

250-RICR-140-20-7

TITLE 250 - DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

CHAPTER 140 - WASTE & MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

SUBCHAPTER 20 - RECYCLING & SPECIAL WASTE

PART 7- Rules and Regulations for Textile Recycling

7.1 Purpose

- A. These regulations establish the requirements for textile recycling that are required by The Rules and Regulations for Reduction and Recycling of Commercial and Non-Municipal Residential Solid Waste (250-RICR-140-20-1).
- B. The purpose of these regulations is to establish a registration and annual reporting program for Textile Collectors. The information collected through these requirements will enable the Department to better understand textile collection and diversion activities throughout Rhode Island, evaluate the effectiveness of textile recycling efforts, identify opportunities to increase textile diversion, and develop and support programs that advance the objectives of the Textile Recycling Act.

7.2 Authority

- A. These rules and regulations are promulgated pursuant to the requirements and provisions of R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 23-18.19, the Textile Recycling Act and Chapter 42-35, Administrative Procedures Act.

7.3 Definitions

- A. As used in this Part:
 - 1. “Department” means the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management.
 - 2. “Textile Collectors” means any for-profit business, nonprofit organization, charitable organization, quasi-state agency, or other organization that regularly collects textiles from the public for the purpose of resale, reuse, recycling, repurposing, exportation, or other forms of disposal diversion. Textile Collectors include, but are not limited to, operators of textile collection bins, thrift stores, consignment stores, vintage clothing stores, and other organizations that collect textiles as an ongoing part of their operations. Exemptions are listed in § 7.5 of this Part.

3. “Textiles” means clothing, footwear, bedding, towels, curtains, fabric, and similar products, except textiles that are contaminated with mold, bodily fluids, insects, oil, or hazardous substances.

7.4 Textile Collection Reporting Requirements

- A. All textile collectors shall register with the Department by June 1, 2027, on a form specified by the Department. Textile collectors that begin collecting after June 1, 2027 will be responsible for registering with the Department within 90 calendar days and to submit annual reports for the years they collect as described below.
- B. Beginning March 1, 2028, all Textile Collectors shall submit an annual report to the Department for calendar year 2027. Thereafter, Textile Collectors shall submit an annual report for each calendar year by March 1 of the following year, on a form prescribed by the Director.
- C. This report shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 1. Contact Information, including the name of the reporting entity, business address, as well as the name, title, telephone number, and email address of the individual responsible for the report.
 2. Entity type (private commercial, private non-profit, municipal, quasi-state);
 3. Reporting Date;
 4. Reporting period covered by the report;
 5. The location of each textile collection point within Rhode Island;
 6. The method of collection utilized at each collection point, as applicable.
 7. Total quantity of textiles collected in Rhode Island during the reporting period, reporting in tons;
 8. Quantity of textiles sold or otherwise distributed for reuse during the reporting period, reported in tons;
 9. Quantity of textiles sold or otherwise distributed for repurpose or recycling during the reporting period, reported in tons;
 10. Quantity of textiles disposed of as waste during the reporting period, reported in tons;
 11. Quantity of textiles exported from the United States during the reporting period, reported in tons;

12. Name and location of the facility or facilities that received the collected textiles, where applicable;
13. Whether the reported quantities were submitted to any other governmental agency or organization and, if so, the name of that agency or organization; and
14. A certification signed by an authorized representative attesting that the information contained in the report is true, accurate, and complete to the best of their knowledge.

7.5 Exemptions

- A. The registration and reporting requirements of this Part shall not apply to:
1. An entity that collects textiles or provides space for the collection of textiles, provided that the collected textiles are managed by a Textile Collector That meets the requirements of the registration and reporting requirements of this Part.
 2. An organization conducting an occasional or temporary textile collection event, including, but not limited to, a coat, sock, blanket, or clothing drive, where the collected textiles are distributed to individuals without charge.
 3. An individual donating or selling the individual's own textiles.

7.6 Enforcement and Penalty

- A. If the registrant fails to report or if the report is false, incomplete, or doesn't comply with the Department's standards, the Department may issue an enforcement action pursuant to the *Rules and Regulations for Assessment of Administrative Penalties* (250-RICR-130-00-1).

7.7 Administrative Appeals

- A. Any person issued an administrative penalty by the Department pursuant to this Rule may file an appeal in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-17.7 and the *Rules and Regulations for the Administrative Adjudication Division* (250-RICR-10-00-1) by presenting a written request for a hearing within twenty (20) days of the applicant's receipt of the notice of the enforcement action. The written request must be presented to the Clerk of the Administrative Adjudication Division located at 235 Promenade Street, Room 350, Providence, RI 02908.