Pictured is the final densified EPS Styrofoam. Volume reduction ratio is 90:1

A New Outlet For Styrofoam® Recycling

It's always great getting a new TV or air fryer, but what are you supposed to do with those bulky rigid packing blocks? They protected your new tech during the trip from the manufacturer to your home, but what now? Thanks to our friends at Omaha's Plastilite Corporation, you can recycle it if you are willing to put in some effort! Read on so you know exactly what they accept, and where you must take it.

Styrofoam is the registered trademark name for Expanded Polystyrene or EPS that was developed for commercial use in the 1940's. EPS has many uses, but what Plastilite is looking for to recycle are the molded white blocks of rigid foam used to protect items during shipment such as televisions, appliances, and glass items, or packaging made to protect temperature-sensitive medications and perishables (think those disposable picnic coolers you buy at the grocery store).

Plastilite will grind and densify the EPS before sending it to another manufacturer. There, the densified EPS will be made into any number of things, including construction materials, surfboards, picture frames, and even new packaging.

Again, Plastilite only wants blocks of EPS. They must be free of all tape, labels, and any other packing material.

The following are some commonly confused items that are not EPS, and NOT recyclable at Plastilite:

NO Flexible Foam* **NO** Food Containers*

NO Packing Peanuts* **NO** Insulation Board

EPS is only accepted at Plastilite. Do not place it in your green lid cart, or in an Omaha drop-off site. Doing so is just making expensive garbage. Plastilite is located at 4930 Battlefield Drive in northeast Omaha. They are allowing 24-hour drop off of clean EPS. Plastilite is also sponsoring events to collect EPS, so stay tuned for these opportunities.

For more information, please go to **www.plastilite.com/recycle**

*These items are acceptable in the orange Hefty® ReNew™ bag program that was formerly called the Energy Bag. Packing peanuts may also be accepted back for re-use at packing and shipping stores.