



# Mattress Recycling Service

Derek Sinns

# Background

- ▶ Consult with hospitals in Central and South Texas on sustainability, waste diversion and training towards zero waste goals.
- ▶ Recognized the hospital demand for mattress removal in the Austin area.
- ▶ Found the Austin Materials Marketplace.

# Overview of Redeuces

- ▶ Innovative Mattress Recycling
- ▶ Zero Waste Training
- ▶ Let Love Grow Project

# Mattress Recycling

90%

of the mattress  
can be recycled



but Americans dispose  
of more than 17 million  
mattresses annually

## one mattress is made of...

38% cotton

30% metal

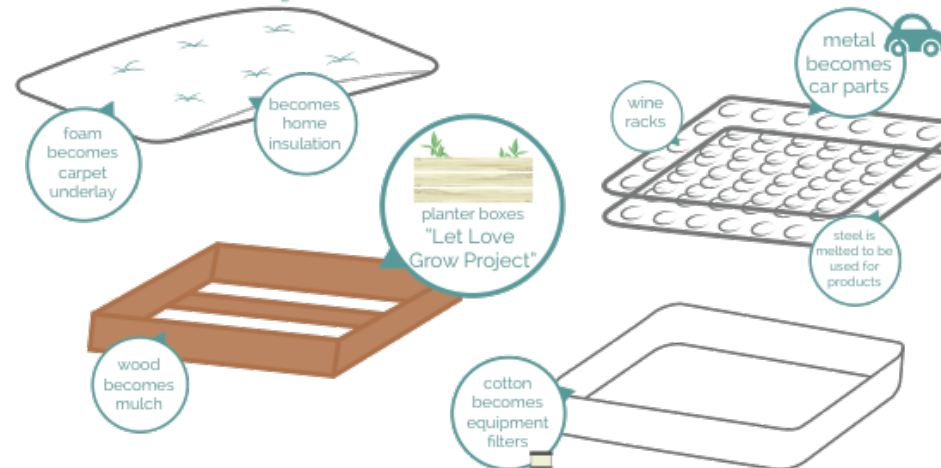
10% foam

4% wool shoddy

9 lbs  
of cotton

25 lbs  
of steel

## mattress parts can become...



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# Mattress Recycling Revenue Streams

## Front End Customers

- ▶ Universities and Schools
- ▶ Hotels
- ▶ Apartment Complexes
- ▶ Mattress Companies
- ▶ City of Austin
- ▶ Non-Profit Organizations
- ▶ Local Landfill

## Back End Customers

- ▶ Cotton
  - ▶ Textile recycler
- ▶ Wood
  - ▶ Vegetable Garden Planters
  - ▶ Outdoor Furniture
- ▶ Foam
  - ▶ Used in carpet underlay
- ▶ Springs
  - ▶ End use recycler
  - ▶ Decorative

# Operations

- ▶ Leasing warehouse space near highland mall. Will be used as a storage and workspace. Not a drop off location at this time.
- ▶ Employees will be breaking down the mattresses throughout the week and assisting with the pickup.
- ▶ Pickups will be scheduled by Redeuces for commercial and residential customers through the website and by phone.
- ▶ Large volume projects will receive a dedicated team on the scheduled pick up day.

# Team

- ▶ Operations - Consists of driver and mattress breakdown processes
- ▶ Designer - Carpenter working on ideas to reuse/repurpose materials
- ▶ Consultants - Assists with zero waste audits, training and collaboration
- ▶ Quality - Identifies opportunities to exceed quality and continuous improvement
- ▶ Technical - Works on effective communication through social media and website maintenance

# Zero Waste Consulting

- ▶ Zero Waste audits
- ▶ Customized training to companies and organizations
- ▶ Onsite surveys of current waste program
- ▶ Continuous identification of waste diversion needs
- ▶ Assistance with management of MSW, Recycling, Confidential Documents, Hazardous, Universal, Electronic, etc.
- ▶ Compliance with regulatory agencies such as TCEQ and URO for the city of Austin



# Mattress Recycling Service Plans

- ▶ Monthly Unlimited Pickup Plan
  - ▶ Monthly plans for unlimited pickups for apartments and hotels etc.
- ▶ Consulting Services Plans
  - ▶ Unlimited mattress pickup and consulting services
  - ▶ Consulting Services
- ▶ Volume Based Plan
  - ▶ Volume based pickup pricing sliding scale based on 5 or more mattresses
- ▶ Residential and Commercial Plans
  - ▶ Mattress pickup - per mattress price
  - ▶ Mattress drop-off per mattress price (not currently available)

# Let Love Grow

- ▶ Wood from the mattress will be used to create vegetable planters for gardens
- ▶ Vegetable planter gardens will be sold across Austin nurseries and garden centers
- ▶ For every purchase of a vegetable planter an additional planter we will donate to a family in need
- ▶ Planters will include:
  - ▶ vegetable planter
  - ▶ soil
  - ▶ training
  - ▶ plants to get started

# Next Steps

- ▶ Launch operations during the Austin Earth Day Celebration April 18th, 2015
- ▶ Collaborate with Austin Hotel Association, apartment complexes, Goodwill, Ecology Action, mattress retailers, UT and local waste haulers
- ▶ Spread the work on the Austin Materials Marketplace and the city website
- ▶ Identify credentialing opportunities for quality and compliance projects

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