

# Polystyrene Foam

## WHY WE MUST SAY "NO" TO FOAM!

- Styrene, the main ingredient in polystyrene foam, is classified as a likely carcinogen in humans.
- Americans use 25 billion styrofoam cups per year; less than 9% of which will be recycled.
- Styrofoam cups and containers readily leach toxins into the food and drinks they contain and the process is accelerated by heat as well as contact with fatty and acidic foods.
- Polystyrene does not biodegrade and may persist in the environment for more than one million years.
- As styrene leaches from landfills into our drinking water, it causes liver, kidney, or circulatory system problems.
- 15+ million metric tons of plastic enter the ocean each year.
- Polystyrene is lightweight and floats. As litter, it easily travels from streets and through storm drains out to the ocean.
- Experts predict that there will be 1 pound of plastic in the ocean for every 3 pounds of fish by 2025.

