

ZERO WASTE MONTHLY



BUSINESS NEWSLETTER



Brought to you by Zero Waste Strategies

0waste.org

CELEBRATING 250TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

ZERO WASTE. BETTER BUSINESS.

ZERO WASTE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

*Practical ideas. Real impact.
Building a better future, together.*

THIS MONTH:

- JULY HIGHLIGHTS**
Our top wins and key updates from this month.
- TIPS & TOOLS**
Simple ways your business can reduce waste every day.
- COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT**
Inspiring businesses leading the zero waste movement.

LESS WASTE
LOWER COSTS
GREATER IMPACT

FOR OUR PLANET.
FOR OUR COMMUNITIES.
FOR OUR FUTURE.

Thank you
FOR BEING PART OF
THE CHANGE.



Stacy Savage
Founder & CEO
@TexasTrashTalker

Welcome to the June 2026 Zero Waste Monthly Business Newsletter where we share practical ideas, meaningful updates, and inspiring stories that demonstrate how waste reduction can create real business value and environmental impact.

This issue highlights developments in the circular economy, seasonal tips from our Chief Cuddle Officer for lowering waste, and a special Pride Month feature honoring LGBTQIA environmental leaders whose work continues to shape a more just and resilient future!

You'll also find community spotlights, educational resources, and upcoming events and conferences to keep the momentum going as we move into those hot summer months.

Enjoy!



Jon Savage
Executive
Vice President

THE SCOOP!

Zero Waste Business News & Updates



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CALIFORNIA'S TEXTILE EPR SETS OUT TO TRANSFORM SUPPLY CHAINS

California's landmark SB 707 textile EPR law will require producers to fund statewide collection, repair, reuse, and recycling systems by 2030. The first-of-its-kind program aims to boost circular design, strengthen industry collaboration, expand recycling infrastructure, and significantly reduce California's growing textile waste problem.



STUDY CUTS PROJECTED AI SERVER E-WASTE BY 90%

New research suggests AI will generate 131,000–224,800 metric tons of e-waste annually by 2030, far below earlier estimates. Researchers found previous projections overstated waste by assuming unrealistic chip production, shorter server lifespans, and dedicated AI hardware, highlighting the need for better data and recycling planning.



CIRCULAR SERVICES LOOKS TO MARRY MRFS, COMPOST WITH DEPACKAGING

Circular Services opened Florida's first commercial-scale food depackaging facility, combining food waste processing with composting to divert organics from landfills and recover packaging. The company plans to expand the model alongside its recycling facilities, strengthening organics recycling and advancing a more circular economy.



APR EXPANDS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM TO VERIFY RECYCLED CONTENT IN PLASTICS

New devulcanization technologies are transforming rubber recycling by precisely breaking sulfur bonds to restore rubber's elasticity rather than grinding it into low-grade filler. The approach could enable true circular rubber recycling, though scaling remains a challenge.



NEW GLOBAL SYMBOL LAUNCHED TO IDENTIFY REUSABLE PACKAGING AND SYSTEMS

A global coalition has launched a new universal reuse symbol to identify reusable packaging and reuse systems worldwide. The symbol aims to drive a cultural shift toward reuse which can cut single-use plastic manufacturing by up to 90%.

>>> JUNE'S FEATURED STORY <<<



This [Pride Month](#), we honor the LGBTQIA+ individuals who have stood on the front lines of environmental protection and created lasting change for our planet. Their work reminds us that climate justice and LGBTQ+ justice are deeply interconnected and that diverse voices strengthen our zero waste movement.

Considered the Mother of Modern Environmentalism, Rachel Carson was a queer marine biologist and authored the groundbreaking 1962 book *Silent Spring*, which exposed the devastating ecological effects of DDT pesticides. Her courageous work led to the ban on DDT, stricter pesticide regulations, and the creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Carson's legacy launched the global environmental movement and proved that one voice can transform policy.

Rose Marcario led Patagonia as CEO for 12 years and redefined the company's mission: "We're in business to save our home planet." She oversaw protection of millions of acres of land and led Patagonia's historic \$10 million donation in 2016 to environmental nonprofits on Black Friday. Marcario shows how corporate leadership can drive systemic sustainability change.

Wyn Wiley, known professionally as Pattie Gonia, is the "world's first backpacking queen" and a drag queen environmental activist. Pattie founded Outdoorist Oath (2022), building outdoor community for BIPOC, queer, and underrepresented groups. They've raised over \$500,000 for environmental and LGBTQ+ nonprofits, proving that joy and inclusion are essential to conservation.

Indigenous, trans environmental champion and Co-founder of Queer Nature, Pinar Sinopoulos Lloyd provides nature education and ancestral skills to LGBTQIA+ communities. In 2020, they received the Audubon National Society's National Environmental Champion award and serve as Trans Ambassador of Native Women's Wilderness, advocating for biodiversity and climate justice.

