



EVRGREEN® BIODEGRADABLE MATERIAL FAQ

WHAT IS EVRGREEN?

EVRgreen is Epsilyte's biodegradable expandable polystyrene (EPS). This advanced material looks and performs the same as standard EPS, has the same shelf life, and continues to be recyclable along with all polystyrene.

This technology transforms a standard molded product into a product with a new end-of-life story.

WHAT TEST WAS USED TO DETERMINE BIODEGRADABILITY AND WHAT WERE THE RESULTS?

EVRgreen® EPS biodegrades 94% over four years, compared to cellulose, using the ASTM D5511 test that simulates wetter and biologically active landfills, which do not exist in all parts of the U.S. The stated rate and extent of degradation do not mean that EVRgreen will continue to degrade. No claim is deemed to be made in any state or locality that prohibits the making of biodegradability claims on this or similar products.

DOES EVRGREEN'S RATE OF BIODEGRADATION CHANGE IN DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS?

Like organic materials, EVRgreen has variable decomposition rates based on environmental conditions.

ARE THERE OTHER BENEFITS OF USING EVRGREEN?

EVRgreen is engineered for anaerobic biodegradation. Since the material does not promote oxo-biodegradation, the resin does not become brittle, and no shelf-life adjustments need to be made.

EVRgreen requires no special packaging, no changes in resin properties, nor does it biodegrade without a microbe-rich environment.

Note: Biodegradation occurs in landfills and lowers the volume of material in a landfill cell, freeing up landfill space.

WHAT IS LEFT BEHIND AFTER EVRGREEN BIODEGRADES?

EVRgreen leaves the same byproducts as organic material decomposition. These include carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and other renewable organic materials. This landfill gas is captured and burned for fuel without leaving microplastic contamination behind.

Note: This biodegradation occurs in landfills and lowers the volume of material in a landfill cell, freeing up landfill space.

ARE THERE OTHER TYPES OF BIODEGRADATION?

EVRgreen is engineered for anaerobic biodegradation, meaning biodegradation occurs without air and produces methane. Aerobic biodegradation happens in the air and produces CO₂.

Note: Most landfills are designed for both aerobic and anaerobic biodegradation.

HOW IS BIODEGRADABLE DIFFERENT FROM COMPOSTABLE?

There is just one difference between composting and biodegrading: When compostable materials degrade, they contribute to soil fertilization.

WHERE CAN YOU RECYCLE EVRGREEN?

Call your local recycling drop-off site to ensure that they accept EPS and in what form. Most accept EPS packing material. There are more than 500 EPS recycling programs across North America.

Epsilyte's long-term goal is for every pound of EPS to be recycled in-kind, creating a circular life cycle.
