

County of Santa Cruz

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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PRESS RELEASE

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Communications Manager

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FREE MATTRESS DISPOSAL NOW AVAILABLE

Santa Cruz County residents may now dispose of old mattresses and box springs for free at local refuse disposal and recycling sites.

The service is being offered under a new state law, the Used Mattress Recovery and Recycling Act, which requires mattress manufacturers to create a statewide recycling program for mattresses discarded in the state. The industry-funded Mattress Recycling Council is partnering in the program with County facilities.

The new program helps meets a County objective of reducing the amount of illegal dumping at rural sites across the County. The Board of Supervisors has also taken steps to address the problem, including a new "Universal Service" ordinance requiring properties in the unincorporated areas to have refuse hauling services.

Under the law, the program is funded by a new state-mandated \$11 surcharge on mattress purchases. The program is not available to businesses and retailers, which must arrange their own mattress collection and disposal.

Mattresses may be dropped off at no charge at the following County facilities. Go to SantaCruzCountyRecycles.org for contact info and hours:

Buena Vista Landfill 1231 Buena Vista Drive Watsonville, Calif.

Ben Lomond Transfer Station 9835 Newell Creek Road Ben Lomond, Calif.