



TEXTILE RECOVERY
#ReClotheNY

Textiles Coalition Workgroup
Standards for Coalition Participation
July 15, 2016

Introduction Each year, approximately 1.4 billion pounds of clothes, shoes, and other textiles, with an estimated market value exceeding \$130 million, are trashed annually in New York State. To address this issue, over the past two years, a group of textiles recyclers, local governments, non-profit reuse organizations, and other stakeholders has worked together to develop the Re-Clothe NY textiles campaign, including two in-person summits. At the 2015 summit, participants agreed to establish an official coalition, which would include standards to which coalition members are expected to adhere. The standards below outline these requirements for official coalition membership, as developed by a multi-stakeholder working group in spring 2016.

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Draft Standard 1: Coalition member must include the following language on all NEW textile collection bins and other types of unstaffed textile collection containers: “[This bin accepts all clothing, shoes, and other textiles. Do not leave any material outside the bin. For a full list of materials accepted visit \[ReClothe NY Website URL\].](#)”

Coalition member must ensure that all EXISTING textile collection bins and other types of unstaffed textile collection containers contain the following statements, which may be arranged in any order:

- [All clothing, shoes, and other textiles](#)
- [Do not leave any material outside the bin](#)
- [For a full list of materials accepted visit \[ReClothe NY Website or collector website\]](#)

Variations on the above statements are acceptable, so long as the meaning of the statement is upheld.

Additional information may be provided, but is not required.

Re-Clothe New York: a Partnership of



Draft Standard 2: Coalition member must include the list below of accepted textile items on its website. Additional products may be listed, but are not required.

Accepted Textile Materials List to Include on Website		
The following items can be donated <i>in any condition</i> (torn, worn, stained, missing buttons, broken zippers, etc.) as long as they are clean, dry, and odorless .		
Footwear (in pairs):		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shoes • Heels (wedges, pumps) • Flats • Sandals • Flip Flops • Boots (work boots, dress boots, winter boots) • Sneakers • Cleats • Slippers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suits • Socks • Pajamas • Slips • Bras • Underwear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aprons • Dish cloths • Cloth napkins • Table linens • Comforters • Throw rugs • Placemats
Clothing:	Accessories:	Other:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tops (T-shirts, blouses, shirts, tank tops) • Sweaters • Sweatshirts • Dresses • Outerwear (coats, jackets, blazers) • Bottoms (pants, slacks, jeans, sweatpants, skirts, shorts) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hats • Bags (pocketbooks, backpacks, duffle bags, totes) • Belts • Gloves • Ties • Scarves • Bathrobes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halloween costumes • Sports jerseys • Pet clothing • Textile scraps greater than 1'x1' • Canvas
	Linens:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheets • Blankets • Towels • Curtains/Drapes 	

Each coalition member’s website must also include the following definition for “textiles”: “Any type of material composed of natural or synthetic fibers such as products made from wool, silk, linen, cotton, polyester, leather, vinyl, hemp, and rayon. These programs are not intended for commercial waste, cuttings, or scraps.”

Finally, each coalition member must display the Re-Clothe NY Textiles Coalition logo on its website.

Draft Standard 3: Coalition member must provide the following data on textiles collections to an independent clearinghouse selected by the Coalition:

- Number of textile bins/unstaffed containers in New York
- Total volume of textiles collected in New York within a given time period
 - **Phase 1** (from coalition launch date to end of two years): Members provide the total quantity of textiles collected from all bins/unstaffed containers. Members provide data, to the extent possible, on material collected from resident pickups, donation centers, and other methods of collection (estimates are acceptable and should be based on a geographically diverse sample)
 - **Phase 2** (begins two years after coalition launch date): Members provide the total quantity of textiles collected in bins/unstaffed containers, resident pickups, donation centers, events, and other methods of collection. If estimation is required, members should use a geographically diverse sample and provide a clear description of all assumptions used.

Draft Standard 4: Coalition member will include the following messaging in its outreach:

- **Message 1:** Clothing and shoes are highly reusable, and all textiles can easily be recycled through the existing collection network across the state.
- **Message 2:** Textile recycling in New York State has the potential to create an estimated 1,000 jobs, recover an estimated \$130 million in economic value, and have significant environmental benefits including reduced greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Message 3:** New York residents dispose of an estimated 1.4 billion pounds of textiles every year. This represents 6% of solid waste discarded in the state. Textiles recyclers, collectors, non-profit reuse organizations, and government officials in New York State are teaming up to keep textiles out of the waste stream.

Draft Standard 5: Coalition members must adhere to municipal codes for bin placement.

Draft Standard 6: Coalition members must display language regarding whether their business is for-profit or non-profit, as [required by state law](#), which states:

- If all of textiles collected will be directed to a non-business purpose or purposes as defined by non-for-profit corporation law, the label affixed to the bin must state “DONATED ITEMS WILL BE USED FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES”
- If any of the textiles collected is not directed to non-business purposes or purposes as defined by non-for-profit corporation law, the label affixed to the bin must state “DONATED ITEMS WILL BE USED FOR PROFIT”

Signees to Agreement

We, the undersigned, agree to abide by these standards to be considered members of the Re-Clothe NY Textiles Coalition and to use coalition marketing materials, including a coalition bin label, to be designed during the subsequent phase of this initiative and distributed to all coalition members. All donated materials will be reused and recycled to the maximum extent practicable.

[Cyntex Co](#)

[Hearts for the Homeless](#) (pending Board vote)

[St. Pauly Textile Inc.](#)