**Something for the weekend....Action #29 Styrofoam swaps and more. Tackling the takeaway container.**

*Scientists say more should be done to tackle the growing environmental impact of takeaway food containers. A new study estimates there are 2025 million takeaway containers per year being used in the European Union (EU) alone.* (University of Manchester)

During a recent camping trip, some take away food was presented in Styrofoam containers, carried in a plastic bag. For a campsite that demonstrates care for the environment, particularly being based in the beautiful surrounds of the New Forest, this really didn't seem right at all.

 **Why**

Styrofoam containers have a surprisingly low carbon footprint when it comes to manufacturing them; but they cannot be considered a sustainable packaging as recycling facilities are very limited; and if contaminated with greasy food, it cant anyway). Therefore they mostly end up in landfill.

The fact that Styrofoam is non-biodegradable adds to the ecological impact. Landfills are filling up at a record rate and Styrofoam is one reason. Styrofoam has the potential to affect the entire ecological system of this planet.\*

 **What can we do**

✅ Plan ahead; make your own drinks, snacks and meals to take on the go, instead of buying them.

✅ Provide your own containers when you order.

✅ Ask the eatery you're buying from to re-consider the containers they use; for example, could they swap them with a home compostable material or do more to encourage customers to bring their own container?

Some options will feel more realistic than others; afterall, take away food is all about convenience.

But the culture of convenience is what has contributed to the levels of waste we suffer with now. Something needs to change. If we push for this together, change will happen. Start the take away container change today.

(And watch this space for an upcoming [Sobo Wastebusters](https://www.facebook.com/sobowastebusters/?ref=gs&__tn__=%2CdK-R-R&eid=ARAjXMSRxYKJ7AQ5J6JWvXJCH85a1FYJLo13vpYP1wOOh1NoaxCTlXRWRFIDkbHZOc78Eocjryhn9m1G&fref=gs&dti=308664193075982&hc_location=group) project 💚)

\*[https://sciencing.com/facts-about-landfill-styrofoam-5176735.html](https://sciencing.com/facts-about-landfill-styrofoam-5176735.html?fbclid=IwAR0s-KgQkPLvOEx8ZPLOxw3GRcvtJ0iQ2doXrSHrbfxlEHoAXiqIRVg4Q3M)