

ALASKA SOLID WASTE NEWS

Summer Issue

In Summer a celebration of warm bounty....



Mardy Hanson and her daughters Riana and Alissa (with bandana) go salmon berry picking in the Bethel area.

How is everyone's summer going? Between subsistence, construction, and field season this time seems to fly by. Berries are out (yay!). Silvers are running. Geese will be leaving soon. Here in Southcentral, we've had beautiful wildflowers this year. We live in special lands. And it's this time of year - when the earth is without that white blanket, and without the cleansing wash of breakup, that we see the land that village solid waste programs are protecting. Every effort to reduce waste, to encourage more environmentally-friendly products, and to start responsible community

disposal makes a difference to these lands. It means more plants and animals can live without pollution. And it means that your communities can live in better harmony and health. We want to thank all of the IGAP workers, the waste collectors, landfill operators, community volunteers, Raven Americorps, and involved Elders and leaders for protecting the earth. You don't often get a lot of help. It is hard work. Efforts take years sometimes to see the results. In this Newsletter we discuss villages that have implemented collection programs. It is one means of getting some extra help -

JULY 2011

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through user fee funding and improved community disposal patterns. And villages see improvements pretty quickly. We'll visit Chignik Bay as well and see how they operate their program. Good luck everyone with the rest of summer subsistence, and may the lands and waters you work to protect provide your community what it needs.

Collection Programs: Coming to a Village Near You...

Collection programs are coming to a village near you! That's great news because a 2001 study found that residents who simply visited their village dump were **2 to 3.7 times more likely** to



experience **faintness, fever, vomiting, stomach pain, ear and eye irritation, headache, and/or numbness symptoms** than people who didn't visit the dump.

Collection programs keep folks away so there is no exposure to contaminants, disease vectors, and dump safety issues. And no exposure means no risks. **The dump itself benefits because it automatically becomes more organized.** Only the operator/collector discards wastes and they can do that in a designed, "best practices" manner. And residents don't end up lighting their own waste fires. That is a huge health advantage, because you can then keep burnbox smoke to night hours and favorable wind days. There are many other benefits as well – including **lower**



dumpsite operation costs, a smaller dump "footprint" that impacts a smaller part of your land, and better waste separation and recycling potential.

What types of collection programs are there?

For equipment, folks use regular Flatbeds and pickup trucks for trash pickup, to specialized cart trailers and dumpster trucks. For methods, villages are using door-to-door as well as shared containers. And for fees, households are being charged anywhere from \$0 to over \$30 per month. We summarize some of these programs below.

Transfer Stations – What are they?

A transfer station is a place that accepts community wastes. The wastes are then hauled to the landfill. In the Lower-48, a station might be a building or a fenced raised platform to unload trash into dumpsters or vans. Recycling drop-off or hazardous waste separation is usually offered there too. Many villages are applying the concept of a transfer station to their smaller communities. They place shared waste containers around town so folks discard their garbage there. That way,

folks don't go to the dump. The containers are like "mini-transfer stations". There are two types. With *Mobile* transfer stations, the containers are hauled to the landfill. And with *Stationary* transfer stations, the containers are emptied into a transport vehicle first. Then that vehicle drives to the dump.

Mobile Transfer Station Examples

Chignik Bay has a long running program that works well for them. They have 3 dumpsters, custom-made from Bob's Services in Anchorage (www.bobsservices.com). See photo on the left. These dumpsters (i.e. "transfer stations") are placed at the busiest places around town. They are attached with a hook and hauled with a truck to the dump. The dumpsters open at back for unloading, *and have built-in steps and doors on the side for easy access.* Household fees are \$37/mo, and it is \$1,200/mo for the cannery. Fees are added to the water/sewer bill. If houses don't pay, a meterbox is installed and they must pre-pay on the card for all city services.



Napakiak and Akiachak are communities that use Tag-A-Long trailers (www.Tagalongak.com) for mini-transfer stations. These Trailers are enclosed cages that can be used either as

stationary dumpsters or collection carts. Wheels can be changed out for skis in winter. In these communities the trailers are placed around town for residents' use. The collector hooks the full trailer up to an ATV, drives it to the dump and brings the empty trailer to the next station. Then the full trailer there is taken to the dump, emptied, and brought to the next station, etc. *The advantage*

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of having a fully enclosed trailer cart is that more trash can be piled into the cart and hauled per load. And litter doesn't fly out. The trailers are collected twice per week, and the system works well for them, although they need more trailers.

