



FOODSERVICE PACKAGING  
INSTITUTE®

# Foam Recycling Coalition

Working to Increase the Recovery of  
Foam Polystyrene Packaging



# Background



# Goal

- Fund a proactive, multi-year grant program offered in the U.S. and Canada to...
  - Expand public access to post-consumer foam PS recycling through curbside and/or drop off programs
  - Increase public awareness that yes, foam PS can be recycled
  - Drive actual recovery of foam PS
  - Generate success stories to document and leverage in communications to variety of stakeholders



# Formation of FRC

- Foam Recycling Coalition (FRC) formed in 2014
  - Housed within the industry's trade association, the Foodservice Packaging Institute
  - Funding comes from FRC members
  - Members include the entire value chain in the U.S. and Canada, from raw material suppliers through end user/operators
  - Targeted products include foam polystyrene...
    - Food/Foodservice packaging (cups, take-out containers, dinnerware, egg cartons, cafeteria trays, meat trays)
    - Protective packaging

# Current FRC Members



# Accomplishments (So Far!)



# Launched RecycleFoam.org



## INTRODUCTION

In 2014, the Foam Recycling Coalition (FRC) was launched to support increased recycling of foodservice packaging made from foam polystyrene. In order to meet this objective, the FRC shares general information on foam recycling, provides

Website provides:

- General information on foam PS recycling, including why, how and where
- Details related to FRC grant program
- Case studies on successful foam PS recycling

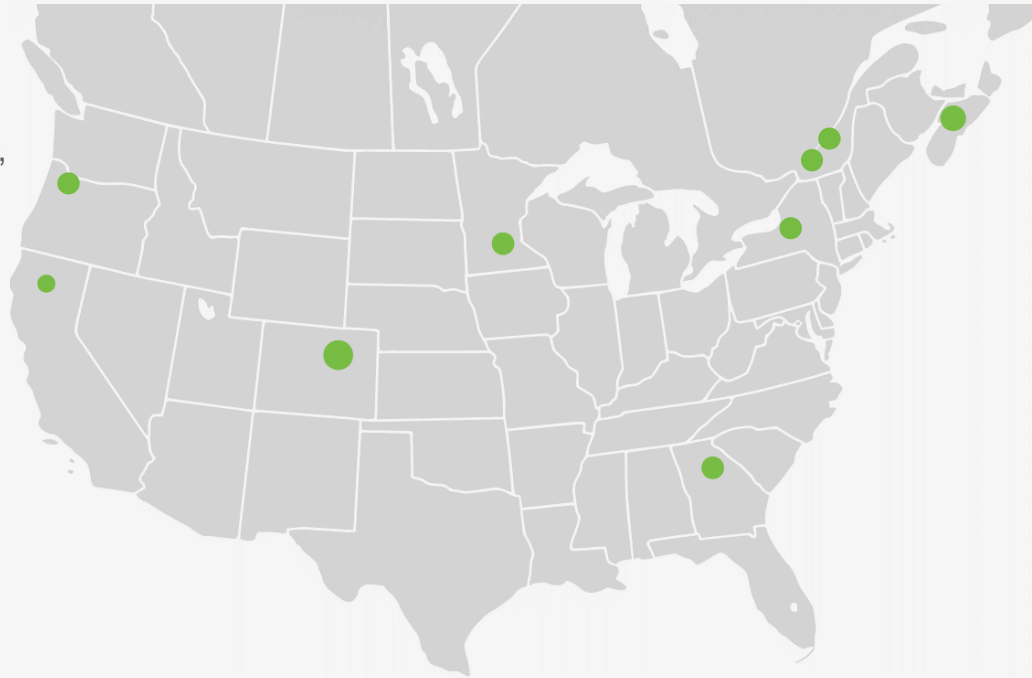
# Awarded 9 Grants thru 2018

## In the U.S.:

- Denver, CO
- Athens-Clarke County, GA
- McLeod County, MN
- Redding, CA
- Madison County, NY
- Agilyx – Tigard, OR

