

**Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)**

**Molecular firefighting biocomposites toward their life-cycle  
management: fabrication, use and upcycling**

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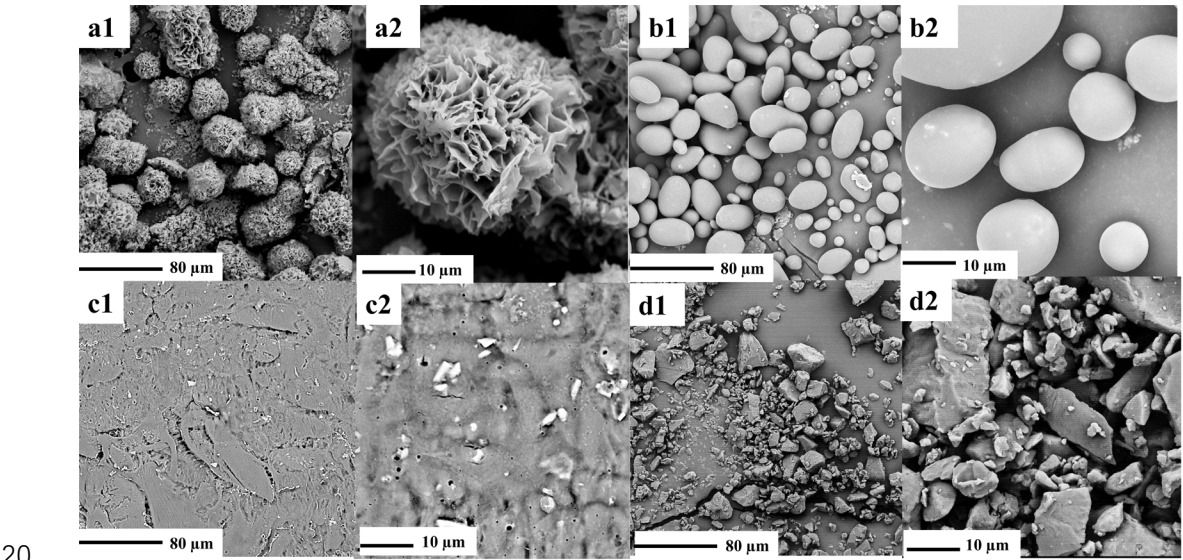
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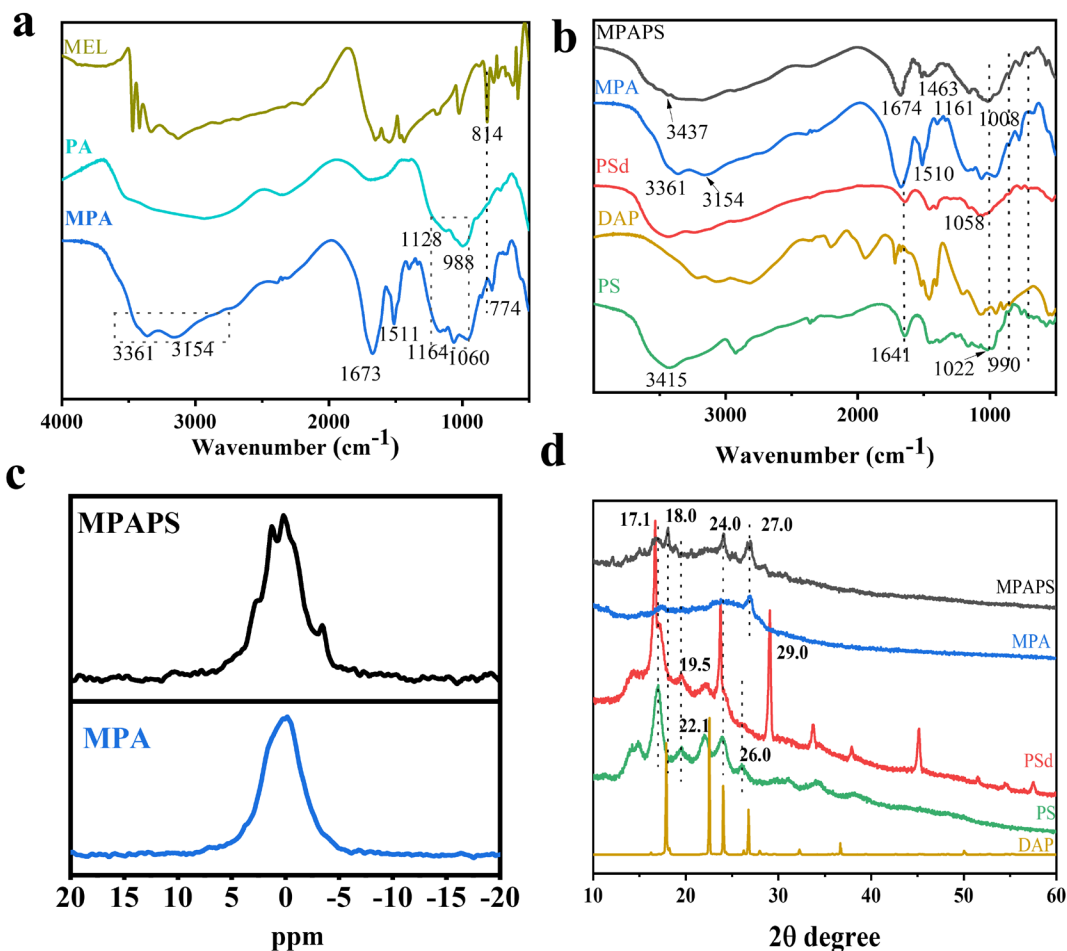
19 **Figures**



