

STYRO CAN BE RECYCLED



Styro is Made Up of 98% Air

Styro is a unique, resource-efficient packaging material with a small carbon footprint.

Styro Creates Up To Five Times Less Solid Waste Than Paperboard

Styro also consumes half as much energy as wax-coated paperboard and uses up to four times less water than compostable Polylactic Acid (PLA) clamshells.



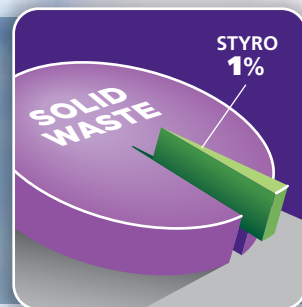
100% Polystyrene

A product that is 98% air can quickly fill garbage cans, dumpsters and valuable landfill space, but — where facilities exist — modern technology makes it possible to recycle styro efficiently and safely with no harmful emissions.

Styro Represents Less Than 1% of The Solid Waste Stream by Weight!

Products packaged in styro equals lower damage rates which can be measured in environmental terms: In re-manufacturing, in re-transportation and in disposal of the original product.

EPA Municipal Solid Waste in U.S. 2009 Facts & Figures



Styro Has Less Impact On The Environment Than Paper Pulp

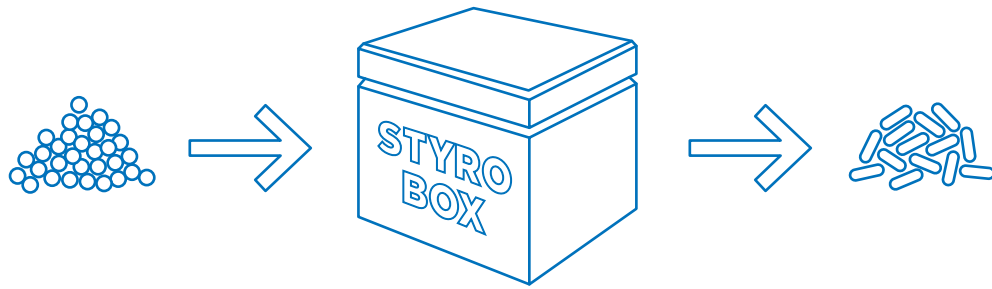
Molded pulp packaging consumes between 70–115% more energy, 9–31% more air pollution, and emits 323–348% more green house gas.

PS vs. Molded Pulp Comparison; Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, "Energy & Environmental Results for Packaging"



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The Life Cycle of Styro



Styro starts out as a small bead of polystyrene material. Heat is added to expand the bead, and a shape (box, package) is formed. Recyclers grind this form down and pelletize the material. Pelletized styro (Polystyrene) can be re-used in picture frames, baseboard moulding, or in any number of other plastic products. Visit www.EPSPackaging.org for more information.

Frequently Asked Questions About Styro

Q Can styro (Expanded Polystyrene) be recycled?

A Yes, styro can be recycled where facilities exist. While a product that is 98% air can quickly fill garbage cans and dumpsters, modern technology makes it possible to recycle styro efficiently and safely with no harmful emissions.

Q How is styro recycled?

A Styro scrap is ground up and heated, dramatically shrinking it to a little over one percent of its previous volume. The result is a compact material that can be converted to useful products such as cafeteria trays, video and audio tape bodies and cases, rulers, desktop accessories, picture frames, hangers, plant trays, etc.

Q How can I dispose of styro?

A To find out if styro recycling is available in your area, visit the *Alliance of Foam Packaging Recyclers* website at www.epspackaging.org. For consumers that do not have local access to a drop-off center, the AFPR offers their National Take-Back Program intended for smaller quantities of styro which can be mailed, via US Postal Service or UPS, to over 30 locations nationwide.

Q Is styro a petroleum derivative?

A Yes, styro is a petroleum derivative. However, some 90% of all the derivatives of crude oil are transformed into energy in one form or another, as transportation fuel, for electricity generation and for heating. Only 4% are used as raw material for making plastics. Additionally, using styro to package a product will result in a reduction in fuel consumption compared to other materials.¹

Q Does styro degrade?

A No. Styro does not degrade and will not leach any substances into groundwater, nor will it form harmful gases. Styro can be disposed in today's landfills or recycled safely with no harmful emissions. Contrary to popular belief, Styro is not "filling up" landfills. In fact, Styro packaging accounts for less than one percent by weight and volume of land-filled materials.²

Q Is styro as environmentally-friendly as paper?

A Yes! Styro has less of an impact on the environment than paper pulp! Molded pulp packaging consumes between 70–115% more energy, creates 9–31% more air pollution, and emits 323–348% more green house gas than styro.³

Q Is it safe to ship food using styro?

A Modern styro packaging material has long been preferred by the food service industry because it insulates better, keeps food fresher longer, costs less than coated paperboard products and uses less resources. With today's growing concerns about the environment and climate change, styro packaging solutions are recognized as preferable for many reasons, including its lightweight properties. Additionally, The US Food and Drug Administration regulates the safety of food contact packaging and has approved the use of styro since 1958, along with governments around the world.⁴

Q Does styro pose a health problem?

A No. The manufacture and use of Styro does not generate any risk to health or to the environment.⁵

References: (1) EPS Packaging Group, "Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) and the Environment" (2) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Report (3) Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, "Energy & Environmental Results for Packaging Options for Shipment of Retail Mail-Order Soft Goods" (4) U.S. Food and Drug Administration (5) Harvard Center for Risk Analysis



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