Tetlin - Tetlin's landfill is not presenting many issues, but their problem is with moose, dogs, and bears getting into their town garbage. So they recently began using Tag-A-Long trailers as well. They don't have many trailers, so they located them closest to Elder's homes as their placement strategy. Like many villages, they don't have a way to pay a collector yet. Instead of waiting until they can convince the community to pay, they are trying to use volunteers to drive the trailers to the dump. They



are also considering employing GA recipients to work as an exchange. For example, GA recipients in Fort Yukon staff their Recycling Center to work for benefits and contribute a valuable community service.

Stationary Mini-Transfer Stations

Eek. Eek worked with UAF Cooperative Extension to study their traditional drinking water and how bacteria could be transported from the dump to town. The results spurred the community to start a collection program. They began using tipping dumpster bins and a fitted trailer system from Summit Consulting Services (www.scsalaska.com). However, this system didn't work well for Eek's conditions and usage. They now use these bins in-place and then employ an ATV and open cart to transfer the trash to the dump. They still collect from Elder's homes, as well as some others who need it. The collection program has made a big difference at their dump. All the birds that used to fly from the dump to town and land on household roofs are gone. Because most residents use untreated roof rainwater for drinking, their water supply is much better protected. Residents don't burn at the dump anymore. So Eek can now operate their burnbox during favorable winds - keeping harmful ash away from roofs and residents' noses. They have not started a user fee yet. But the IGAP Dept has been working hard on

educating the community and it is working. The City has a waste separation ordinance and they will soon be in a position to begin user fees to help sustain the operation. Eek IGAP's advice in reaching the community is to focus on health.

Togiak The City of Togiak has several dumpsters that hook and lift into a rear loading garbage truck.



About 5 - 10 households share each of the 20-30 dumpsters around town. Fees are \$10/mo. Not everyone pays primarily because they see that they can use the dumpsters for free. The dumpsters used to have plastic covers to keep

trash contained, but the latches broke and there is a lot of wind-blown litter now. Togiak recommends checking the quality of the covers. Another problem is that they don't have an easy way to separate wastes because they don't have separate bins. And wastes are emptied straight into the landfill burnstage so it is difficult for the operator to go through them there. Bigger businesses have their own dumpsters and pay about \$100 per dumpster, with smaller businesses paying \$40/month, and lodges paying \$150 per boatload. The transfer station program has helped a lot. Folks only go to the dump now to salvage at the salvage area. There used to be burning in drums throughout town, but now because residents don't need to haul their trash, they are happy to not burn.

Door-to-Door Collection

Some communities service households by going door-to-door. This is called a "household collection program". With this program, you can have



"mandatory collection", where everyone must use the service. Or you can have "voluntary collection", where only people that want the service participate. Usually, voluntary service is a pay service. The advantage of

mandatory service is that you can keep the entire community away from the dump. The disadvantage is that if you charge for the service, it is hard to collect fees from everyone. A lot of villages have this problem.

St Mary's The city operates a household collection program 2 times/week. They have been operating

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the program successfully for 12 years. They have what is called “*source separation*”. That means wastes are separated by the households before collection or self-hauling. The city brings the truck by once per week for burnable trash, and once per week for non-burnable trash. They have a driver plus a collector who picks the trash up and crushes it before going to the next house. *St Mary’s has on-call workers as a backup so that garbage doesn’t accumulate in town when their regular workers are gone.* Businesses pay \$1,200 annually, and houses pay \$10/month in their sewer bill. Folks there see the program as a big improvement. Before there was trash everywhere. Before, the City tried to control the dump by having open hours. But folks would just throw their trash outside when dump was closed



Bins were labeled by the kids.

