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# SAVE Shrewsbury Go STYROFOAM Free



## The Truth About Styrofoam

It might keep your coffee hot without burning your hand, but plastic foam – more commonly known as Styrofoam – is one of the most harmful materials around when it comes to the environment. This petroleum-based plastic has gained a lot of negative attention in recent years, prompting bans in many cities such as New York City and Washington D.C.



What is the Problem ?

# We are feeding our next generation Styrofoam



alamy stock photo



# Shrewsbury Schools Cafeteria



# Home of Colonials Shrewsbury High School (April 8, 2018)





# Our Beautiful Dean Park(April 8,2018)



80% of Styrofoam ends up in landfills





# The Other 20% in Waterways



25 billion Cups thrown every year. During our presentation  
50k cups were dumped



# Incineration is not the answer



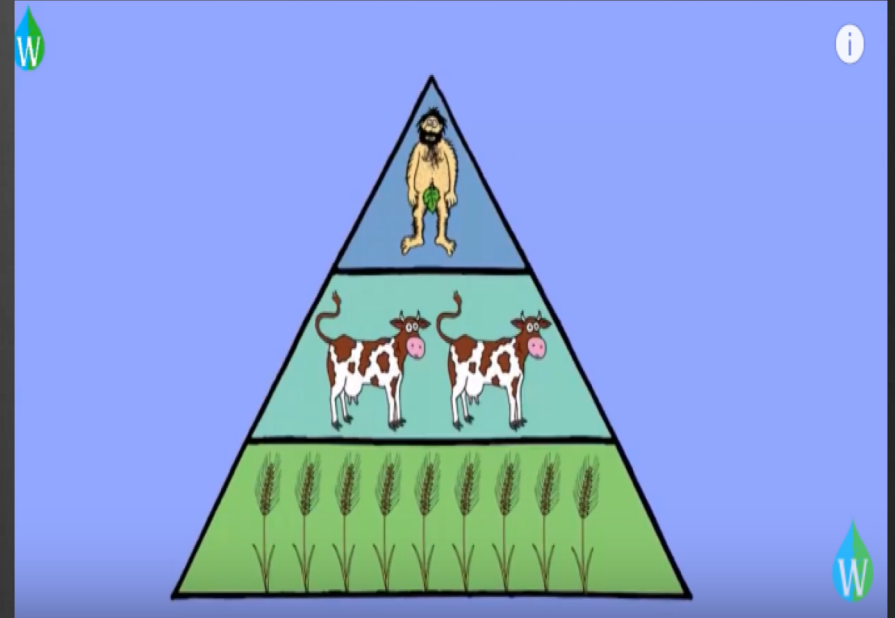
Dioxins are the most dangerous pollutants created by incineration



Dioxins are carcinogenic  
(cause cancer)



