



# Recycled Cotton Fabric

## SOURCED FROM LA - KNITTED IN LA

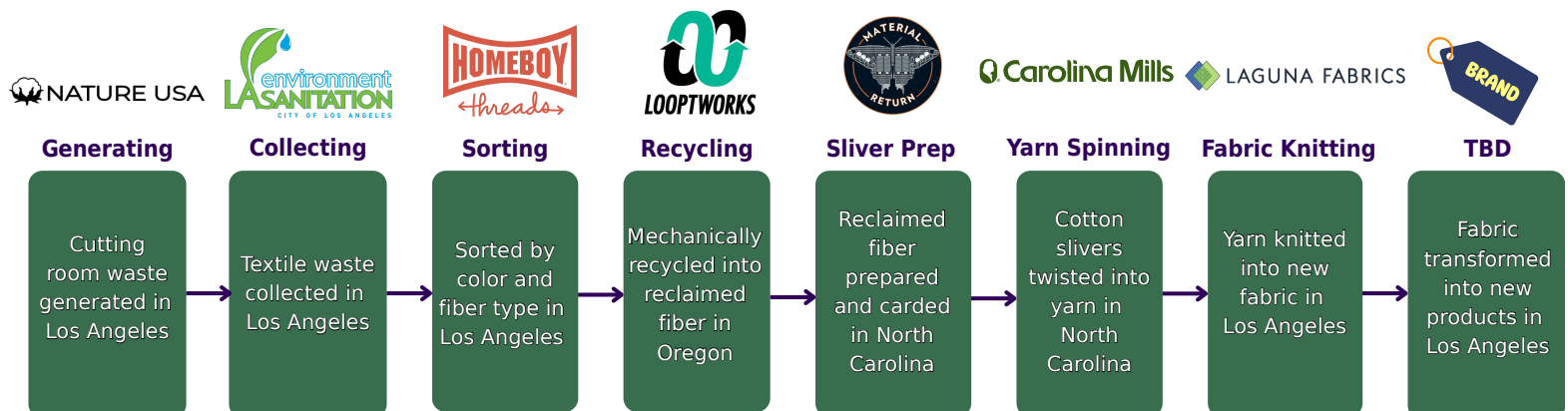
Since 2020, the City of Los Angeles has initiated three phases of an industrial textile recovery pilot with LA Sanitation and Environment (LASAN).

- **Phase 1 (2020-2022):** Collected information on sources of commercial textile waste, fiber content, and established processes to manage unwanted textiles including high occurrences of landfilled blended fabrics.
- **Phase 2 (2022-2024):** Established a virtual LA Textile Hub and working group, tested several fiber identification devices, and sent over 1,000 lbs. of textile waste to recycling and upcycling processing.
- **Phase 3 (2024-2026):** Updating the Hub resource for waste generators and brands, sending 3,000 lbs. of cotton waste to domestic recycling, building an upcycling designer database, stakeholder engagement, and several in-person education events.

## DOMESTIC SUPPLY-CHAIN OVERVIEW

The California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC), LASAN, and Laguna Fabrics developed a recycled fabric made from 100% cotton - 40% recycled content sourced from Los Angeles, recycled in Portland with Looptworks, and blended with 60% virgin cotton sourced from the NSF Textile Innovation Engine in North Carolina.

The image below shows the domestic supply chain used to create the recycled cotton fabric, which is available for brands and designers.





## TEXTILE WASTE GENERATION

City of LA's recycLA Franchise Program reported a total of 215,695 tons of textiles collected from black bins with an average of 71,898 tons of textiles per year. This amounted to a 6.02% annual average composition of the total commercial waste stream.

Fiber audits indicate over 52% of the stream is cotton or cotton-rich fabric, increasing potential recyclability. Segregating cotton waste from other fiber types will improve market value.

LOS ANGELES-SOURCED, POST-INDUSTRIAL, RECYCLED CONTENT MATERIALS ARE SUITABLE FOR:



- **ACCESSORIES**
- **EQUIPMENTS**
- **FOOTWEAR**
- **INTERIORS**
- **APPAREL**
- **HARDWARE**
- **BRANDING**
- **AND MORE!**

## OPPORTUNITY FOR CALIFORNIA

Extended Producer Responsibility, or EPR, is a policy that shifts the burden of end-of-life waste management to producers. With California's new Textile EPR program, future funding could be strategically directed toward in-state collection, sorting, and fiber-to-fiber recycling infrastructure for California sourced cotton waste.

The biggest opportunity to drive markets for recycled cotton comes from brands buying and requesting recycled content fabrics from the fabric mills.



## HOW TO GET INVOLVED



Contact Laguna Fabrics for fabric purchase information



Request technical assistance from LASAN or CPSC on collection and processing opportunities



Attend CPSC and LASAN's educational event

**VISIT [CALPSC.ORG/LATEXILEHUB](https://calpsc.org/lertextilehub) FOR MORE INFO!**



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