

EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE (EPS) FOAM RECYCLING

Information Gathered:

- Visited DART Recycling Facility - talked to Ms. Cheryl Ann Schmidt, Environmental Services Specialist, about the process of EPS foam recycling and took a tour of the facility to receive a greater understanding of the process
- Worked with Mr. Mike Csapo of the Resource, Recovery, and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County (RRRASOC) to learn of the differences between EPS foam recycling and other mainstream recycling products
- Met with Mr. Jesse Eisenhuth, Foodservice Director of the Henry Ford, to understand his opinions on the public's basic perspectives of recycling not only EPS foam, but also other traditional recyclable materials.

Facts About EPS Foam:

- Takes up disproportionately larger space in landfills compared to its weight because it is made up of 95% air
- Releases harmful carcinogens, such as benzene, into the atmosphere when in landfills, where it takes up to 500 years to degrade

Proposals:

To School Board:

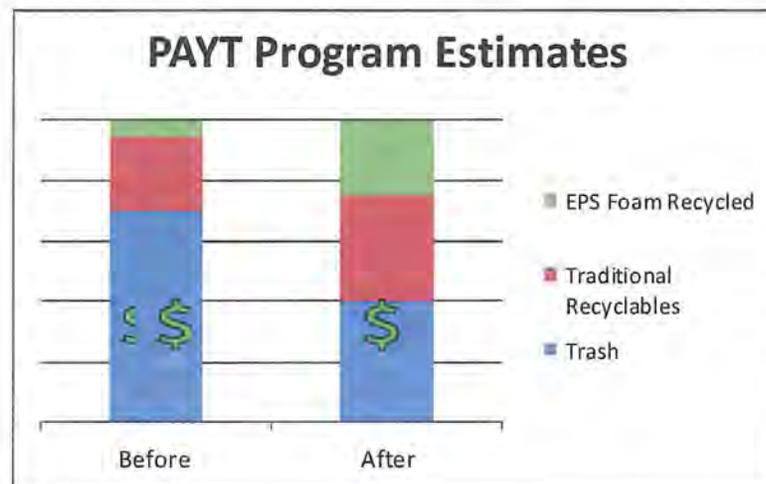
- Place EPS foam recycling bins next to the paper recycling bins outside each school
- Mandate that all schools in the Novi Community School District adopt a policy to recycle EPS foam foodservice trays
- Establish a central pickup location for DART in coordination with City Council

To City Council:

- Use the Civic Center Electronic Billboard to advertise EPS foam recycling
- Establish a central pickup location for DART in coordination with School Board
- Establish a Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) program in which residents are charged for the solid waste they collect, ultimately encouraging them to increase recycling, along with a dual purpose recycling bin curbside to either store EPS foam only or other single stream recyclables
- Lease a densifier to compact EPS foam for sale to recycling companies

Savings Possible:

- According to Michigan Dumpsters, a 6x6x6 cubic yard dumpster costs \$1020 per month with weekly pickup. If needed, a DART densifier costs \$295 per month.
- Recycling EPS foam can decrease dumpster pickup rates, thus generating savings for the city.



RECYCLE EPS FOAM HERE!



Collect your Styrofoam (**expanded polystyrene foam, or EPS foam**) products, rinse slightly if soiled, and place in this container. Only relatively clean, dry and uncontaminated foam is acceptable.

Place your unwanted or used EPS foam in this bin— **foodservice foam and packaging foam, except for peanuts**, are all acceptable.



DO NOT place these other recyclables in this bin! Styrofoam peanuts **cannot** be taken.