Toksook Bay IGAP has been working hard with several entities to obtain a door-to-door system that suits their community, and it has finally paid off. They received funds from an ANTHC-RurALCap Environmental Demonstration grant to purchase 3 collection bins for each household to do source separation. Each house will separate trash into burnables, non-burnables, and hazardous waste. To make it easier, the bins are color coded according to the trash type. Then Coastal Village Services helped

them purchase a Tag-A-Long Trailer that can use both wheels and skis. And The Alaska Legislature gave funds for a burnbox and dump cleanup so that there would be space at their dump for the collected wastes. Finally, City funds will hire the collectors. They don’t have a fee yet, but IGAP has been working with City Council to let them know a fee will be needed. Because of the long and hard effort, the community is really interested in the bins and IGAP receives many calls wanting to know when they’ll be distributed. Unfortunately, no one wants to pay a fee. To help spur interest, IGAP has the kids come in and put labels and pictures on all the bins to designate what goes in them. *The advice of IGAP in starting a collection program is to have patience. Everything doesn’t*

work out as planned but it will fall into place. One of the most important and effective ways to get the community involved is to do outreach.

Elim also started an ATV household collection program using an ANTHC/RurAL CAP community Environmental Demonstration grant. They purchased an ATV and used a resident’s open wagon. To start interest, they began with a free month of collection for everyone, which included separated recyclables (see picture). They had 34 houses sign-up, but most dropped out when the \$10/month fee began. That did not give them enough money to operate the program for anyone. They are now



looking for funds to help pay the collector’s salary. They feel *one month’s time to get used to the program was not enough and recommend planning for a lot of education* if you want to charge enough to pay for the operator and fuel.

Yakutat Yakutat is one of a few communities that has a private waste collector. He charges \$52/mo to haul in his own pickup truck. *Relying on private haulers is nice because you don’t need to furnish the equipment.* But you also don’t have the control you might otherwise have and you don’t get the revenue. Lower-48 cities often contract private haulers as a way



to have control over the operation— but to still avoid the operational costs. An ordinance that spells out rules for private garbage services is possible as well. The City is looking into moving towards a flat mandatory fee with its water/sewer bill for landfill use, in order to continue to have a clean and well-managed landfill.

Koyuk has had a collection program operated by the City for over 10 years. They don’t have many problems and people don’t really visit the dump anymore. They use a 350 Ford Truck Flatbed as a collection vehicle and go door-to-door to collect twice per week. This takes two operators 4 hours per day. They charge \$25.50 for houses and \$81.60 for businesses. Unlike several villages that include the fees in water and sewer, Koyuk sends

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out a separate bill for solid waste. They have fairly good rates of payment, but not perfect. *To keep folks away from the dump, they still collect wastes from those households.*

Mekoryuk To address the problem of residents not paying, Mekoryuk has a voluntary system where residents pre-pay at the Tribal Office \$15/mo for houses and \$30/mo for businesses. Mekoryuk has an ATV and Cage-trailer system and the collector drives door-to-door for paying customers. This system works well in terms of logistics, but the participation is low – with just a handful of users in the summer. IGAP is still in the early stages of developing and they hope to educate the community more with handouts from <http://zendergroup.org/viewdocs.htm>.

Chefornak also uses a Tag-A-Long Trailer for door-to-door collection. They have been operating longer and have a slightly better participation rate. *When they switched from an open cart to closed cage trailer, the operator had to make only about half the number of trips to the dump.* He was able to pile and cram in almost twice as many garbage bags!

Transfer Station and Household Collection

Pedro Bay built a single main transfer station that is similar to a Lower-48 facility. It is not just a dumpster, but a facility with an incinerator and baler.



This collection vehicle will pull an open metal cart for household trash bags

The voluntary program they are planning is termed a “Pay As You Throw” Program. That means folks pay based on the amount of trash they have. In Pedro Bay, they are thinking \$5 for 2 big black/green garbage bags, \$3 for 2 kitchen-size bags, and \$1 per additional bag. *If wastes are separated they might*

get collection for free. Businesses would pay the same as houses. Folks would call when they needed collection. The community has heard the idea and is okay with trying it. *For people who don't want the collection program, IGAP put in an access door at their facility to drop off trash in a designated box.* This way, folks are still kept away from the dump, and even self-haulers can be protected.