These pioneers demonstrate that environmental protection requires diverse perspectives, courage to challenge systems, and inclusive community building. We applaud the LGBTQIA+ community and its leadership in environmental advocacy and protection!



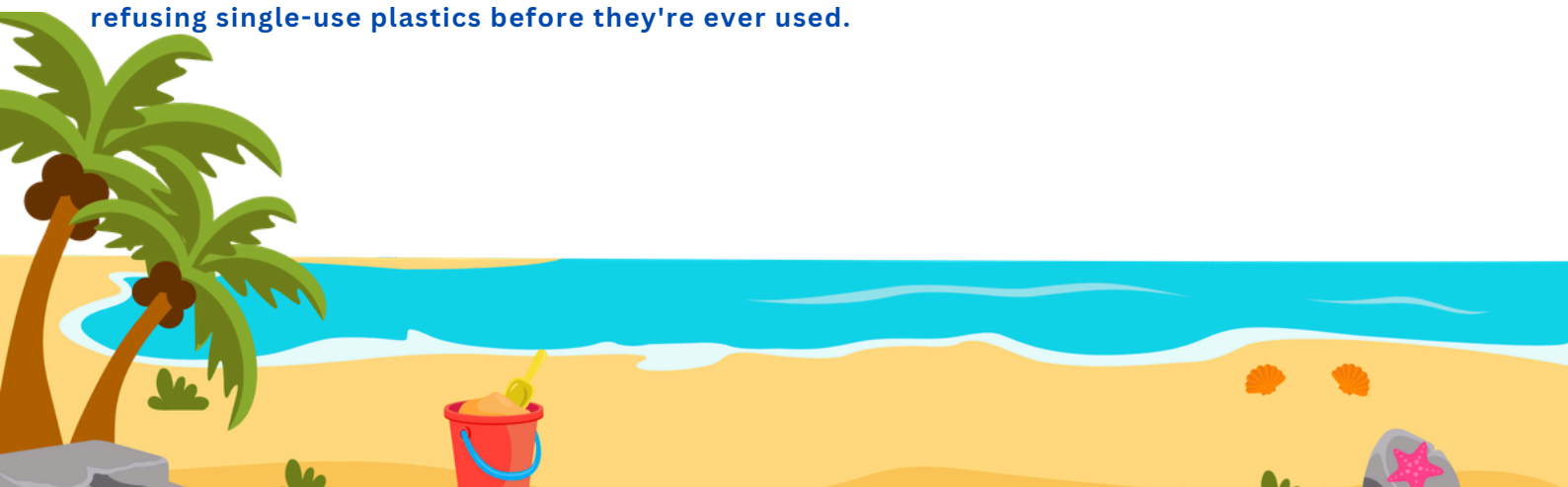
Tex Savage
Chief Cuddle Officer

>>> PLASTIC FREE JULY: A ZERO WASTE UPDATE:

Plastic Free July has grown from a small idea into one of the world's biggest environmental movements – and this year it's more relevant than ever. At least 174 million people in 190 countries took part in 2025, avoiding 290,000 tonnes of plastic in a single July. It's proof that small, collective choices really do add up. [Thriving Sustainably](#). The campaign isn't about perfection – it's about noticing where single-use plastic sneaks into daily life and choosing reusable alternatives wherever you reasonably can.

Key Facts and Trends:

- Plastic Free July started small: Plastic-Free July was established in 2011 by the Plastic-Free Foundation in Australia, and has grown into a global movement over more than a decade. [Nylcvef](#)
- The "Top 4" are the easiest place to start: Most participants begin by skipping plastic bags, water bottles, straws, and takeaway coffee cups before going further. [Thriving Sustainably](#)
- Habits actually stick: 86% of participants say the changes they made during the month stuck around year-round. [Thriving Sustainably](#)
- Plastic production is staggering: 430 million tons of plastic are produced each year, and every piece ever made still exists today. [Nylcvef](#)
- Recycling isn't keeping up: Globally, only about 9% of plastic waste is recycled. [Ocean Blue Project](#)
- Ocean pollution is severe: Between 8 and 11 million tons of plastic enter the ocean annually, and by 2050, there could be more plastic than fish by weight if current trends continue. [Ocean Blue Project](#)
- Microplastics are everywhere: Microplastics have been found in human blood, reproductive organs, and drinking water samples. [Nylcvef](#)
- It's a genuine global movement: Public awareness is high, with an estimated 313 million people aware of the campaign, spanning schools, councils, and companies worldwide. [UN SDG Action Awards](#)
- 2026's focus is the next generation: This year's campaign centers on a "Plastic Free Future" theme, spotlighting children and young people through youth programs across the Asia Pacific region. [Thriving Sustainably](#)
- Businesses can join too: In 2025, 47 member councils avoided over 8,500 tonnes of plastic waste together, showing organizations can make a real dent alongside individuals.
- "Choose to Refuse" over cleanup: The campaign shifted focus from recycling and cleanups to refusing single-use plastics before they're ever used.





