Chapter News

Area 6

Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ASN

Empowering Zero Waste Diverting 100% polystyrene (foam) trays away from landfill and into Next Life Cycle....

Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD has chosen to try a new system for eliminating trash issues. Our

pilot program is at Creekview Middle School, with the enrollment of 845 students. We will reduce waste in the trash by approximately 50%. If we have three bags of trash a day over an eight-week period, that can add up to 120-150 bags filled with stacked



foam trays. With our new StyroGenie machine, we have 26 foam blocks on one pallet after 8 weeks. The goal is to be good stewards of the earth, while also saving money. Typically, a school can save between \$4,000 and \$7,000 per year on reduced trash.



The StyroGenie is working well for us. After our students eat their lunches, they take their trays over to the garbage and tap the excess food off into the trash can, then stack them into a tray stacker. When the tray stacker is full, the custodian places the trays into the StyroGenie. The StyroGenie then does

its magic, creating three-inch waste blocks. It can densify up to 1,800 trays in seven to ten hours. Through conductive heat, the StyroGenie melts the trays into plastic blocks, thus reducing the volume

of Styrofoam waste collection by 95%. The district saves two pallets from the delivery of food from our distributor.

The trays are then placed on this pallet to be shipped to the U.S. processing partner; this is where the blocks are converted back into



the oil resource from which they were originally produced.

Our district's initiative to reduce and recover our soiled form foodservice waste directly contributes to the 100% landfill diversion and to the preservation of our planet's natural resources! Plus, the machine is made in America!