Igiugig also has something similar to a regular

transfer station setup. Folks take their trash and recyclables to a central recycling center where there is a trash trailer, recycling bins, a glass crusher, and baler. The trailer is driven to the landfill. The landfill is always locked and no one is allowed in except the operator. *Igiugig uses interns to collect trash from elder's homes.* They charge everyone a \$10 monthly fee that is a line item on the utility bill. *As an incentive, folks who participate in community cleanup get half off their fee, and everyone pays.* To help pay for the landfill and pay a fair share, Lodges are charged significantly more.

User Fees



There seem to be two main reasons why villages don't have programs. First, it is difficult to get the community to pay fees to pay for the program. Second, folks don't know where to begin. This article gave you some ideas on user fee rates and structures and incentives. But next newsletter we will explore in more detail the different ways to get residents to pay and resources for setting user fees.

Collection Program Resources

For an education factsheet that you can share with Council and community on the benefits of starting a collection program, go to: <http://www.zendergroup.org/docs/collection.pdf> . To read more details on the village examples we list here, go to: http://www.zendergroup.org/docs/Collection_UserFee_Examples.pdf . That page lists the village contacts, all of whom graciously shared their stories and gave approval to print their contact information. They've invited you to ask them more questions about their system and lessons learned.



Finally, we've just completed three factsheets that give you information on funding, buying, or making collection equipment. Go here: http://www.zendergroup.org/docs/collection_carts.pdf for collection cart/small trailer information, go here: <http://www.zendergroup.org/dumpster.html> for dumpster and truck information, and here: http://www.zendergroup.org/docs/Recycling_bins.pdf for recycling bin information. Again, we highly recommend talking to other villages and to call different vendors and explore the options you have.

Village Spotlight: Chignik Bay

Chignik Bay is an Alutiiq community of approximately 91 residents, located at Anchorage Bay on the South side of the Alaska Peninsula. It lies 450 miles southwest of



Anchorage and 260 miles southwest of Kodiak Island. The weather is usually wet and mild, with huge winds that pick up water-- Chignik means "big wind" in the Aleut language.

Chignik Bay has been operating an IGAP program since YR 2000. Jeanette Carlson, the Environmental Director, has successfully accomplished many of the grant objectives over the years and graciously shared her experiences.

Community Trainings and Education

Some of the accomplishments of IGAP include offering annual HAZWOPER, Asbestos Abatement, and Above Ground Storage Tank Operator certification for community residents and the region. Chignik Bay has also hosted three 7 Generations trainings. The first, in 2002, with Bill Stokes and Joe Sarcone, was attended by the whole community. In 2004 Bill also traveled upstream to Chignik Lake and Chignik Lagoon. Part of the training focuses on how contaminants move downstream, so it has been important to have those two communities on board. Bill also came back in 2007. Jeanette has found these trainings very helpful as a foundation for the IGAP program. They have been very empowering and motivating for the community to keep the village clean. Find out about hosting a workshop in your community here:

<http://www.anthc.org/chs/ces/hve/7-generations.cfm>

Collection Program

Chignik Bay City operates the landfill and the mandatory fee collection program. They have 3 dumpsters in town for folks to use, and you can read about their program on page 2 of this newsletter.

Backhaul and Recycling

Stockpiled batteries and paint are stored in a shed that the City and Tribe share. When space is available, the

freighter ships the batteries free of charge to Dynamo Batteries in Seattle for recycling. Electronic waste is stored in the Tribe's shop and is staged at the staging area at the landfill, along with tires, old vehicles, and heavy equipment. The City also collects fluorescent lights, which are shipped to Total Reclaim in Anchorage. Chignik Bay, as well as other communities in the region, donate used clothing and toys for a summer "flea market". Jeanette frequently loads what's left over in a U-Haul and takes it to Good Will in Anchorage. Chignik Bay IGAP used to recycle aluminum cans with ALPAR but there was low



Chignik is in the running for best landfill view...

participation from the community so the program was discontinued. Currently, the owner of the general store collects the cans from the community hall and about 25% of households. Along with the scrap metal he collects, he ships it all to Seattle himself for a profit. The City has a waste oil burner that they use to heat the shop and the ambulance/fire truck garage. The cannery collects used oil in drums that they drop off for use, and they also use the used oil from junked cars.