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21 **Fig. S1** The SEM images of MPA (a1, a2), PS (b1, b2), PSd (c1, c2) and MPAPS (d1,  
22 d2).

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**Fig. S2** the FTIR (a, b), solid-state  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (c) and XRD (d) spectra of raw and synthetic materials.

**FTIR** The chemical structure of raw and synthetic materials were analyzed by FTIR (Fig. S2a). The peak at 814  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in melamine attributable to the triazine ring vibration shifted to 774  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in MPA, a token of the protonation and deformation of the triazine units<sup>1</sup>. Due to the formation of hydrogen banding, the peaks at 988 and 1128  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in PA assigned to phosphoric acid groups shifted to 1060 and 1164  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in MPA<sup>1, 2</sup>. In addition, a new peak emerged at 1511  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  was corresponded to the protonated amine<sup>3, 4</sup>; Meanwhile, the new broadband appeared around the regions of 3154-3361  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  were assigned to the formation of  $-\text{NH}_3^+-\text{O}-$  ionic bonds<sup>5, 6</sup>. Therefore, the MPA was

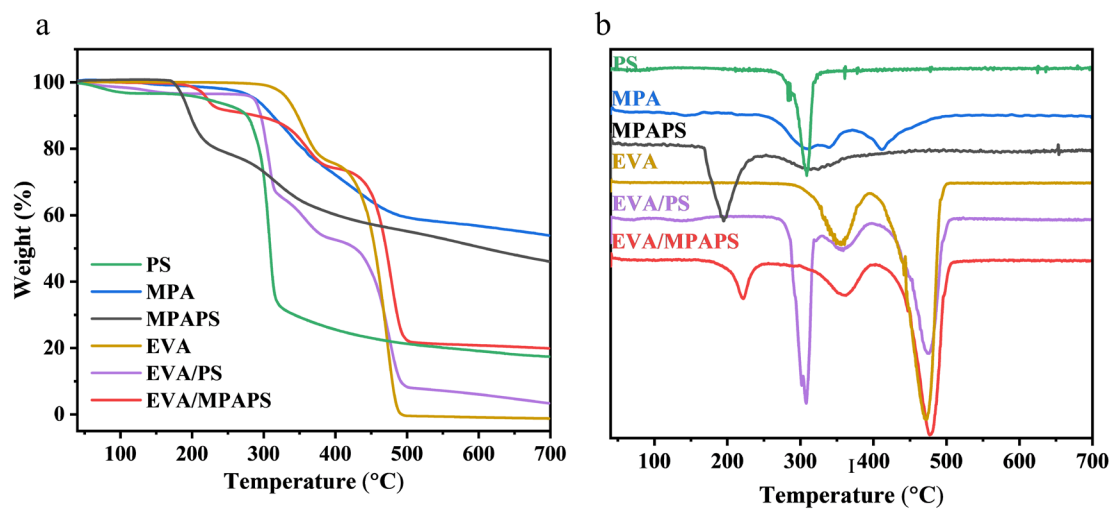
synthesized via hydrogen bonding and electrostatic interaction.

