

## Introduction

Welcome to Week 14 of CGOP! This week we will be discussing Elective Action #18. Find any previous newsletters on our website [here](#).

18. Recycle your non-food styrofoam waste at Dart Container in Urbana.

As a reminder, completion of five Elective Actions beyond the Required Actions will earn you Bronze level certification, completion of ten will earn Silver level certification, and fifteen Elective Actions will earn Gold level certification.

## Instructions

### ***Elective Action #18: Recycle your styrofoam waste at Dart Container in Urbana (1505 E. Main St).***

Styrofoam is a tricky material. Technically, it is made of a type of plastic (expanded polystyrene, or EPS) that is recyclable, but because of its very low density, it needs to be compressed before it actually can be. And the typical recycling facility does not handle such a task. Densifying styrofoam was one of the main tasks of Styrecycle, the former iSEE program that collected styrofoam at campus buildings for recycling. Unfortunately, the program's former vendor closed, and there is not enough central funding on campus to support a new pickup and delivery system.

Fortunately, the Dart Container Corporation (a manufacturer of single-use foodservice products), has opened three foam recycling drop-off centers across the country, and one of them is conveniently located in downtown Urbana. There is a fenced-off bin in the parking lot at 1505 E. Main St. where styrofoam can be dropped off 24 hours a day at no charge.

Any styrofoam dropped off at Dart must be clean. Acceptable products include:

- Foam cups
- Foam egg containers
- Foam meat trays
- Foam ice chests
- Foam protective packaging

Here are the guidelines for participation according to Dart's [press release](#):

- Check for the #6 recycling symbol on the foam.
- Put the foam in a clear or translucent bag.
- Rinse or wipe off any food from food service containers.

- Remove any non-foam material (tape, straws, etc)
- Foam-packaging peanuts are not accepted.
  - Check [www.loosefillpackaging.com](http://www.loosefillpackaging.com) for drop-off sites that will accept packaging peanuts.

Set up a collection box in your office for the styrofoam, and either designate an office member or rotate turns to drop off the contents when it fills.