In 2003, Chignik Bay IGAP carried out a big community cleanup and backhaul event for old

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vehicles, lead-acid batteries, propane tanks, and drums. Several community members, who had attended one of the HAZWOPER trainings in Chignik, removed the fluids from the vehicles, helped collect propane tanks and 55-gallon drums from around the village, and helped stage them for backhaul. This



Chignik provides a drum for oil drained from junked cars

successful haulout event was featured in the EPA's Tribal Waste Journal. You can read the article here: www.epa.gov/osw/wycd/tribal/pdf/twj-3.pdf.

In 2009, the community also collected and staged electronic waste, which was then backhauled to Total Reclaim in Anchorage. Another community e-waste collection and backhaul event is scheduled for this summer. Jeanette is currently working on trying to coordinate another joint backhaul for the rest of the stockpiled material and is in the process of looking for funding. A big lesson learned from the last time is to make sure that you plan for tipping fees at the end-disposal place, as well as any other costs.

In 2008, Jeanette got an email from a Microsoft employee, who was contacting several tribes to see if any of them could use some of the 2,000 recycling bins they had available. Microsoft was changing the color of all of their office recycling bins and was going to throw the old ones away. Jeanette was the only person who responded. She called the barge company and they agreed to ship the 200 bins Chignik needed for free. And Al Latourette from EPA Region 10 picked up the bins from Microsoft and took them to the Seattle dock for free. Jeanette distributed them to all the households for use in collecting recyclable materials for drop-off.

Community Involvement and Outreach

Chignik Bay IGAP coordinates an annual spring clean-up with the school. They host a picnic and go out into the community with kids and parents. They sometimes hold another clean-up in the fall, after the large transient summer population leaves town.

IGAP-developed posters and brochures are shared with the school library and available at the tribal house. IGAP usually puts out a newsletter in the summer to answer common questions and to also make the public aware of areas and beaches that are not safe to use. The Wetland grant described further below in this article has a community outreach component to increase public awareness of the local wetlands issues.

One summer, IGAP hired a local resident to clean some 55-gallon drums, paint them, cut off the tops, and put them around the community to serve as trash cans. They also painted signs to keep ATVs away from berry-picking areas, which has worked pretty well.

Because of the large transient population of commercial fishermen, the community faces a lot of marine debris like old nets, boats, engines, and fishing gear. They are working

on taking pictures and documenting the debris.

**Capacity Building and Community Empowerment**

In order to

keep the village clean after the 2003 community backhaul event, Chignik Bay City and Tribal Councils, with help from Jeanette in the IGAP department, passed a joint resolution addressing trespassing, dumping and littering on subsistence lands, water, and recreational areas. Chignik Bay has also partnered with neighboring communities to form the Sustainable Energy Commission of the Alaska Peninsula (SECAP), which enabled the partnering communities to place anemometers

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on towers to collect data on wind generation. In collaboration with Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation Department of Environmental Health, Chignik Bay IGAP helped establish a remote water testing lab at Chignik Bay Clinic in 2004 to ensure that the drinking water in Chignik and the surrounding communities is tested for bacterial contamination in a timely manner.

Jeanette also organized a Community Visioning Workshop in 2004, which was facilitated by the Alaska Women's Environmental Network (AWEN), where communication among several villages from the surrounding region was enabled. Participating were the communities of Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake, Perryville, Ivanof Bay, Pilot Point, Port



Envisioning Chignik's future...

Heiden, and Egegik. The result was a Community Plan, which Chignik Bay used to successfully apply for an Administration for Native Americans (ANA) grant, as well as for other grant applications. You can read more about the Community Visioning Workshop here: <http://www.chignikbay.com/awen.asp> and there is more information about Chignik's ANA grant here: <http://www.chignikbay.com/ana.asp>.

Chignik Bay has an EPA-funded project to build administrative capacity and develop a Wetlands Protection Plan, which will focus on cleaning, restoring, and preserving Chignik's wetlands. They have completed Phase I of the project. You can read more about this project here: <http://www.chignikbay.com/igap.asp>.