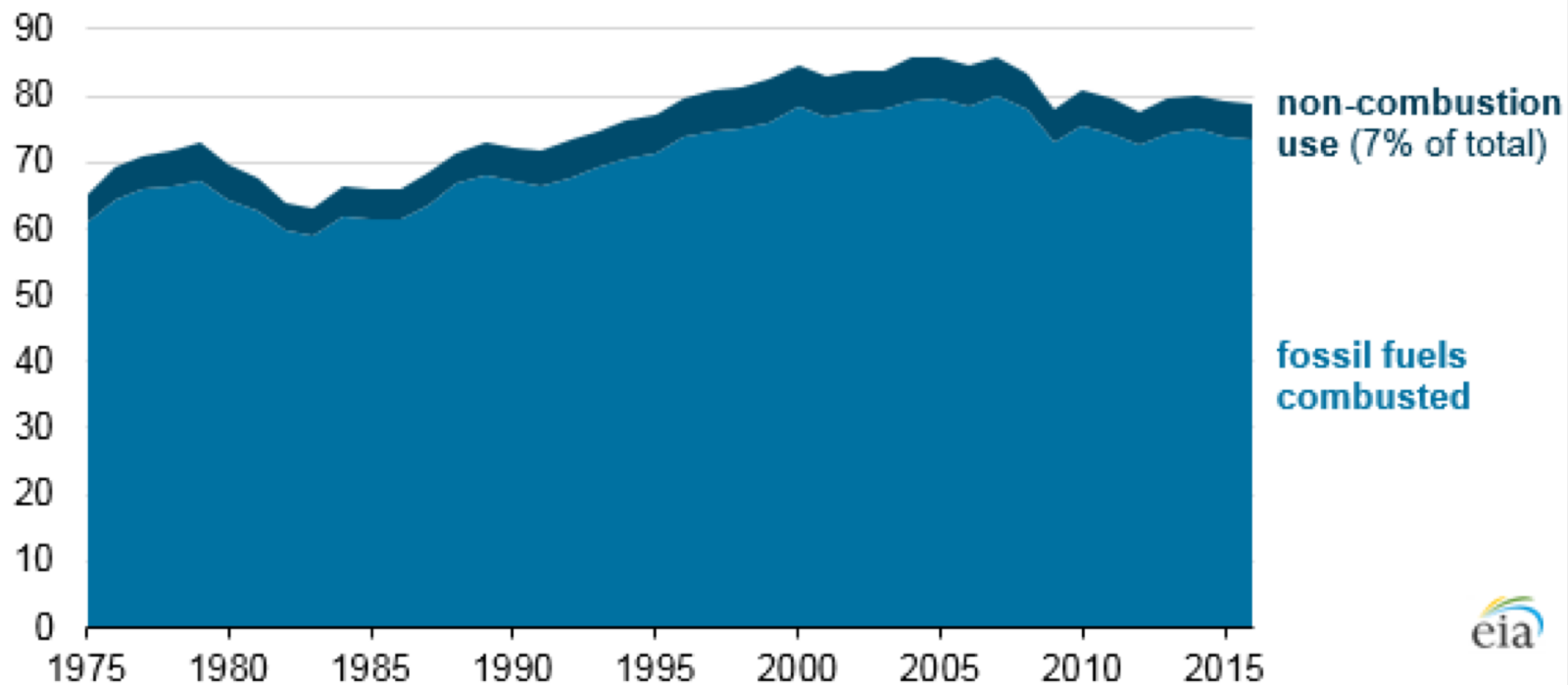
Incineration is NOT the answer  
It uses resources to burn and causes  
harmful chemicals to enter our food chain