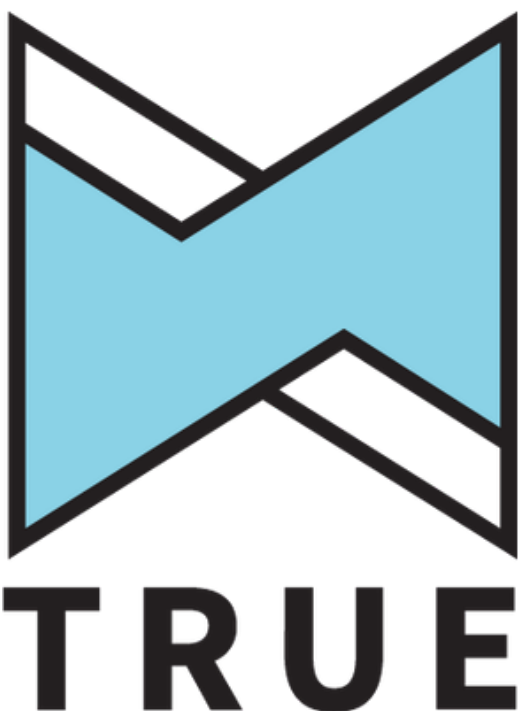
>>> SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT <<<



BOLD JOURNEY INTERVIEW

Our founder & CEO, Stacy Savage, was recently interviewed in [Bold Journey](#) magazine. This publication uses a storytelling format, where guests are asked to share the story of their lives and how they got to where they are today. This is in pursuit of helping readers learn valuable lessons from others and to help keep them inspired on their life's path.

>>> TRUE ZERO WASTE <<< CERTIFICATION*



The Total Resource Use and Efficiency (TRUE) Zero Waste program is the gold standard in facility sustainability certification. Through its rigorous standards, It sets businesses and properties apart from industry competition.

TRUE requires a minimum of 90% waste reduction and implementation of waste data collection and analytics, waste tracking and reporting, as well as employee training.

Here is the organization's latest [blog.post](#) helping business understand the key benefits of becoming TRUE certified.

*Zero Waste Strategies is approved to administer the TRUE protocols for businesses. Contact us to schedule a free 30-minute strategy session.



UPCOMING INDUSTRY EVENTS



<u>Annual Garbageman's Invitational</u>	June 16-18	Temecula, CA
<u>E-Waste World Expo</u>	June 17-18	Frankfurt, Germany
<u>4th World Recycling Convention</u>	June 22-23	Basel, Switzerland
<u>Indiana Compost Operations Training</u>	August 10-14	Noblesville, IN
<u>Waste & Recycling Expo</u>	August 12-13	Fort Lauderdale, FL
<u>CRRA Annual Conference</u>	August 30-September 2	San Diego, CA
<u>Arkansas Recycling Coalition Conference</u>	August 31-September 2	Hot Springs, AR
<u>Nebraska Recycling Council Conference</u>	September 16	Lincoln, NE
<u>Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals</u>	September 29-October 1	New Orleans, LC
<u>RCon</u>	September 29-October 2	St. Louis, MO
<u>NYSAR 37th Annual Conference</u>	November 18-20	Cooperstown, NY



"CONSULTING FOR WOMEN IN WASTE" **ONLINE COURSE**



Consulting for Women in Waste: Build Wealth, Gain Freedom, and Grow Your Brand

is our self-paced online training course designed specifically for women sustainability professionals & green graduates who are ready to transform their passion for the environment into a thriving consulting business. Download our free [Resource Guide](#) and get on our email list to learn how more about the program. If you're ready to dive in with us, just [click here](#) to enroll today!