In 2007, Jeanette used IGAP time to develop an emergency response plan with the State. IGAP has also helped build tribal administrative capacity, developed policies and procedures, handled financial management of grants, and helped develop MOUs between City, Tribe, and Native Corporation in areas of mutual concern to promote government-to-government communication. EPA recognized all the great work Jeanette has been doing and she was featured in a video on EPA's site for IGAP success

stories in 2007.

Future Goals

The objectives of IGAP include evaluating the tribal administrative policies, procedures, & management systems, and continuing the development of a Long Range Environmental Plan. Jeanette is also working on developing and implementing an Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan, after attending one of Zender Group's trainings this year. Her goal is to gain better control of the dumpsite and eventually open a new, well-managed landfill. She is also developing further their Emergency Response Plan. You may contact Jeanette Carlson at 749-2481, jeanettescarlson@aol.com.

**Summer Village Idea Award**

The award goes to Native Village of Chefnak for testing out compost toilets as an environmentally-sound way to get their people off honeybuckets. Hook-up for this community is many years away. Compost toilets are much less costly, will not impact their water quality, and will eliminate the need for a lagoon. The BIA is funding the current demonstration project. Contact Kimberly Abraham at 826-8013, kimberly_abraham03@yahoo.com.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

November 7-11, 2011, Anchorage
17th Annual ATCEM

**Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management**

Register at www.atcemak.com

Do you want to submit a film, enter a recycled art contest, or nominate someone for an environmental award? Go to the website or contact Bertha Prince brprince@anthc.org or Desiree Roehl droehl@anthc.org.

Policy Room: EPA's Proposed "Guidebook for Building Tribal Environmental Capacity"

Have you tried to do a solid waste idea, but it was defeated by Council politics? Or it wasn't allowed for your grant? Policy is the people and rule oversight that can *help* you – like when your Council decides to enforce anti-dumping, or *hurt* you. So as a solid waste manager it is important to keep informed of policies that affect you. And because you are the best informed about solid waste in your village, it is equally important to inform those who make the policies of your program circumstances. That way the policy will best aid you in protecting community health. So sometimes we'll have a Policy Room feature. **A very important draft policy is being considered by EPA.** It will affect IGAP – what solid waste activities might be



allowed and how you might need to report them, and other issues. And IGAP funds most Village solid waste programs, at least in part. So you are in the best position to inform DC policymakers how the Draft affects you and what changes will best help your program. As a Tribe, your government is provided access to the draft policy and given the chance to comment. This commenting is called "Tribal Consultation". EPA will host an internet and phone consultation (a **webinar**) for tribal governments on **August 30 at 11am Alaska time. To sign up, go to : <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/132201816>.**

This is a very important opportunity for your tribe to comment so that the draft be written in a manner that better reflects Alaska environmental programs. Once the draft is finalized, the chance is gone to remove negative impacts or to approve positive impacts. Your tribe can also submit comments by email or letter until September 30.

To access the draft policy and read about the consultation process, go to: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/oita/TConsultation.nsf/TC?OpenView> . Find the row labeled "Guidebook:Building Tribal Capacity". Then click on the icon at the far right of the row. Your Regional Tribal Operations Committee (RTOC) considers this a priority, and you can contact Rose Kalistook at rkalistook@nativecouncil.org to discuss this further. And if you have questions for EPA, you can contact your IGAP project officer or Luke Jones, 202-564-4013, Jones.Luke@epamail.epa.gov.



Resource Circle

For Summer's new and updated resources we focused on supplemental infrastructure and training that will help your solid waste program. **Are you building a recycling program?** Check out our new recycling bin factsheet at: http://www.zendergroup.org/docs/Recycling_bin_s.pdf, and the updated recycling baler factsheet that contains vendor information and village examples at http://www.zendergroup.org/docs/baler_recyc.pdf. We've updated a Recycling Fluorescent Lights sheet that contains information and resources that can help educate your community, as well as how to recycle lights, at: <http://www.zendergroup.org/docs/lights.pdf> Our cover story is on collection programs, and we have developed a collection program resource page at <http://www.zendergroup.org/collection.html>. If you are thinking about a program, please check out all of the links. You'll find many previous factsheets and new ones, such as new resources for

dumpsters, collection carts, and collection program case studies. A draft User Fee calculation tool is at: http://www.zendergroup.org/docs/user_fees.xlsx. You can contact us for help in how to use it.