# Uses Non- renewable Resources

U.S. fossil fuel consumption (1975-2017)  
quadrillion British thermal units



7 billion dollars of hidden costs, adds about 1.2 cents per cup

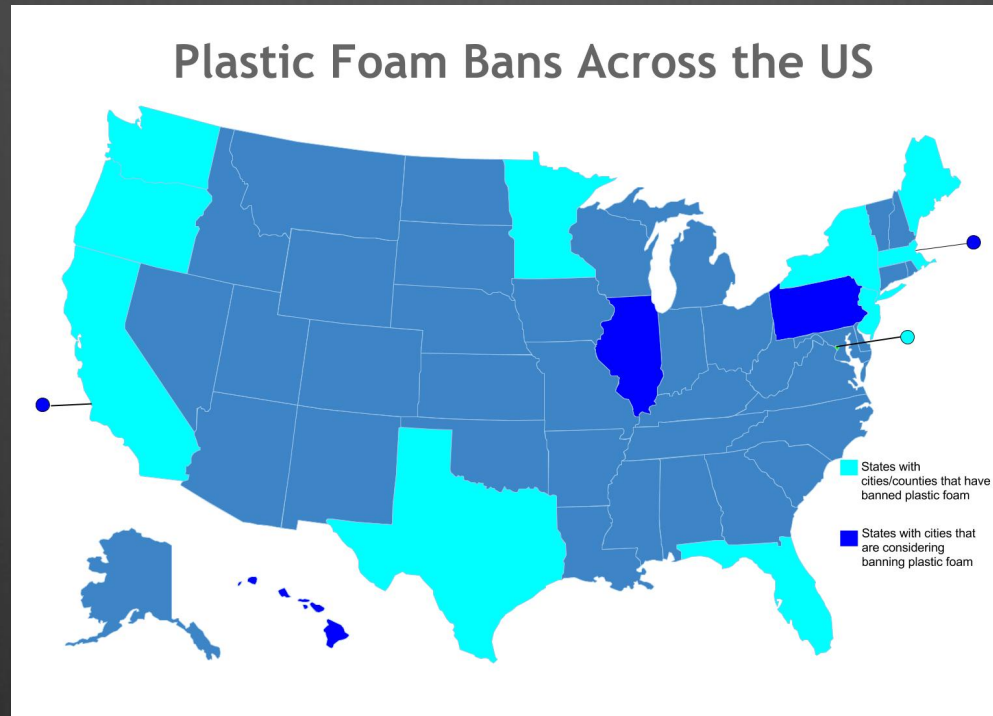
# Styrofoam KILLS

- Animals on land as well as sea by suffocation, choking, intestinal blockages and entanglement
- 2 million birds on land and sea annually are affected



So What's The Solution ?

# Styrofoam Bans in USA





# Statewide Polystyrene Law

**This will enable statewide Ban being  
proposed.-HD3015**

# Massachusetts Towns With Bans

- Abington
- Amherst
- Brookline
- Cambridge
- Concord
- Dennis
- Gloucester
- Great Barrington
- Green Field
- Hamilton
- Ipswich
- Lee
- Lenox (Board of health regulation)
- Marblehead
- Nantucket
- Natick
- Pittsfield
- Somerville
- Provincetown
- South Hadley (Board of health regulation)
- Stockbridge
- Wayland
- Wellfleet
- Westfield (Board of health regulation)
- Westford
- Williamstown
- Winthrop

**27 Towns in MA have already taken action. It is now our turn.**

# Many Alternatives are available

- Recycled Paper Products
- Conventional/Virgin Paper Products
- Compostable products
- Biodegradable Products
- Other types of plastic(plastic can be Recyclable but Styrofoam is TRASH)



# Result of a Styrofoam Ban

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Low economic impact

Cleaner town

Healthier people





# Old vs. New



As of September 2015, all public schools in New York City and the 5 other largest urban school districts in the US **eliminate 1/2 a BILLION styrene foam trays** per year from landfills, incinerators, and student meals .

# Major Corporations are taking action



# Rest of Businesses in Town

## Price Comparable Alternatives

Product	Polystyrene Product	Unit Cost	Non-Foam Product	Unit Cost	Cost Difference
<b>10 oz Cold Cup</b> <b>10 oz Hot Cup</b>	Foam - Dart Container 1000 ct	\$20.20	Plastic - Dart Container 2500 ct	\$60.96	\$0.02
	Foam - Dart Container 1000 ct	\$20.20	Paper - Choice 1000 ct	\$36.53	\$0.04
<b>12 oz Cold Cup</b> <b>12 oz Hot Cup</b>	Foam - Dart Container 1000 ct	\$22.09	Plastic - Dart Container 1000 ct	\$24.90	\$0.02
	Foam - Dart Container 1000 ct	\$22.09	Paper - Choice 1000 ct	\$40.39	\$0.04
<b>16 oz Cold Cup</b> <b>16 oz Hot Cup</b>	Foam - Dart Container 1000 ct	\$31.91	Plastic - Dart Container 1000 ct	\$35.37	\$0.03
	Foam - Dart Container 1000 ct	\$31.91	Paper - Choice 1000 ct	\$44.03	\$0.04
<b>12 oz Bowl</b>	Foam - Dart Container 500 ct	\$17.63	Plastic - Genpak 1000ct	\$48.99	\$0.05
<b>16 oz Bowl</b>	Foam - Dart Container 500 ct	\$19.65	Plastic - Genpak 1000ct	\$63.99	\$0.06
<b>6" Plate</b>	Foam - Dart Container 1000 ct	\$13.08	Paper - AJM Packaging 1000 ct	\$7.53	\$0.007
<b>9" Plate</b>	Foam - Dart Container 500 ct	\$19.37	Paper - AJM Packaging 1000 ct	\$11.49	\$0.01
<b>6" Hinge Container</b>	Foam - Dart Container 500 ct	\$17.13	Plastic - Dart 500ct	\$28.18	\$0.06
<b>9" Hinge Container</b>	Foam - Dart Container 200 ct	\$12.64	Plastic - Duralock 250ct	\$25.94	\$0.10
<b>Average Cost Difference</b>					<b>\$0.01</b>

All prices from The WEBstaurant Store, July 2012.  
Lower prices (up to 25% less) may be obtainable through cooperative purchasing.

