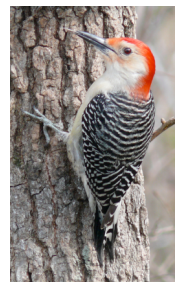


CREATION CARE NEWSLETTER: EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF EAU CLAIRE

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Scripture

"Ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds of the air, and they will tell you; or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish of the sea inform you. Which of these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind." (Job 12:7-10)

* * * * *

Prayer

Hildegard of Bingen

God is the foundation for everything
This God undertakes, God gives.
Such that nothing that is necessary for
life is lacking.
Now humankind needs a body that at all
times honors and praises God.
This body is supported in every way
through the earth.
Thus the earth glorifies the power of
God.

*Hildegard was born in 1098, was a
Benedictine Abbess, mystic, poet,
composer and founder of abbeys.*



Innocent, or Guilty?

Styrofoam is a trade name for polystyrene. "The biggest environmental health concern associated with polystyrene is the danger associated with Styrene, the basic building block of polystyrene. Styrene is used extensively in the manufacture of plastics, rubber, and resins. About 90,000 workers, including those who make boats, tubs and showers, are potentially exposed to styrene. Acute health effects are generally irritation of the skin, eyes, and

upper respiratory tract, and gastrointestinal effects. Chronic exposure affects the central nervous system showing symptoms such as depression, headache, fatigue, and weakness, and can cause minor effects on kidney function and blood. Styrene is classified as a possible human carcinogen by the EPA and by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC).

- 1986 EPA report on solid waste named the polystyrene manufacturing process as the 5th largest creator of hazardous waste. The National Bureau of Standards Center for Fire Research identified 57 chemical byproducts released during the combustion of polystyrene foam. The process of making polystyrene pollutes the air and creates large amounts of liquid and solid waste.
- Toxic chemicals leach out of these products into the food that they contain (especially when heated in a microwave). These chemicals threaten human health and reproductive systems.
- These products are made with petroleum, a non-sustainable and heavily polluting resource.

The use of hydrocarbons in polystyrene foam manufacture releases the hydrocarbons into the air at ground level; there, combined with nitrogen oxides in the presence of sunlight, they form tropospheric ozone -- a serious air pollutant at ground level.

- Polystyrene foam is often dumped into the environment as litter. This material is notorious for breaking up into pieces that choke animals and clog their digestive systems.

- Many cities and counties have outlawed polystyrene foam (i.e. Taiwan, Portland, OR, and Orange County, CA).

Above material from
www.earthsource.org

And let's admit it, coffee tastes better from a china cup.

So, what can we do?

1. Switch over to real cups at church coffee hour.
2. Carry stainless steel coffee cups and water thermoses in your car.
3. Avoid polystyrene in motel breakfast rooms.

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A Really Good Website

[Episcopal Ecological Network](http://www.eenonline.org/)

The **Episcopal Ecological Network** (EpEN) is a nationwide **network** within the ... **environmental** and ecological information within the **Episcopal Church, USA**. ...

www.eenonline.org/

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The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof. Ps. 24: 1

Questions or comments? Email
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