For PS (Fig. S2b), several characteristic peaks at 3600–3100  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (O–H), 1641  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (intramolecular hydrogen bonding), 1257  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (–O–C(O)– and C–OH), 1167, 1088 and 990  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (C–O–C)<sup>7,8</sup>, 925, 861, 710, 614 and 578  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (pyranose ring) were observed<sup>8</sup>. Compared to the spectrum of PS, the peaks between 990 and 1022  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in PSd spectrum changed due to the rearrangements of the PS after treated with DAP<sup>9</sup>. The peak around 990  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  related to the structure crystalline domains of in PS was weakened obviously in PSd, indicating the introduction of DAP could weaken the intramolecular hydrogen bonding of PS<sup>10,11</sup>. For MPAPS, the characteristic peaks from both PSd and MPA were retained, the broadband appeared between 3400–3100  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , which was attributed to the formation of intermolecular hydrogen bond between PSd and MPA<sup>7,12</sup>. The peak at 1674  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  was assigned to the P–O from MPA. Notably, a new peak at 1008  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in MPAPS was observed due to the formation of new P–O–C (C<sub>6</sub>P–OH)<sup>13,14</sup>, indicating the formation of phosphorylated starch<sup>15</sup>.

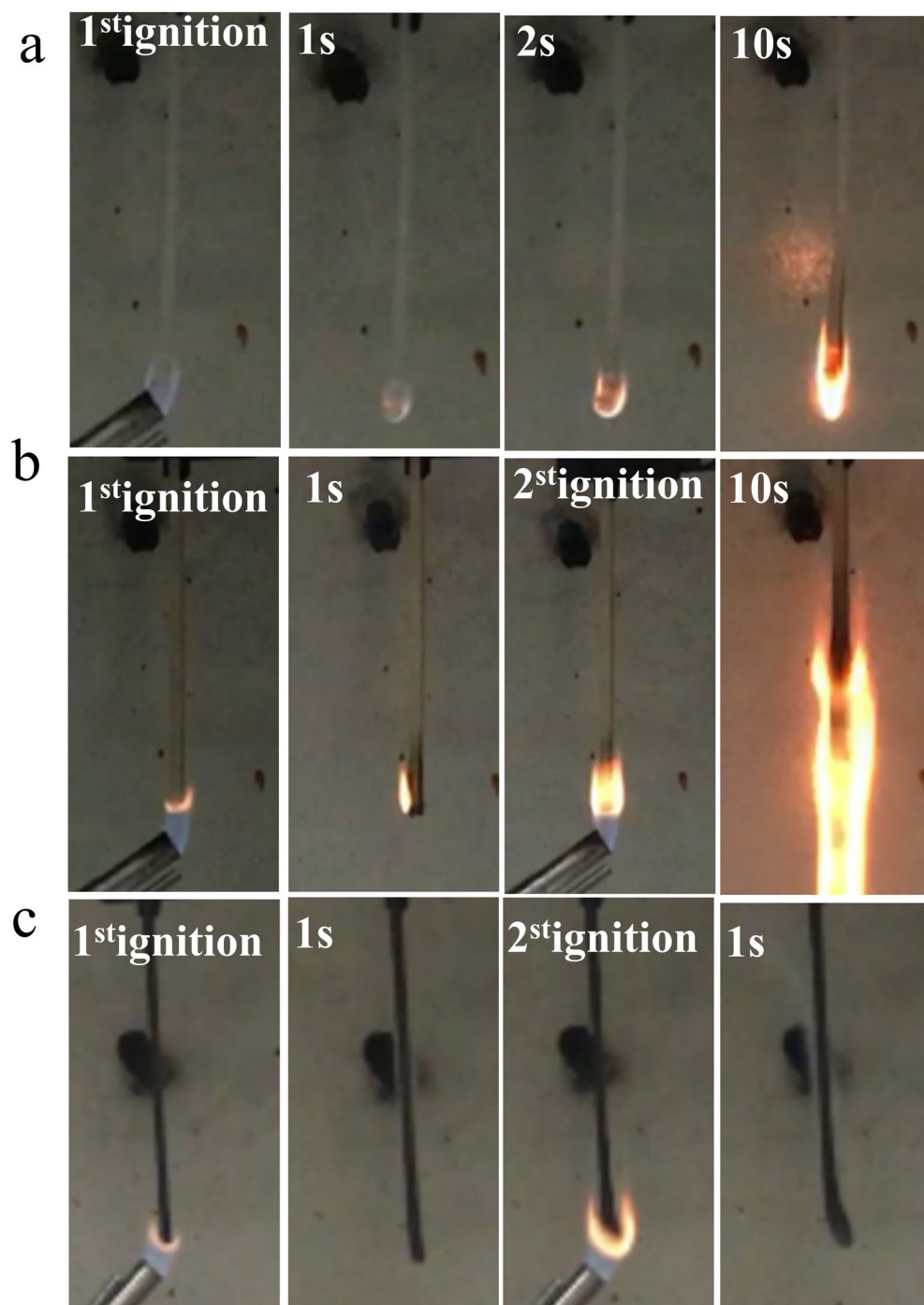
**NMR** To further confirm the chemical structure of MPAPS, solid-state <sup>31</sup>P NMR was performed (Fig. S2c), the broad resonance signal around 0 ppm of MPA and MPAPS related to phosphate functional groups (PO<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra)<sup>14</sup>. By contrast, the sharp signals appeared in the range from 0 to 5 ppm were ascribed to the presence of the starch phosphates<sup>16,17</sup>.

