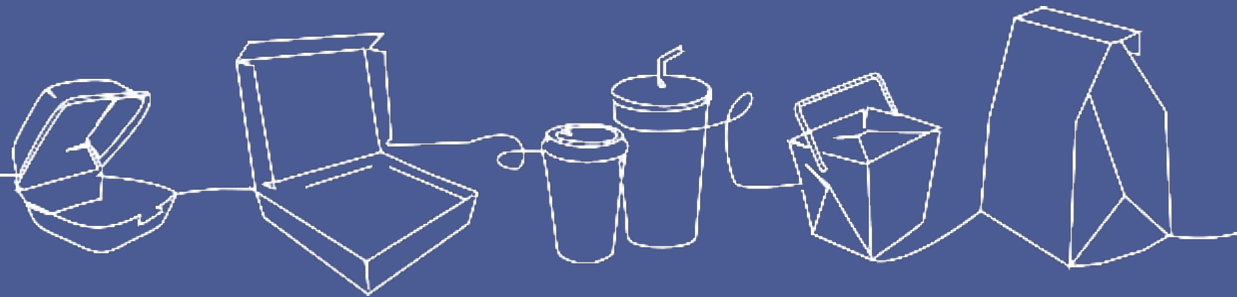




FOODSERVICE PACKAGING
INSTITUTE®

Foam Recycling Coalition

Matt Todd | May 22, 2017



- Established in 1933
- Only industry trade association in North America solely focused on all single-use foodservice packaging products
- Members include:
 - Converters and their raw material and machinery suppliers (roughly 85% of the industry);
 - Foodservice distributors and operators

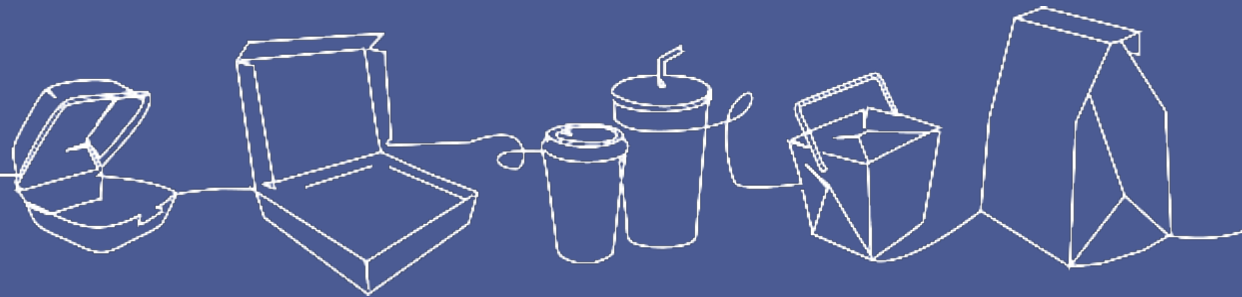
- The Challenges:
 - Acknowledged that most foodservice packaging was not being recovered after use for a variety of reasons...
 - Limited infrastructure and end markets
 - Real and perceived barriers
 - Cost of recovery versus value of recovered material
 - Consumer perceptions of, engagement with and access to foodservice packaging recovery
 - Recognized that no one company had enough volume or influence to effect broad change alone

- The Opportunities:
 - Work collaboratively to create solutions for the recovery and processing of used foodservice packaging
 - Show that voluntary, industry-based recovery initiatives work...and that new government-mandated solutions are not needed

Background on Recovery Work

- 2011: Paper Recovery Alliance (PRA)
- 2012: Plastics Recovery Group (PRG)
 - Both formed under the industry's association
 - Bring together the entire value chain
- 2013: PRA and PRG align project work
- 2014: Foam Recycling Coalition (FRC) formed

Foam Recycling Coalition



Foam Recycling Coalition

- Foam Recycling Coalition
 - Formed in 2014
- Goal: To support the recycling of post-consumer foam polystyrene (PS) foodservice and protective packaging.

