



Global Recycling Day: Turning Everyday Actions into Real Impact

March 17, 2026



In recognition of Global Recycling Day, we're celebrating the collective impact our brands and associates made across Ahold Delhaize USA in 2025, keeping more materials out of landfills and moving us closer to our zero waste ambitions.

Thanks to everyday actions across brand stores, distribution centers and campus offices, we diverted **82.1% of total waste from landfills in 2025**, continuing a steady upward trajectory toward our long-term goal of 90% diversion. While zero waste is a journey, our progress reflects strong momentum and a continued commitment to doing better every year.

One standout area of impact: cardboard recycling. Across Ahold Delhaize USA brands in 2025, we recycled an incredible **733 million pounds of cardboard**. That effort alone helped save an estimated **6.2 million trees** and **2.5 billion gallons of water**, a powerful reminder that small, consistent actions lead to meaningful environmental benefits.

"This progress reflects the dedication of associates across our brands who are doing the right thing every day by breaking down cardboard, sorting materials properly and finding new ways to reduce waste," said Christine Gallagher, Sustainable Operations Manager, Ahold Delhaize USA. "While zero waste is a journey, we're proud of how far we've come and energized by the opportunities ahead to keep improving."

Zero Waste: A Journey, Not a Finish Line

Zero waste is defined as diverting 90% or more of retail waste from landfills or incineration. Today, several Ahold Delhaize USA brands and many individual stores have already reached or exceeded that threshold. Systemwide progress, however, depends on factors beyond our walls, including local recycling infrastructure, regulatory requirements and end-market availability.

Ahold Delhaize USA continues to make strong progress while identifying new opportunities to expand recycling streams, improve waste audits and divert materials like plastics, food waste and Styrofoam.

What's Next

As we look beyond 2025, our focus remains clear: continuous improvement, practical innovation and shared accountability. Global Recycling Day is a moment to recognize progress and recommit to the work ahead as we continue building a more sustainable future together.