

Championing a Plastic Waste Free Illinois

Fine (SB100)/Gong-Gershowitz
Removes polystyrene foam food ware from the Illinois market on January 1, 2024.
Provides an extra year for compliance for small restaurants and institutions like food pantries.

Every day, people throw away tons of plastic "stuff" — packaging, bags, takeout containers, and more. All of this waste clogs our landfills and incinerators, trashes our parks, litters our streets, and washes into our rivers and lakes, where it can persist in the environment for hundreds of years. Some plastic just doesn't belong in 2023, especially single-use plastics.

Scientists have discovered plastic pollution in every corner of the globe, from mountain tops to ocean trenches, and inside our own bodies. Styrene, a building block of polystyrene, is likely a human carcinogen, creating health risks in production, use, and disposal. And too often wildlife mistake plastic for food and are harmed or starve.

It's time to move beyond single-use plastic, by getting rid of the most harmful waste, and stopping the use of things we truly don't need. That's why the Illinois Coalition for Plastic Reduction is supporting efforts in the Illinois legislature to reduce single-use plastic waste, starting with the worst of the worst, plastic foam cups and containers.

