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Wishing You All Peace, Beauty, and Joy This Holiday Season...And Always

The ITEP Waste & Response Team sends all of you our best wishes this holiday season, for the new year, and always. Your dedication, innovation, adaptability, and incredible work for our lands, communities, and relations is a constant inspiration to us. As the wheel of nature turns and we approach the Winter Solstice, we want to pause and wish for you and yours some restorative and rejuvenating time.

We have a lot in the works for you in 2026. As we announced in the last *Full Circle*, our next Tribal Lands & Environment Forum will take place August 17-20. We still can't share the location just yet, but early in the new year we will! We are also working hard on a new online course for you focused on using AI in Tribal environmental programs, and we're planning at least one – possibly two – live virtual courses for 2026. (By the way, we've added to our video library of recordings of past events, including the 2025 TLEF.) We're also going to be making a lot of updates to our Tribal Lands Assistance Center website, and hosting more virtual presentations and discussions with our friends in the Tribal Superfund Working Group. We and our wonderful colleagues on the Tribal Waste & Response Steering Committee (TWAR SC) recently returned from an intense meeting in Washington DC, and we'll soon be releasing their 2026-2027 Priorities Document. And that, as they say, is just the tip of the iceberg. We'll be announcing some other projects we're working on soon.

We've also been busy working with our amazing colleagues in Tribal TAB on several projects, and we want to share two pieces of news that will certainly be of interest to those of you working in brownfields. First, the brand new **Tribal TAB website** is now live! You will definitely want to check this site out, as it is has been designed as a community-centered site and is full of great information and opportunities for connection. Secondly, we are all excited to announce that we will hold an in-person **Tribal Brownfields Knowledge Circle**

gathering and training **May 5 through 7** next year. Our colleagues at Cherokee Nation have very graciously invited the TBKC to be part of their brownfields workshop. We have been meeting with them over the last few months, and this partnership has made the first TBKC field trip possible. This is an opportunity for Tribal brownfields staff from across the country to come together, walk the lands of our hosts, share stories, and learn from one another. Be sure to put this on your calendars, and we'll be sending out additional information on this opportunity soon.

Until we meet again in person, know how much you are valued by all of us. Keep being awesome, and keep being kind to yourselves and others. Happy holidays.