**XRD** The XRD analysis were employed to investigate the crystalline structure of raw materials, synthetic materials. In Fig. S2d, the characteristic crystalline peak of starch were found at 17.1, 19.5, 22.1, 24.0 and 26.0°<sup>18</sup>. Compared with the pattern of

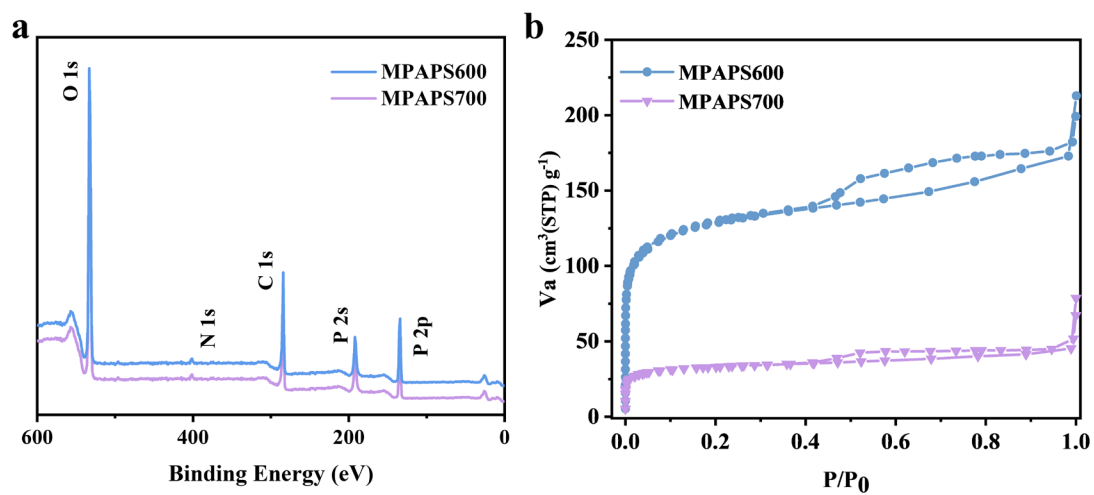
PS, the PSd pattern was inclined to be less resolved, and some starch characteristic peaks like  $26.0^\circ$  even disappeared, it was speculated that the intermolecular hydrogen bonds of starch molecules were destroyed partially. For MPA, there was no obvious peaks except for a sharp peak at  $27.0^\circ$ , indicating the MPA in the amorphous phase, the peak at  $27^\circ$  was brought about the  $\pi - \pi$  stacking formed by the conjugated aromatic system from triazine structure of melamine <sup>19</sup>. On the other hand, MPAPS showed starch characteristic crystallization peak with low resolution at  $17.1$  and  $24.0^\circ$ , and a  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking peak at  $27.0^\circ$ <sup>19</sup>. It demonstrated that the introduction of MPA further destroys the intermolecular hydrogen bonds in starch, thereby forming more amorphous structures.



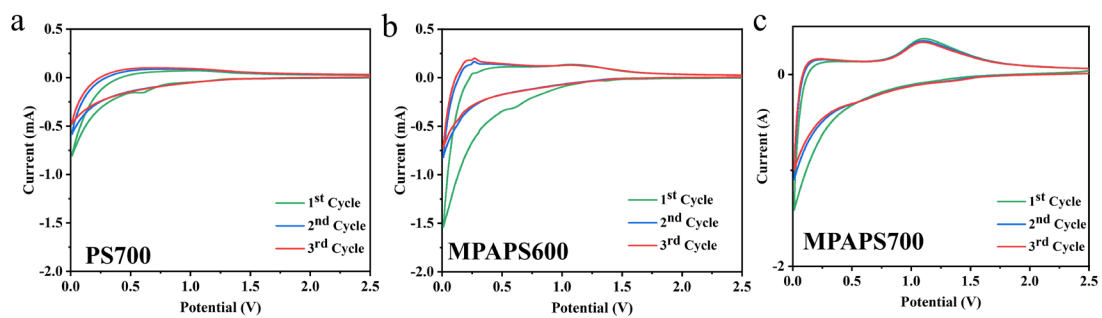
**Fig. S3** The TGA (a) and DTG (b) curves of PS, MPA, MPAPS, EVA and its composites (40 wt%) in N<sub>2</sub>.