Current Foam Recycling Coalition Members



with additional funding provided by the EPS Industry Alliance

Foam Foodservice Packaging: The Basics

- What is it?
 - Cups, plates, bowls, clamshells, trays (cafeteria and processor), egg packaging
- How much*?
 - By weight: less than 1% of municipal solid waste
 - By units: About one-third of plastic FSP
- Where to recover it?
 - Curbside
 - Commercial and institutional

Foam Recycling Coalition

- Project Work
 - General education about foam recycling
 - Understanding end markets
 - End market study
 - Grant program
 - FRC offers grants to public and private businesses in the U.S. and/or Canada to recycle foam FSP and protective packaging
 - Recipients will receive funding for equipment, technical assistance
 - 2 grants awarded in 2015, 3 awarded in 2016
 - Grant cycle is now year-round (still have “call for proposals”)

www.recyclefoam.org

Foam Recycling Coalition

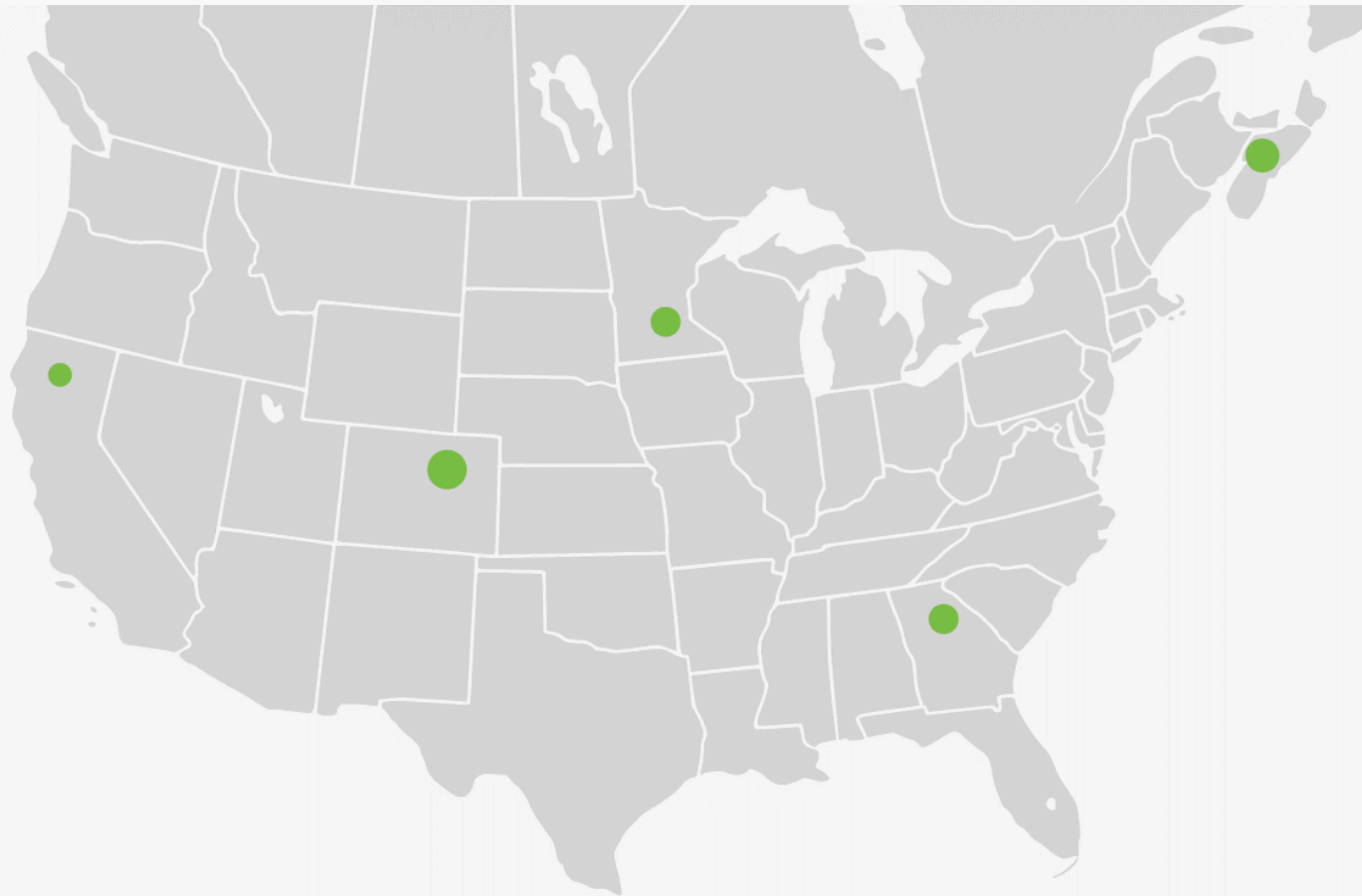
- Establish and fund a proactive, multi-year grant program to...
 - Increase public access to post-consumer foam recycling through curbside and/or drop off programs
 - Drive actual recovery of foam (increased tons)
 - Generate success stories to document and leverage in communications to variety of stakeholders
- Grants will provide:
 - Foam recycling equipment.
 - Technical assistance to grant recipients and others interested in adding foam to their curbside recycling programs.

