

# Wisconsin Council on Recycling

## □ Mattress Recycling

July 17, 2018

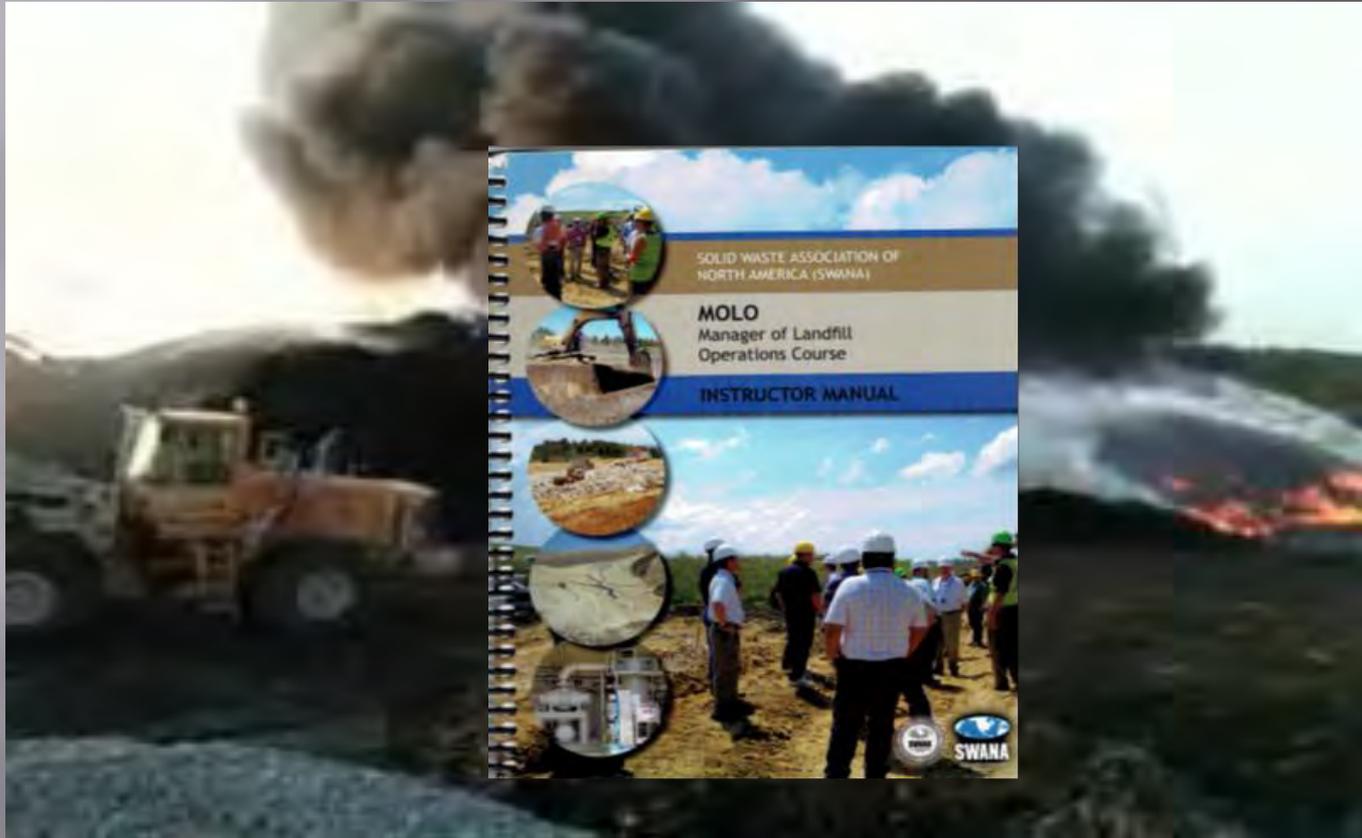


# Why Recycle Mattresses?



MATTRESSES AT  
LA CROSSE COUNTY LANDFILL

# Fire Culprits



IN 1988 LA CROSSE COUNTY SPENT  
\$200,000 FIGHTING A LANDFILL FIRE  
THAT CLOSED HIGHWAY 16

# Entangle Equipment



IT TAKES AN EXTRA 3-5 MINUTES  
TO MANAGE MATTRESSES OR \$6

# Worker Injury



IT TAKES AN EXTRA 3-5 MINUTES  
TO MANAGE MATTRESSES OR \$6

# Create Side Slope Seeps



IT TAKES AN EXTRA 3-5 MINUTES  
TO MANAGE MATTRESSES OR \$6

# Wastes Daily Cover



IT TAKES AN EXTRA 3-5 MINUTES  
TO MANAGE MATTRESSES OR \$6

# Expensive



NEAL BOLTON, A NATIONAL LANDFILL OPERATION'S EXPERT AND LA CROSSE COUNTY'S CONSULTANT WROTE IN APRIL ISSUE OF MSW MANAGEMENT

A CHARGE OF \$13/MATTRESS MAKES SENSE AT A \$50/TON LANDFILL TO COVER THE COST OF AIRSPACE

# Complies with County Policy

## La Crosse County Resolution



RESOLUTION # 34-6107

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ITEM #: 23/6

### BOARD ACTION

Adopted:

For: 33

Against: 1

Abs/Excd: 2

Vote Req: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Action: Amended

RE: ECO-COUNTY DESIGNATION SUPPORTED

AND THE SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT MISSION:  
TO PROVIDE ENVIRONMENTALLY AND  
ECONOMICALLY SOUND SOLID WASTE  
SERVICES

# Mattresses are inherently recyclable



85% BY WEIGHT

90% BY VOLUME

# Local mattress recycling is triple bottom line



SUSTAINABLE

La Crosse County used  
to bury 7,500 to 9,000  
mattresses per year



# What do some Wisconsin landfill's charge for mattresses?



\$15 TO RECYCLE  
\$18 TO BURY



\$65 FOR 1-3 MATTRESSES  
\$270 TON FOR MORE



LA CROSSE COUNTY  
Exceptional services. Extraordinary place.

\$15 TO RECYCLE  
\$15 TO BURY



# Could La Crosse County tire recycling be a model for mattress recycling?



MIXED IN LOAD

\$4 TO RECYCLE

\$10 TO BURY

**FORCE** for  
POSITIVE CHANGE

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**FINALIST**

# 2018 Sustainable Process of the Year

## Small Business Award Winner





- Wisconsin requires DNR approval to be a mattress recycler
- 7RR is the only DNR approved mattress recycler



7 RIVERS  
RECYCLING, LLC



- Information/Education
- Accessibility
- Stable Infrastructure
- Affordability, including an incentivized pricing structure



# How to Kill Mattress Recycling

- Wait until it's the law
- Don't Recycle mattresses
- Believe nothing can be learned from other waste separation practices (*e.g. barrels, tires, yard waste, plastics, appliances recycling, yard waste recycling etc. )*)

# WHAT'S YOUR NEXT STEP?

- Be informed -- continue the discussion
- Support current State of Wisconsin efforts
- Encourage Public/Private programs
- Start



Questions?