

# St. Charles County Hosts Free Mattress Recycling Event

September 9, 2013

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*St. Charles County, Missouri* – Several million mattresses end up in landfills across the United States each year, where they can take 10 years or longer to decompose. However, up to 95 percent of the material in those mattresses can be recycled and put to further usage.

Every day, individuals collect aluminum cans, glass bottles and paper, but they forget to consider their used mattresses that can be recycled as well. A typical mattress and bedspring contain about 25 pounds of steel, and this can be melted and reused in other products. The polyurethane foam that makes a bed comfortable can be shredded into carpet pads, insulation or pet bedding. The wood foundations are also collected and processed into fuel or mulch.

To make mattress recycling easier for St. Charles County residents, the Division of Environmental Health and Protection and St. Louis Green, Inc., will host a FREE Mattress Recycling Event on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2013 at the division's two Recycle Works locations. Open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Recycle Works Central (60 Triad South in St. Charles) and Recycle Works West (2110 East Pitman Ave. in Wentzville), individuals may bring used mattresses for proper disposal. For more information on this program or to learn more about St. Charles County's recycling efforts, please call 636.949.1800. St. Charles County businesses interested in recycling mattresses should contact St. Louis Green at 314.222.8004 for more information.

The St. Charles County Department of Community Health and the Environment is committed to the protection and enhancement of health and the quality of life for all members of our community. Through three divisions — Public Health, Environmental Health and Protection, and Humane Services — the department coordinates with federal, state, and local organizations to provide a wide range of services that have a profound impact on the lives of St. Charles County's residents and visitors. To discover ways that the department assists this region or to learn about volunteer opportunities with any of the divisions, please visit <http://health.sccmo.org/health> or call .636.949.7400.

St. Louis Green, Inc. is a non-profit organization focusing on implementing and educating St. Louis Metropolitan Area residents on the importance of sustainable lifestyles. The organization presents many programs that support residents and businesses in making changes that lead to a greener world. For more information on St. Louis Green, Inc., please visit <http://stlouisgreen.com> or call 314.222.8004.

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