

THE REAL COST of BANNING FOAM



A recent study conducted on behalf of the Dart Container Corporation found that banning foam in New York City and California would cost businesses and consumers millions of dollars each year.

These figures beg the question:

How would a foam ban impact your community?



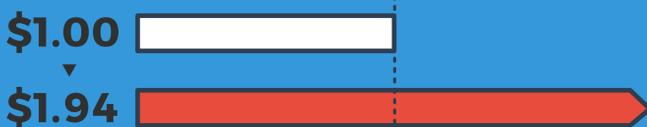
\$91.3 million

Annual impact of a foam ban on NYC businesses and consumers



\$1.4 billion

Overall losses resulting from a foam ban in California



For every dollar spent on plastic foam products, NYC consumers and businesses will spend at least \$1.94 on a replacement



Food service and restaurants will be the hardest hit by a foam ban.

As shown here, foam alternatives cost dramatically more than foam - and the increased costs will show up on consumers' favorite menu items. In New York City alone:



Clamshell container

108.7%

estimated cost increase



Coffee cup

89.98%

estimated cost increase



Bowl and plate

55.86%

estimated cost increase



Schools would also be affected



\$0.03

The cost of a recyclable polystyrene foam lunch tray

vs



\$0.15-\$0.25

The cost of a biodegradable school lunch tray



\$8.1 million

Annual cost to replace foam lunch trays at NYC schools



So would jobs



-2,000

Estimated number of NYC jobs lost from foam manufacturing



-8,000

Estimated California job losses from foam ban



Communities will take a financial hit from foam bans alongside:



Rising food prices



An uncertain economy



Ambiguous costs from the Affordable Care Act

It all adds up.

A better alternative to banning foam?

Recycling.



It reduces waste, prevents pollution and saves energy.

Learn how foam recycling supports communities at HomeforFoam.com.

Sources: MB Public Affairs, Inc. March, 2013 "Fiscal and Economic Impacts of a Ban on Plastic Foam Foodservice and Drink Containers in New York City."

Kelly Puente, Recyclable Foam Trays a Cure for Long Beach Schools' Headache, Press-Telegram, May 19, 2011, available at: <http://www.presstelegram.com/technology/20110519/recyclable-foam-trays-a-cure-for-long-beach-schools-headache>.

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. Regional Multipliers: A User Handbook for the Regional Input-Output Modeling System (RIMS II). 1997.

