

Polystyrene and Packing Peanuts

Your Guide for Safe Disposal and Recycling in Calumet County

Can Styrofoam be recycled?

Polystyrene, or Styrofoam, is a material made by stringing together the monomer, styrene. The more common daily uses for Styrofoam is as foodservice products or as packaging.

Polystyrene is also a great insulator for coolers and appliances.



There are very few recycling programs capable of recycling polystyrene so although they are banned for disposal they are still allowed in landfills.

Polystyrene can be dangerous for both humans and animals. Animals will often mistake polystyrene for food and try to eat it. Also the styrene monomer has been linked to cancer and nervous system problems. Polystyrene is also not biodegradable and burning it gives off styrene gas which is very dangerous.

Recycling Locations

ACH Foam Technologies LLC

90 Trowbridge Dr
Fond du Lac, WI 54937
(920)924-4050

They will accept polystyrene that is white, clean, and dry. They will not take packing peanuts.

Plymouth Foam

1800 Sunset Dr
Plymouth, WI 53073
(920)893-0535

Packing peanuts are harder to recycle so places that recycle polystyrene most likely will not recycling packing peanuts.

The best thing to do with packing peanuts is to call a packaging store and see if they will reuse them. Usually they will take them if they are clean and dry.

Community Recycling in Calumet County

For more information about our programs and events, please visit calumetrecycles.com