The main reason to start a collection program is to **protect health**. We've got a new webpage for all the solid waste Health Related Resources at: <http://www.zendergroup.org/health.html>.



Trying to build more capacity? You can check out our Training Resources Page and our new Environmental Trainings and Certification Programs factsheet at: <http://www.zendergroup.org/training.html>. The HAZWOPER training factsheet there is newly updated with current costs and information.

Money, Money... We've updated several solid
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Resource Circle

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waste funding documents on our funding page: <http://www.zendergroup.org/funding.html>. If you need small supplies in an effort to reduce toxics, be sure to contact Peter Melde at AK Forum at pmelde@akforum.org. The very short applications are due Aug 30.

Air quality affects your solid waste program through issues such as dump smoke, landfill road dust, and used oil burning. Also, health issues such as asthma often begin due to cumulative effects of contaminants. So, for example, someone who is exposed to particulates from other sources, such as town road dust or cigarette smoke, may have a lower tolerance for dump



particulates. If your community then has a relatively high exposure to particulates ("PM"), then as a solid waste planner and manager you may need to be more careful about selecting solid waste options that

expose the community to additional air particulates. So check out our growing **air quality resources page** at:

http://www.zendergroup.org/air_quality.html.

Included there are Resources and meeting notes from Alaska Tribal Air Quality Workgroup calls.

As a solid waste manager you may find yourself in the position of hiring operators.

At our "**Resources for Operators**" page:

<http://www.zendergroup.org/operator.html>, we've added **operator job description** examples from other



villages. As a manager too you may be in charge of keeping the dumpsite maintained. Or you may be the planner that needs to plan for enough operator hours and equipment to maintain the landfill. So we've also added **sample**

village landfill operation and maintenance plans.

Speaking of landfill logistics, are you trying to decide what type of burnbox to buy (or make), where to locate it, and how best to operate it? We've updated our **burnbox decision** document at:

<http://www.zendergroup.org/docs/Burnbox.pdf>.

Rounding out Alaska solid waste factsheets is the newly updated "**Quick Guide to Solid Waste Resources**". At

http://www.zendergroup.org/docs/swm_resources.pdf,

this sheet has links to almost every solid waste topic! If you are new to solid waste, or want a refresher on available resources, check out this sheet.

Ever have **communications trouble with project**

CULTURE CORNER



Qayaqs: Yet another Alaska Native invention...

The earliest kayaks are at least 4,000 years old, and were made from driftwood tied together with sinew and covered with sealskin. Seal bladders inserted in the front and back boat sections made them practically unsinkable. Whalebone was used early on as well, and whale fat was used to make animal skin covers waterproof. Each small Arctic region had it's own slightly different, tailored qayaq design and dozens have been catalogued.

The Sugpiaq *qayaq* was made in one-, two-, and three-hatch designs. Single-hatch boats were for fast marine life like porpoises. Double-hatch kayaks allowed the front hunter to use a harpoon, dart, or gun while the paddler steadied the boat. Three-hatch kayaks, invented after Russian contact, were used for hunting but also to convey fur traders or village chiefs as passengers in the middle seat.

The *niġaalaġ* and *umiak* in the Aleutians and Alaska Seas are larger open skin boats used for whale hunting, and moving materials and people (up to 20 passengers). They were made with a driftwood frame and covered with sea lion, bearded seal, or walrus skins. Umiaks were such a good design, they are still used for whale by our whaling communities. Aluminum boats don't work as well because Bowhead are sensitive to the noise, and aluminum is also more difficult to repair. To replace the skins every 2 to 3 years, bearded seal skins from summer are packed into seal oil, and allowed to ferment until March. Skins then are scraped free of hair, sewn together with a waterproof stitch, and then stretched over the wooden boat frame and tied into place using caribou sinew.

