



PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is given by Ben Grumbles, Secretary of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), acting pursuant to the Proclamation of Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. (the “Governor”) dated March 5, 2020 proclaiming a state of emergency and a catastrophic health emergency related to COVID-19, as it may be amended or renewed from time to time, and the Order of the Governor dated March 12, 2020 entitled “Extending Certain Licenses, Permits, Registrations, and Other Governmental Authorizations, and Authorizing Suspension of Legal Time Requirements”, as it may be amended from time to time, after finding that the action(s) described herein will not endanger the public health, welfare, or safety.

As a result of this state of emergency, it is necessary to extend the deadline by which schools and food service businesses must discontinue the sale or provision of food or beverages in expanded polystyrene (EPS) food service products under § 9-2203(b) of the Environment Article, Annotated Code of Maryland. This deadline will be extended from July 1, 2020 to October 1, 2020. The extension does not apply to the sale of EPS food service products under § 9-2203(a) of the Environment Article, which continues to take effect July 1, 2020. As a result, food service businesses and schools may continue to use existing inventories of EPS food service products until October 1, 2020, but will not be able to purchase additional EPS food service products after July 1, 2020.

Notwithstanding the above, all county or municipal laws or regulations limiting the sale, use, or provision of EPS food service products remain in effect and are not altered by this extension. This Notice is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until October 1, 2020 or 30 days after the State of Emergency is terminated, whichever is earlier.

Ben Grumbles, Secretary