

Sustainable Packaging for Medication Home Delivery

OptumRx has eliminated its use of polystyrene, or foam packaging, and adopted innovative, sustainable packaging in its home delivery facilities. The new packaging materials will be used to deliver temperature-sensitive specialty and maintenance prescription medications to consumers nationwide as part of the company's continued efforts to reduce its environmental footprint.



Products made with polystyrene foam are bulky, non-biodegradable and difficult to dispose of.

LESS THAN 1% of all polystyrene foam is **currently recycled**.¹

Polystyrene materials **fill up nearly 30 percent of all landfill space** around the world.²

100%

New OptumRx packaging is made from 100 percent renewable cotton and is compostable, reusable and more easily recyclable.

NEW PACKAGING IS PROJECTED TO ANNUALLY SAVE:



2 MILLION

Pounds of CO₂

Equivalent to the weight of almost five Boeing 747-400 jet airliners



17 MILLION

Gallons of water

Enough to fill an Olympic-sized swimming pool 26 times



4 MILLION

Kilowatt hours of energy

Enough to power 368 average American households for an entire year

Since December 2017, OptumRx has delivered

MORE THAN 1/2 MILLION

prescriptions using new packaging



expects to fill

MORE THAN 4 MILLION

prescriptions by the end of 2018.

OptumRx provides convenient medication home delivery, in addition to specialty pharmacy and infusion services through BriovaRx, to more than 65M members through 53 facilities across the United States and processes more than 1.3B adjusted retail, mail and specialty prescriptions annually. By simplifying prescription fills and providing a long-term supply of maintenance medications, OptumRx home delivery is a convenient, safe and cost-effective option. Through fast and efficient fulfillment, along with 24/7 pharmacist availability, home delivery makes it easier for consumers to adhere to their treatment regimen, a critical step in medication management that is linked to better health outcomes.

Sources:

1. Clean Water Action. Facts about Styrofoam® Litter (Expanded Polystyrene Foam). cleanwater.org/files/publications/ca/cwa_fact_sheet_polystyrene_litter_2011_03.pdf.
2. Collier County. The Facts on Styrofoam: Reduce and Reuse. colliercountyfl.gov/your-government/divisions-s-z/solid-hazardous-waste-management/keeping-green-helpful-information-page/the-facts-on-styrofoam-reduce-and-reuse.