

Project 5.6.1: Furniture foam recycling by Vita NZ Ltd

www.vita.co.nz , Tel (03) 3484109.

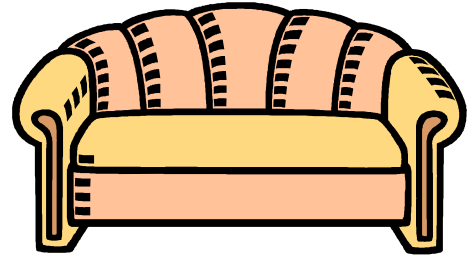
Vita collects used foam which is chipped up to use in making underlay and such, therefore it is a useful resource for them.

In order to make use of this existing service it will be necessary for transfer stations or other recycling depots to provide a place under cover to store the foam, and wool fadges (or wool bales) in which to contain the foam (possibly a frame to hold the sack). That could be a shed, container or space in a building. The attached information sheet provides information about what is wanted in the way of foam.

There would also be a small income from this - 30c/kg. Vita NZ has a required minimum load of 3-4m³ (a wool bale or two) before they will pick up, and pickup is free if you're on their trucking route. They cover the whole South Island, apparently, and may well be able to organise pick-ups on a reasonably regular basis. For example, they go to Rangiora every Thursday to pick up foam underlay from Carpet Court, so could collect from Southbrook as well on that day.

In places where there's labour available, staff could dismantle furniture that doesn't sell, in order to recover the foam for recycling.

PLASTIC FOAM RECYCLING



PLEASE - make sure your foam is:

- Clean
- Dry
- Smaller pieces preferable to larger lumps
- Baled or bagged
- A minimum volume of foam may apply at each depot.

PLEASE - eliminate from your foam:

- All metal, including staples
- All covering fabric, upholstery, and edgings
- Any Dacron or other textile fibres
- Contaminants - lumps of glue, oil and grease, or anything dirty.

You can collect plastic foam from...

- Foam furniture, couches and chairs, bed settees and topper pads
- Foam carpet underlay (not dust-laden, and not rubber)
- Car seats (slash off top foam, watch for metal)
- Mattresses cannot be accepted for reasons of hygiene.

NOTE: Plastic Foam is highly flammable - NO SMOKING

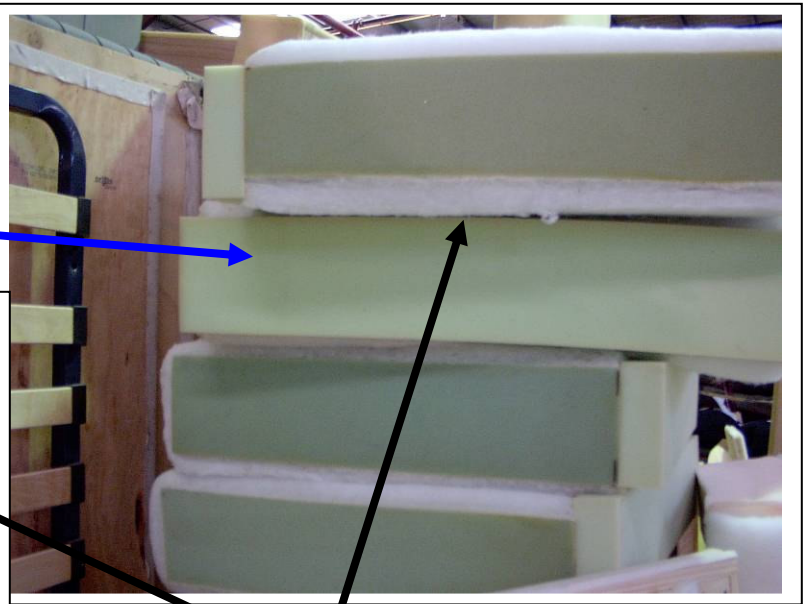
For further information, call Zero Waste on 09 486 0734,
or view our website at www.zerowaste.co.nz



Rubber foam:

Elastic rubber foam is not acceptable for the foam recycling scheme, so do not put it in your collection of foam. It is usually much heavier than the polyurethane foam and has holes as shown at the left photo.

**Polyurethane foam
(Recyclable)**



Dacron foam:

Dacron foam (fluffy polyester foam) is not recyclable at this stage. Please take it off and make sure not to contaminate recyclable polyurethane foam with the Dacron foam. You may see 2 different coloured polyurethane form combined together. Different colour is no problem for recycling -you don't have to separate them apart.

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