



**There are over
30,000
STREET STORM DRAINS
IN
SAN JOSE**

and the trash found in them goes directly to our rivers and creeks

WHAT'S GOOD about polystyrene foam food ware

- Light-weight
- Durable
- Convenient
- Portable

IS BAD for our waterways and wildlife

- Short useful life
- Commonly littered
- Doesn't decompose
- Breaks into a million pieces making it difficult and costly to clean up
- Animals mistake small pieces for food



Polystyrene Foam Food Ware and its Effects on the Environment

Polystyrene foam cups and clamshells break into many small pieces and never degrade. They are easily carried by street storm drains to local rivers and creeks, and eventually impact the San Francisco Bay. The State Water Board has listed 24 creeks in the Bay Area, including the Guadalupe River and Coyote Creek, as "impaired by trash." Cities must comply with a new regulation that calls for a 40 percent reduction in trash by 2014. Littered polystyrene foam food ware is a highly visible blight on our communities. It degrades the economic vitality of our neighborhoods and affects how we feel about where we live.

The City of San José is considering ways to reduce disposable food ware litter and keep our creeks clean. We want to hear your ideas and will host several meetings with restaurant, cafeteria, and food truck representatives, recyclers, makers of food ware, consumers, and community members between June and November 2011. Join the first **GREEN TO GO** public meeting and complete the enclosed survey.

**THURSDAY,
JUNE 30, 2011
2:00-3:30 P.M.**

SAN JOSE CITY HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBERS

200 East Santa Clara St.

If you have questions about the upcoming meetings or how you can be involved:

Email: GreenToGo@sanjoseca.gov

Call: (408) 975-2586

Visit: www.sanjoseca.gov/esd/business.asp,
and follow the **GREEN TO GO** link

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, City of San Jose Environmental Services materials can be made available upon request in alternative formats, such as Braille, large print, audio-tape or computer disk. Requests may be made by calling (408) 535-8550 (Voice) or (800) 735-2929 (CRS).

GREEN TO GO SURVEY

Be one of the **first 50** people to complete the survey and receive a free reusable bag. By **July 8, 2011**, return the postage paid card or complete the survey online by following the **GREEN TO GO** link at www.sanjoseca.gov/esd/business.asp.

1. WHAT TYPE OF FOOD ESTABLISHMENT DO YOU REPRESENT?

Check the ONE that most closely represents your business type:

RESTAURANT Dine in Take out

Franchise? Yes No

DELI

Part of a grocery store? Yes No

CAFETERIA (such as hospital, school, corporation)

Please specify: _____

MOBILE FOOD VENDOR

COFFEE SHOP

OTHER _____

2. YOUR BUSINESS' ZIP CODE: _____

3. DO YOU CURRENTLY USE POLYSTYRENE FOAM FOOD WARE?

Yes No

If yes, which ones and approximately how many per month?

Cups _____ Clamshells _____ Soup containers _____

Plates _____ Other _____

If no, what type of food ware do you use?

Paper Plastic Compostable Other _____

4. WOULD YOU CONSIDER SWITCHING FROM POLYSTYRENE FOAM FOOD WARE TO PAPER OR COMPOSTABLE PRODUCTS?

Yes No

If no, why?

- Already use paper or compostable food ware
 I am concerned about their durability
 I don't know where to purchase them
 I think these products are more costly
 I am not aware that polystyrene foam food ware is an environmental concern
 Other. Please specify: _____

5. WERE YOU AWARE THAT DISPOSABLE FOAM FOOD WARE IS A COMMON FORM OF LITTER ENTERING OUR STORM DRAINS AND EVENTUALLY OUR LOCAL CREEKS AND RIVERS?

Yes No

6. ARE YOU LIKELY TO ATTEND A PUBLIC MEETING ON THE TOPIC?

Yes No

If yes, what day(s) and time(s) work best for you? Please specify:

Day(s) _____ Time(s) _____

7. WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO KEEP YOU INFORMED ABOUT THE CITY'S PROPOSAL RELATED TO DISPOSABLE FOOD WARE? PLEASE NUMBER YOUR CHOICES FROM 1 TO 6 WITH 1 BEING YOUR MOST AND 6 BEING YOUR LEAST PREFERRED.

_____ Through local business association newsletters. Please specify: _____

_____ Direct email updates. Please provide your email address: _____

_____ Through the local chambers of commerce

_____ Direct mail

_____ Website

_____ Other. Please specify: _____