

# zero waste

I solemnly swear [polystyrene is] up to no good...  
and pledge myself to a foam-free future.

PLEDGE COUNTER

2706

So many pledges, yet so few people in the grand scheme of things. I can increase this by at *least* 30.

Scarily enough, there's NO proactive action ongoing in Texas; only a limited ban on foam products in parks and rivers in San Marcos. On the opposition's side there's a proposed ban on banning polystyrene on the local level. Luckily, it has not passed yet.



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## EMAIL YOUR REPRESENTATIVE!

### Ban toxic plastic Styrofoam and polystyrene!

I'm writing today to ask you to support a ban on Styrofoam and polystyrene products.

This is a human health issue. Styrene is a carcinogen that can migrate into food and drinks when it comes in contact with high-fat or acidic foods. And people put polystyrene and Styrofoam products to their lips every day.

This email will automatically populate to send to your representative. Please feel free to personalize the text. Thank you for going #foamfree!

 Sign with Facebook

OR SIGN WITH EMAIL

First & Last Name

Travis Kwee

Email

travis.kwee@gmail.com

Address

6320 Main Street

City

Houston

Zip

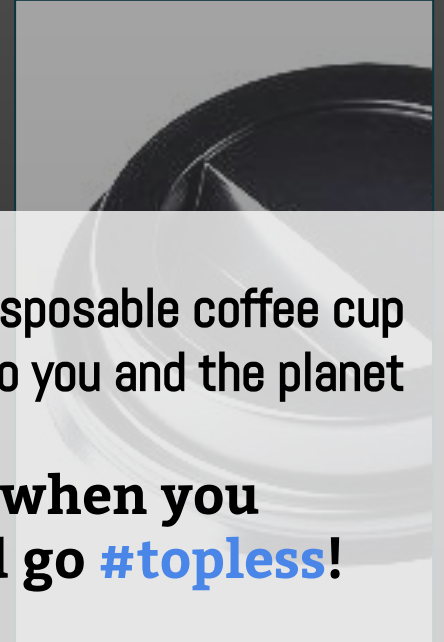
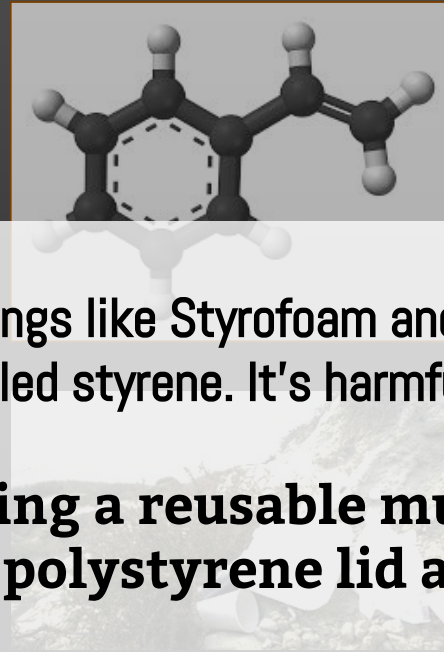
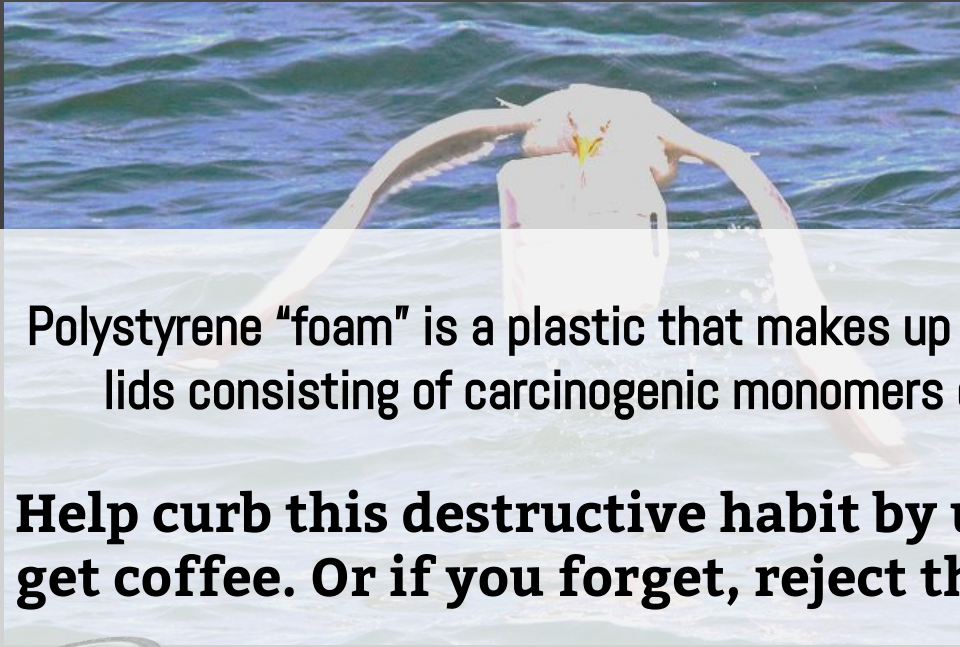
77005

**MORE OCEAN  
LESS PLASTIC**  
THE 5 GYRES INSTITUTE

Send

I chose to email my Houston representative. Polystyrene is especially problematic because I did research at my internship on prototyping materials, and the main monomer of polystyrene (styrene, as you might have guessed) is creeping into the 3D printing industry in Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene or ABS. However, banning styrofoam is the productive first step.





Polystyrene "foam" is a plastic that makes up things like Styrofoam and disposable coffee cup lids consisting of carcinogenic monomers called styrene. It's harmful to you and the planet

**Help curb this destructive habit by using a reusable mug when you get coffee. Or if you forget, reject the polystyrene lid and go [#topless!](#)**



MAKE A PLEDGE FOR A [#FOAMFREE](#) FUTURE

Polystyrene is hard to get rid of. Lids and Styrofoam blow into the ocean killing wildlife and making their way into our food chain



94% of world salt supplies and nearly 25% of seafood have plastic microparticle contamination from the trash that's migrated to the ocean






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**Travis K** @TravisKwee · 39s

Polystyrene is a hazard--take a pledge against it here! [5gyres.org/styrofoam/](https://5gyres.org/styrofoam/)  
@5gyres @TurningGreenOrg #foamfree #PGC2017



The infographic is divided into several sections. At the top, it shows a white foam lid on the left, a chemical structure of styrene in the middle, and a coffee cup lid on the right. Below this, text explains that polystyrene foam is a plastic made of carcinogenic monomers called styrene, which is harmful to humans and the planet. It encourages using a reusable mug or rejecting the foam lid, with the hashtag #topless!. A call to action asks users to 'MAKE A PLEDGE FOR A #FOAMFREE FUTURE'. The bottom section features a skull and crossbones icon, stating that polystyrene is hard to dispose of and that 94% of world salt supplies and nearly 25% of seafood have plastic microparticle contamination from ocean trash. The background of the infographic shows a wooden pier extending into the ocean.

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Today I met with the general manager of Coffeehouse, a campus student-run business. He agreed that "it's absurd that people feel the need to take a lid regardless of whether or not they need one." We are going to look into installing this poster right in front of the lid station there in the next few weeks!