



Recycling and
Environmental
Action
Planning
Society

Greening Your Office

Tips by Email

Attention: **Office Staff**

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From: **REAPS**

Phone: **250-561-7327**

GREEN TIP #10:

Go completely Styrofoam Free



The process of making Styrofoam is the 5th largest contributor to hazardous waste and it poses serious threats (respiratory and gastrointestinal tract infections, headache, depression) to the makers of the product. Styrofoam is not biodegradable, and a Styrofoam cup will always remain on earth. The product will slowly broken down, into small microscopic pieces releasing a harmful monomer called styrene which combines with nitrous oxides to increase green-house gases.

We must reduce our usage of Styrofoam or replace it with more earth-friendly materials like corn. Packing peanuts made from corn will dissolve in water. Reusing Styrofoam is another earth-friendly way to use Styrofoam, but recycling is expensive and in the early stage.

BYO ceramic or stainless-steel cup/ mug for takeout coffee. Just show the barista your cup and they will know what to do. Just make sure the barista pours the drink into your mug. Inform the local coffee house of using sustainable cups + organic sugar + organic milk along with the fair-trade coffee that most now offer.

#6 plastics include two types of polystyrene. The first and most familiar is Styrofoam, also known as EPS or extruded polystyrene. The second is nonextruded polystyrene, a clear plastic used for disposable containers and cutlery. Bring your own take home containers for leftovers at restaurants. Better yet encourage your favorite fast foods to switch to paper take home containers and get on the enviro wagon.



Any Questions or Suggestions? Call or Email us! 250 561 7327 or green_solutions@reaps.org

Recycling & Environmental Action Planning Society (R.E.A.P.S.)
PO Box 444, Prince George, BC V2L 4S6 (250)561-7327 9ph) (250)561-7324 (f)
Website: <http://www.reaps.org>