

Policy Action is Phasing Out Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam Products

| Policy Action by U.S. States and Territories | Percent of U.S. Population | Year Passed | Effective Date of Prohibition of EPS Foam Products by Use Category | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|---|--|---|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | | Foam Food Service Containers | Foam Egg Cartons | Foam Trays for Raw Meat, Poultry, Fish and Seafood | Foam Coolers or Ice Chests | Loose Fill Packaging (Peanuts) | Foam Block Packaging |
| Washington DC | 0.2 | 2014 | 1/1/2016 | 1/1/2016 | - | 1/1/2021 | 1/1/2021 | 1/1/2021 |
| Maine | 0.4 | 2019 | 7/1/2021 | 7/1/2025 | 7/1/2025 | 7/1/2025 | - | - |
| Maryland | 1.8 | 2019 | 7/1/2020 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Vermont | 0.2 | 2019 | 7/1/2020 | 7/1/2020 | - | - | - | - |
| New Jersey | 2.8 | 2020 | 5/4/2022 | 5/4/2022 | 5/4/2025 | - | - | - |
| New York | 5.8 | 2020 | 1/1/2022 | - | - | - | 1/1/2022 | - |
| Colorado | 1.8 | 2021 | 1/1/2024 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Virginia | 2.6 | 2021 | 1/1/2025 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Washington | 2.3 | 2021 | 6/1/2024 | - | - | 6/1/2024 | 6/1/2023 | - |
| California | 11.6 | 2022 | 1/1/2025 | < Banned unless 25% recycling achieved for EPS foodware | | | | |
| Delaware | 0.3 | 2023 | 7/1/2025 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Oregon | 1.3 | 2023 | 1/1/2025 | - | - | - | 1/1/2025 | - |
| Rhode Island | 0.3 | 2023 | 1/1/2025 | - | - | - | - | - |
| American Samoa | 0.01 | 2024 | ~7/1/2024 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 12 State Laws + | 31.4% | of all Americans live in states where EPS foam products are being phased out | | | | | | |

Exemptions from EPS foam restrictions often include containers for pre-packaged foods; imported products; drugs, medical devices, and biological materials; and for perishable shipments. Maine exempts coolers or ice chests for seafood processing. Washington DC exempts EPS packaging in products that arrive from outside the District.

| Policy Action by Municipalities in | Percent of U.S. Population | Year Passed | Local Policy Action to Phase Out EPS Foam Food Containers |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|---|
| Alaska | 0.2 | | The towns of Bethel, Cordova and Seward have enacted EPS bans |
| California | 11.6 | | At least 128 cities and 12 counties have enacted bans in some form |
| | | 2022 | San Diego also banned <i>unenclosed</i> coolers, pool toys, and dock floats |
| Connecticut | 1.1 | | At least 5 towns and cities have enacted bans |
| Georgia | 3.3 | | Atlanta prohibited polystyrene in city-owned buildings and the airport |
| Hawaii | 0.4 | | Every county but one banned EPS foam containers; Maui banned coolers |
| Illinois | 3.7 | | Bans enacted in two villages, state agencies and universities |
| Massachusetts | 2.1 | | At least 66 municipalities have banned EPS foam food containers |
| Minnesota | 1.7 | | Bans enacted in Minneapolis, Saint Paul, and St. Louis Park |
| New Hampshire | 0.4 | 2020 | Portsmouth enacted the first ban in New Hampshire |
| New Mexico | 0.6 | 2024 | Santa Fe County prohibited EPS food containers in unincorporated area |
| Pennsylvania | 3.9 | | At least 12 boroughs and townships have enacted bans |
| South Carolina | 1.6 | 2018-9 | The city and county of Charleston prohibit EPS food service containers |
| In 12 states | 30.6% | | More than 250 U.S. municipalities have taken EPS policy action |

Similar policy actions are being taken globally by many other countries and subnational entities.