**Fig. S4** Video snapshots obtained from vertical burning tests of (a) EVA, (b) EVA/PS (40 wt%) and (c) EVA/MPAPS (40 wt%).



**Fig. S5** The XPS survey spectra (a) and N<sub>2</sub> adsorption/desorption curves (b) of MPAPS600 and MPAPS700.



**Figure S6** The CV curves of PS700 (a), MPAPS700 (b) and MPAPS600.

83 **Tables**

84 **Table S1** The detail data of elongation at break and the tensile strength of EVA and its  
85 composites.

| Samples          | Elongation at Break (%) | Tensile Strength (MPa) |
|------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| EVA              | 1251.9±48.9             | 13.8±0.5               |
| EVA/PS 40 wt%    | 799.0±18.2              | 7.3±0.2                |
| EVA/PS 50 wt%    | 682.6±61.5              | 4.7±0.3                |
| EVA/MPAPS 40 wt% | 844.2±38.3              | 9.3±0.5                |
| EVA/MPAPS 50 wt% | 762.9±99.7              | 4.8±0.3                |

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88 **Table S2** The TGA and DTG data of PS, MPA, MPAPS, EVA and its composites (40  
89 wt%) in N<sub>2</sub>.

| Samples   | T <sub>5%</sub> (°C) | T <sub>max1</sub> (°C) | T <sub>max2</sub> (°C) | T <sub>max3</sub> (°C) | Residue at<br>700°C (%) |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| PS        | 219.4                | 308.3                  |                        |                        | 17.4                    |
| MPA       | 290.2                | 309.6                  | 409.8                  |                        | 52.9                    |
| MPAPS     | 188.5                | 194.7                  | 315.0                  |                        | 46.1                    |
| EVA       | 333.3                | 356.3                  | 473.1                  |                        | 0.0                     |
| EVA/PS    | 292.3                | 308.3                  | 360.7                  | 479.4                  | 6.7                     |
| EVA/MPAPS | 221.3                | 222.2                  | 358.6                  | 477.2                  | 19.9                    |

91 **Table S3** The results of EVA and its composites from LOI and UL-94 test.

| Samples             | UL-94 | Dripping | LOI (%)  |
|---------------------|-------|----------|----------|
| EVA                 | NR    | YES      | 19.0±0.5 |
| EVA/PS (40 wt %)    | NR    | YES      | 20.5±0.6 |
| EVA/PS (50 wt %)    | NR    | NO       | 21.0±0.5 |
| EVA/MPAPS (40 wt %) | V0    | NO       | 26.6±0.4 |
| EVA/MPAPS (50 wt %) | V0    | NO       | 27.8±0.5 |

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94 **Table S4** The results of EVA and its composites from CCT test.

| Samples             | TTi<br>(s) | PHRR<br>(kW/m <sup>2</sup> ) | THR<br>(MJ/m <sup>2</sup> ) | Peak SPR<br>(m <sup>2</sup> /s) | Mean EHC<br>(MJ/kg) |
|---------------------|------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| EVA                 | 30         | 1234.6                       | 107.2                       | 0.12                            | 35.8                |
| EVA/PS (40 wt %)    | 13         | 979.2                        | 105.5                       | 0.13                            | 29.5                |
| EVA/MPAPS (40 wt %) | 12         | 250.5                        | 77.7                        | 0.05                            | 26.1                |

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97    **Table S5** Textural parameters of MAPAPS600 and MPAPS700 obtained from N<sub>2</sub>  
 98    adsorption/desorption measurement.

| Samples  | S <sub>BET</sub>                  | V <sub>m</sub> (cm <sup>3</sup> (STP) | Total Pore volume                  | Average       | pore |
|----------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|------|
|          | (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> ) | g <sup>-1</sup> )                     | (cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> ) | diameter (nm) |      |
| MPAPS600 | 407.6                             | 93.7                                  | 0.29                               | 2.0           |      |
| MPAPS700 | 104.0                             | 23.9                                  | 0.07                               | 2.5           |      |

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