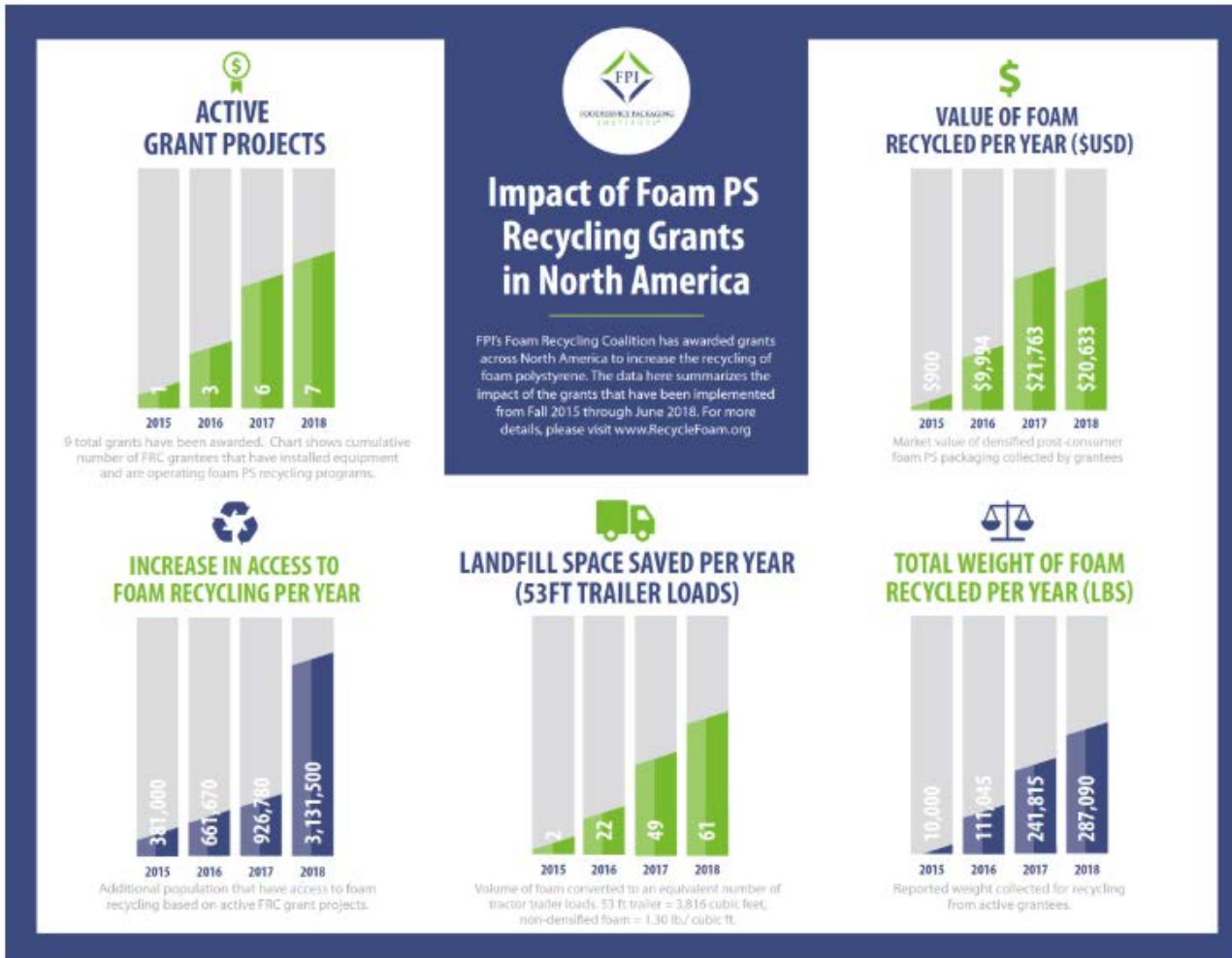
## In Canada:

- Colchester County, NS
- Pyrowave – Valleyfield, QC
- Gaudreau Environment – Victoriaville, QC





# Shared Results on Grants



# 2019 Work Plan



- Selected 7 new grant recipients in Sept. 2018
- Work with grant recipients on announcement of grants and rollout of foam PS recycling program
  - Announcements will be every couple of months to provide continuous positive communication about foam PS recycling
- Provide technical assistance as needed

# Current Grants

- Collect data on the amount of foam PS recycled
- Update infographic (see previous slide 9) on grant progress
- For expiring grant terms\*, draft case studies

*\*Grantees agree to recycle foam PS for a minimum period of four years and to provide data on foam PS collected for recycling to FRC during that period.*

- Review and update outreach tools, to include:
  - Market development update
  - Business case for recycling foam PS
- Promote foam PS recycling through conference presentations, media articles, etc.
- Seek potential applicants for 2020 grant cycle

# Why Join the FRC?



# Why Your Company Should Join



**The FRC is the only group solely focused on providing grants to increase the public's access to recycle foam PS in the U.S. and Canada.**

If you want to see more foam PS packaging recycled, you should join the group working to make this happen.

# Why Your Company Should Join



**You (and/or your customers) want to make claims like “recyclable” on foam PS packaging.**

To consider foam PS “recyclable,” a large portion of the population must have access to recycle it (over 60% in the U.S.; over 50% in Canada). We’re the group helping to increase access rates for foam PS.



# Why Your Company Should Join

- Other reasons to join the FRC:
  - Demonstrate a commitment to a voluntary, industry-led initiative that reduces plastic waste being sent to landfills and instead captures and reuses this valuable resource through recycling
    - This commitment is especially important for investors, environmental NGOs, customers, employees and others.
  - Supplement your own company's sustainability initiatives
  - Help keep foam PS in the market; “non-recyclable” items are increasingly the target of ban proposals from all levels of government

# Your Commitments

- Time Commitment in 2019:
  - 2-3 conference calls, as needed (date and time based on member availability)
  - 1 in-person meeting to review grant applications and discuss FRC strategy
- Financial Commitment:
  - Annual contribution based on type of organization and sales/revenues (see next slides), prorated if joining during the year

# Financial Commitments

- **For material suppliers and converters:** Based on your company's annual sales of/into foam polystyrene packaging in the U.S. and Canada

Sales	Contribution
Under \$10 million	\$5,625
\$10-99 million	\$11,250
\$100-249 million	\$22,500
\$250-500 million	\$33,750
Over \$500 million	\$45,000

- **For users of foam polystyrene packaging (operators/brands):** Flat fee of \$7,500

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# Foam Recycling Toolkit

## INTRODUCTION

In 2014, the Foam Recycling Coalition (FRC) was launched to support increased recycling of foodservice packaging made from foam polystyrene. In order to meet this objective, the FRC shares general information on foam recycling, provides technical resources and offers funding assistance to programs ready to start or strengthen post-consumer foam recycling.

In addition to encouraging the recycling of foam foodservice packaging (i.e. cups, plates, bowls, clamshells and cafeteria trays), the efforts of the FRC also extend to other foam food packaging like egg cartons and meat trays.

