

## **Styrofoam and Packing Peanuts**

Email: [PTStyroCyclers@gmail.com](mailto:PTStyroCyclers@gmail.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/PortTownsendStyrofoam/](https://www.facebook.com/PortTownsendStyrofoam/)

The volunteer Port Townsend StyroCyclers group recycles expanded polystyrene, commonly known as styrofoam, from East Jefferson County residents and businesses. They also collect packing peanuts for reuse by selected small local businesses.

### Styrofoam

Because of the huge volume processed by their Kent-based recycler, the StyroCyclers can only accept styrofoam pieces that are white, rigid, clean, and dry, with all tape, labels, paper or cardboard removed. Rejected pieces are returned to the donor.

Thanks to the Fort Worden PDA, the styrofoam is packed and stored at the Fort Worden Putnam bunker, then delivered to Kent once per month thanks to OlyCap and Northwest Harvest food bank trucks. At the Kent facility, a densifier machine uses heat and pressure to convert the styrofoam into a toothpaste-like consistency that cools into heavy, glassy blocks, which are then sold to manufacturers of products such as picture frames, construction details, and surfboard blanks. The densified product is in high demand because it is less expensive than virgin plastic.

### Packing Peanuts

Port Townsend StyroCyclers accepts all types and colors of packing peanuts that are clean and bagged separately from your styrofoam. Packing peanuts need to be protected from animals, insects, and moisture. Contaminated and/or moisture-damaged peanuts will be returned to the donor. The packing peanuts are reused by selected small local businesses.

### Schedule and Location

The StyroCyclers accept styrofoam and packing peanuts (see restrictions above) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday each month, 10:00 to noon, at the Fort Worden Putnam bunker, which is very close to Alexander's Castle (229 Alexander's Loop). Park in the middle of the street in front of the bunker with no wheels on the dirt or grass. Additional collections are not uncommon and are announced via their Facebook page and on services such as Next Door and bareboards.

Email [PTStyroCyclers@gmail.com](mailto:PTStyroCyclers@gmail.com) if your business uses styrofoam and/or packing peanuts and you want to propose pickups at your business site.

### Contact Information

Email the StyroCyclers at [PTStyroCyclers@gmail.com](mailto:PTStyroCyclers@gmail.com) or through their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/PortTownsendStyrofoam/>.