- Purpose:
 - Increase public access to post-consumer foam recycling through curbside and/or drop off programs
 - Drive actual recovery of foam (increased tons)
 - Generate success stories
- Provide funding for:
 - Foam recycling equipment (up to \$50,000/grant)
 - Technical assistance to grant recipients and others interested in adding foam to their curbside recycling programs

FRC Grant Communities

FRC GRANT COMMUNITIES

- Metro Denver, CO
- Colchester County, Nova Scotia
- Athens-Clarke County, GA
- McLeod County, MN
- Redding, CA



- May 2015: First grant announcement
 - Alpine Waste & Recycling (Denver, Colo.)
 - Largest independent, privately held waste and recycling company in CO
 - “Culture of innovation”
- April 2016: Second grant announcement
 - Colchester County, Nova Scotia, Canada
 - Municipal MRF operation that added curbside foam collection for county customers
 - Adding schools at start of new term
- Nov 2016: McLeod County, MN
- May 2017: Redding, CA
- May/June 2017: Athens-Clarke County, GA

County of Colchester, Nova Scotia

- Provides recycling services to 130,000 residents.
- Transports collected recyclables to county-owned and operated dual-stream MRF.
- County estimated foam polystyrene comprised 1%, or 620 tons, of annual municipal waste stream.
- Awarded \$50,000 grant from FRC to purchase foam densifier.
- Foam densifier installed in MRF in April 2016.



Foam PS Recycling in County of Colchester

- Within the first 6 months, the county recovered 8 tons of densified foam, increasing month over month.
- County has secured an Asian export market for their densified foam. Manufacturers use PS pellets to make products like decorative molding and other building products.

Key Learnings and Recommendations:

- Found that grant funding significantly lowered barriers of initial costs in order to participate.
- Through careful planning and promotion, the County has found they are ripe for foam polystyrene recycling.

Alpine Waste and Recycling Denver, CO



- Locally owned and largest independent waste and recycling operations in Colorado.
- Alpine services residential and commercial customers.
- Began accepting foam prior to their new operations in 2015.
- Alpine used the \$45,000 FRC grant as an investment tool to assist and justify the cost/benefit of recovery foam at their new single stream MRF.

Foam PS Recycling at Alpine

- Alpine found both west coast and Midwest end market options for their densified foam, but use an Asian export market for best pricing (range of \$.06/lb. - \$.12/lb.)



Foam PS Recycling at Alpine

- Alpine promoted their kick-off event during America Recycles Day.
 - Contest for Denver area residents to bring the largest amount of foam to Alpine's recycling facility, winner would win a free lunch for two weeks from a local restaurant!

UPTICK IN FULL-TRUCK FREQUENCY FOR ALPINE WASTE AND RECYCLING

