
Eastern Washington University Game Day Challenge
What is Zero Waste?

“Zero Waste is a goal that is ethical, economical, efficient and visionary, to guide people in changing their lifestyles and practices to emulate sustainable natural cycles, where all discarded materials are designed to become resources for others to use.

Zero Waste means designing and managing products and processes to systematically avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, conserve and recover all resources, and not burn or bury them.

Implementing Zero Waste will eliminate all discharges to land, water or air that are a threat to planetary, human, animal or plant health.”


Zero Waste is about implementing a Cradle to Cradle strategy modeling human industry with the systems in nature.
How do we achieve Zero Waste?
Start by looking at the problem from a global perspective.

Output

- Identify what is coming into waste stream.
- Research waste management systems available in your area.
- Identify what is recyclable, compostable.
- Identify what materials are incompatible with your recycling and organics system.
Input

- To plot a course for Zero Waste attention needs to be paid to the materials that are entering your waste stream.
- Identify what items the organization itself is responsible for and look for sustainable options.
- Identify what waste is entering your stream that is not under your direct control and research sustainable options.
Behavior

- Once external factors have been identified attention should be paid to the behaviors that are contributing to the problem.
  - PSA’s
  - Flyers
  - Ambassadors
  - Incentive
  - Trainings
Institutional Changes
(From the inside out.)

- Communicate with your vendors.
- Identify products that you can change packaging for.
- Ramp up your collection systems.
- Visually identify where items are to be disposed of.
Even with all these changes there is still hard work to do.
Questions? Contact: kbuck1@ewu.edu