ZERO WASTE BUSINESS ACADEMY

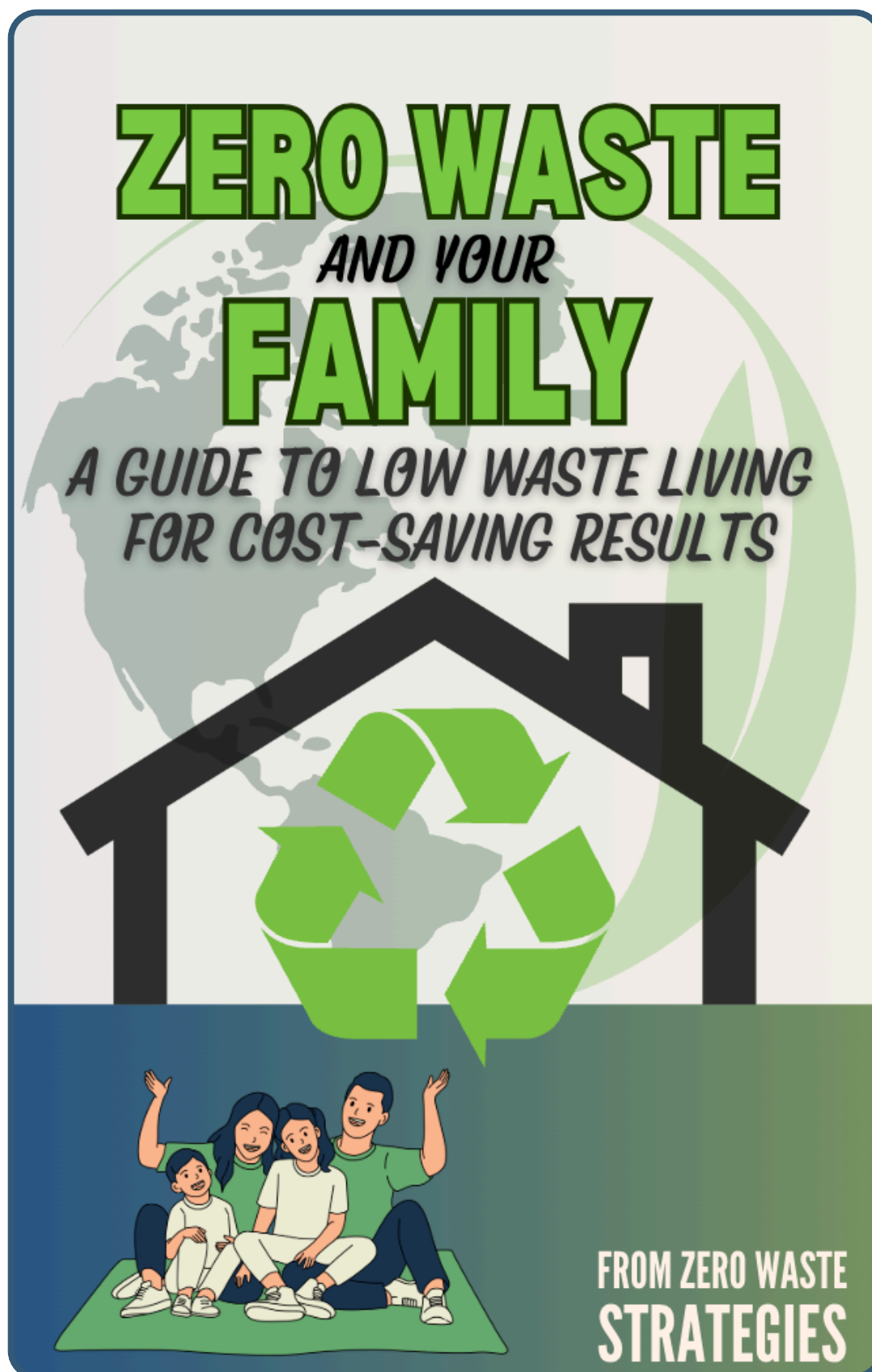
Our 8-week online ["Cash for Trash" Zero Waste Business Academy](#) training course equips business owners and managers with the tools to reduce waste, save money, and boost brand reputation.

Through comprehensive training modules on waste reduction, food waste management, employee education, and green marketing strategies, business owners and managers will learn the key foundational concepts to running an optimized operation.

With bonuses, such as educational resources, private group access, expert consultations, and a Zero Waste Business training certification. This program is designed to empower business leaders to drive sustainability and tap into the growing market of eco-conscious consumers.

Enroll at [this link](#). Our next cohort starts soon...see y'all there!





[Zero Waste and Your Family: A Guide to Green Living for Cost-Saving Results](#) is your family's new handbook to lead a zero waste lifestyle! Learn waste reduction strategies for each room of your home, events and holidays, and family vacations, plus your kid will love the games & coloring pages included to make "talking trash" fun!

ABOUT OUR COMPANY

Zero Waste Strategies (ZWS) was founded in 2013 by Stacy Savage, AKA “The Texas Trash Talker”. ZWS is a sustainability consulting firm specializing in Zero Waste business protocols to support the newly emerging Circular Economy. ZWS works with leaders in the business, government, institutional, and nonprofit sectors who are serious about using waste reduction to drive increased revenue, deeper customer loyalty, employee empowerment, and a green marketing edge.

ZWS is an S-Corp based in Austin, TX. The company’s client list includes Dell, AT&T, Apple, Kohler, Nestle Purina, Wayfair, Misfits Market, Boston University, and the City of Austin, among many others. The company is a member in good standing with the US Green Building Council (USGBC), State of Texas Alliance for Recycling (STAR), the Austin Green Business Leaders Program, and the Green Business Bureau.

ZERO WASTE BUSINESS SERVICES

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CONTACT US



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