

All-Star News

All State Agencies Recycle

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Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Food Service Products Ban

During the 2019 legislative session the Maryland General Assembly passed [Chapter 579 \(Sections 9-2201 through 9-2207](#) of the Environment Article, [Annotated Code of Maryland](#)) banning the use of food service products composed of expanded polystyrene (EPS), commonly referred to under the trademark name of Styrofoam.

EPS food service products (e.g., cups, plates, bowls, trays, egg cartons, etc.) left in any food service inventory should be used by July 1, 2020, when the law goes into effect. On or after July 1, 2020:

- a person may not sell or offer for sale in the state an EPS food service product; and
- a food service business or school may not sell or provide food or beverages in an EPS foodservice product.

MDE is tasked by the legislature to conduct outreach about the ban. The county departments of health or environmental protection will

oversee the enforcement of the law, and have the authority to assess fines for noncompliance.

If improperly discarded, EPS products can persist in the environment for a long time. The lightweight cups and container often become litter that can end up in the Chesapeake Bay or other bodies of water, harming our marine life and polluting waters.

For additional information, please see the link below for FAQs at:

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/LAND/RecyclingandOperationsprogram/Documents/EPS%20faq%2012%20%2719.pdf>



Twelve State Agencies Reach 30 Percent Recycling Rate in 2018

State government, as a whole, is required to recycle 30 percent of its waste. In 2018, twelve State agencies recycled at least 30 percent of their waste and nine agencies recycled more than 40 percent. State government, as a whole, recycled 31.3 percent of the waste it generated. The following State agencies reached a recycling rate of at least 30 percent in 2018:

- Comptroller of Maryland;
- Dept. Of Environment;
- Dept. of Transportation;
- Dept. of Veterans Affairs;
- Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund;
- Maryland Environmental Service;
- Maryland General Assembly;
- Maryland Insurance Administration;
- Maryland Stadium Authority;
- Maryland State Archives
- Subsequent Injury Fund; and
- University System of Maryland.

Results for all State Agencies are available on the Maryland State Agencies 2018 Recycling Rates Table.

Agency Name	No. of Sites	No. of Sites Reporting	No. of People	Total MRA Recycling 2018 (tons)	2018 MRA Recycling Rate (%)
Baltimore City Community College	1	0	0	0	0
Comptroller of the Treasury	1	1	800	110.22	79.28
Department of Agriculture	2	2	222	25.05	18.87
Department of Assessments and Taxation	15	0	0	0	0
Department of Budget and Management	1	0	0	0	0
Department of Education	30	20	1382	88.07	22.33
Department of General Services	24	24	8,250	193.24	10.70
Department of Health and Mental Hygiene	18	7	6,059	239.99	6.85
Department of Human Resources	33	26	6,055	248.06	24.49
Department of Juvenile Services	14	14	1,557	545.73	22.61
Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation	14	9	1,331	89.73	16.77
Department of Natural Resources	6	2	558	24.78	23.37
Department of the Environment	5	4	963	47.42	37.16
Department of Transportation	82	82	10,589	10,478.23	42.40
Department of Veterans Affairs	12	7	78	309.16	46.81
Dept. of Housing and Community Development	3	0	0	0	0
Dept. of Public Safety and Correctional Services	35	5	7970	707.83	9.44
Judiciary of Maryland	2	0	0	0	0
Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund	1	1	205	134.69	39.30
Maryland Department of Disabilities	1	1	33	0.11	1.18
Maryland Department of Planning	1	1	187	5.75	8.98
Maryland Environmental Service	4	3	250	16.96	62.56
Maryland Food Center Authority	1	1	26	423.61	7.14
Maryland General Assembly	1	1	852	151.45	49.38
Maryland Insurance Administration	1	1	242	9.86	40.95
Maryland Military Department	33	27	114	56.12	8.30
Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission	1	1	140	94.05	14.94
Maryland School for the Deaf	2	2	420	129.81	23.16
Maryland Stadium Authority	2	2	2,150	849.43	40.07
Maryland State Archives	1	1	71	3.30	33.78
Maryland State Police	30	30	1891	468.32	29.04
Morgan State University	1	1	1741	203.07	15.81
St. Mary's College of Maryland	1	1	498	267.89	28.00
Subsequent Injury Fund	1	1	16	4.18	72.57
University System of Maryland	17	17	36,670	8,579.05	41.64
TOTAL	397	295	91,320	24,505.16	31.32