50 collected at the time that a mattress is purchased. Adding mattresses to the products covered by Oregon's EPR programs provides a much-needed service in both urban and rural communities throughout the state. The collection program started on January 1, 2025. For Lane County, you can drop off mattresses at St. Vincent de Paul or the Glenwood Transfer Station.

Please remember that dumping a mattress is a significant issue that affects the environment, public health and city budgets. With his new program in place and responsible disposal and recycling, we can keep our streets clean and protect the environment for future generations.