# The Bylaw

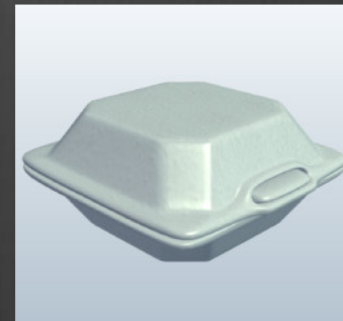
- Section 2 and 3: Defines the styrofoam that falls under this ban as that which is used by restaurants or public facilities to deliver food to consumers in “disposable food service containers”
- Does not apply to grocery stores for picking up meat or other products, only to restaurants and schools
- Section 4: Businesses that demonstrate a “undue hardship” can request a Deferment from the Department of Health that allows them to continue using styrofoam for a period of a year. This deferment is “renewable”



# What is recommended by Bylaw

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Styrofoam plates, cups, bowls, trays, hinged or lidded containers



This will not apply to packaging for uncooked meat or fish

# Shrewsbury Businesses Opinions

## Impact to business

- 70% of businesses are fully supportive of Styrofoam switch
- 20% are using Styrofoam ,but are willing to go with town's decision
- We have not been able to connect rest of the businesses . Still trying ...

In the 27 towns that banned styrofoam, businesses have had no problem complying with the ban. For example, in Natick, KFC was able to switch from styrofoam to paper without any issues

# Impact on our Schools

- Public Schools
  - Base on Information from Town the cost difference is 25K approx.
- Private Schools
  - Saint Johns is mostly Styrofoam Free. They use paper plates . Mac and Cheese in Cups and only Pasta in Styrofoam.
  - Al Hamra is free of Styrofoam. They use Bio-Degradable.
- Multiple options to offset the cost:
  - Pass the difference to students ~5c each
  - Town absorbs the cost
  - Raise Funds
  - Our Ban implements in 19 months . There are pretty good chances the costs will continue to go down as most of schools are moving from Styrofoam to Biodegradable

# Conclusion

- The cost is minimal, for businesses almost none have demonstrated a significant net harm, and the deferment allows that number affected to be at zero
- Similarly, schools will see a slight increase in cost but this increase is worth it in the long run because of the health and environmental benefits
- At the end of the day, you must vote with your conscience and consider the benefit to the health of each of the constituents who are threatened by carcinogenic styrofoam, and recognize that the real savings is the saving of lives and in our environment



# Effective Date

Styrofoam Free Shrewsbury By January 2020

More than 18 months to go

Shrewsbury is Role Model for Other Towns

Let's Do it together for a happier and healthier community

THANK YOU!!!

# Resources

- <https://groundswell.org/map-which-cities-have-banned-plastic-foam/>
- <http://nebula.wsimg.com/327c4488072fdd5161bbfbb8787cb4c3?AccessKeyId=1C31A3B4B1A73412F089&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>
- <http://www.cafeteriaculture.org/foam-trays-out-of-schools.html>
- <https://inhabitat.com/tag/styrofoam/>
- <https://inhabitat.com/six-of-the-largest-school-districts-in-the-us-are-ditching-polystyrene/>
- <https://inhabitat.com/infographic-the-dangerous-truth-about-styrofoam/>

# Resources

- <http://www.iflscience.com/plants-and-animals/seabirds-are-eating-plastic-litter-our-oceans-not-only-where-you-d-expect/>
- <http://sweetcrudereports.com/2018/04/07/about-7-fossil-fuel-consumed-for-non-combustion-use-in-u-s/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6vzcbgBAewU>