To see qayaq designs for different regions, visit: <http://www.traditionalkayaks.com/Kayakreplicas/types.html>. Photo courtesy of: athropolis.com/arctic-facts/fact-kayak.htm

Calendar of Events and Deadlines

DATE	EVENT/TRAINING	LOCATION	MORE INFO	FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS
Oct 11-13 <i>Date TBA</i>	Rural Alaska Landfill Operators (RALO) Training	Anchorage, AK	http://www.akforum.com/training.html	AK Energy Authority, Renewable Energy Fund Deadline: August 26, 2011 http://www.akenergyauthority.org/RE_Fund-V.html
Aug 22-26 October 24-28	5-Day Grantwriting Intensive	Anchorage in Aug. Fairbanks in Oct.		Tribal Wildlife Grant Deadline: September 2, 2011 http://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/grants.html
Sep 22-23 Nov14-15 Sep 29-Oct 20	After the Award: Grant Management and Administration	Fairbanks in Sept & Nov. Online: Sept - Oct	http://www.funding-exchange.org/uaf/gm/infoaug.php	Grant for a community driven climate change adaptation plan Deadline: September 19, 2011 http://www.mfpp.org/?page_id=438
September 27-29, 2011	"Source Reduction Strategies for Tribal Solid Waste Programs"	Minneapolis, MN	http://www4.nau.edu/itep/waste/training_tsweep_S	AK Forum: Rural Community Toxics Reduction Deadline: August 30 2011 http://www.akforum.com/toxics.html
Sept 27-29, 2011	AK Rural energy Conference	Juneau, AK	http://www.uaf.edu/ac/ep/rec/	Alaska Native Fund (Alaska Conservation Foundation) Request Period: Contact for letter of inquiry http://alaskaconservation.org/grant-opportunities/alaska-native-fund/
Nov 7 – 11 2011	Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management	Anchorage, AK	http://atcemak.com/	HUD Community Challenge Grant Deadline: Pre-application due Sept. 9 http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/sustainable_housing_communities/HUD-DOT_Community_Challenge_Grants
Nov 29 - Dec 3 2011	Alaska BIA Providers Conference	Anchorage, AK	http://biaprovidersconference.com/	Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund and Cleanup Grants Expected Release Sep or Oct 2011. http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicat.htm
Dec 13-15	Alaska Tribes IGAP Training	Anchorage, AK	Contact your project officer.	
Jan-Feb 2012, Mar-Apr 2012	YRITWC: Hazardous Waste Technician Training. Two weeks total of training	Fairbanks, AK	http://www.yritwc.org/Departments/Backhaul.aspx	
Late Fall/Spring	Integrated Solid Waste Management (SWM) Planning/Sustainable SWM	Anchorage, AK	http://zendergroup.org/sw.html	
Apr 30 –May 4 2012	EPA Region 10 Tribal Leaders	Grand Ronde, OR	http://www.grandronde.org/ts/?date=2/7/2012	
For more details of the events/trainings listed here, and for additional trainings, events, and funding announcements, go to: http://www.zendergroup.org/docs/Calendar_aug_2011.doc				

contractors that come to construct or fix a solid waste item? We were surfing the 'net and found a cool resource that might help in your interactions. At <http://store.samhsa.gov/product/American-Indian-and-Alaska-Native-Culture-Card/SMA08-4354>, they have a printable card to pass out that describes differences between conventional communities and tribal communities. This card is general, but you can use the example and make it more specific.

People Resources: Do you have used oil and fluorescent light waste problems? US Dept of Energy provides free technical assistance to tribes on renewable energy or energy efficiency projects! Go to: http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/tech_assistance.cfm. And finally, our technical assistance program was funded for next year! So our staff is available to help you for free for *any* solid waste problem- grantwriting, equipment sizing, health exposure assessments, etc. Call us at 277-2111, or email: ssebal@zendergroup.org.



Summer Elder Wisdom:

"Sh yáa.awudanéiyi a kwáan. (Respect People. Respect yourself, too, and other people will respect you.)"

- Walter Sobeloff, born in Killisnoo as Kha'jaq'tii (One Slain in Battle). 1908 – 2011.

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The mission of Zender Environmental Health and Research Group, a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, is to assist underserved communities in developing programmatic capacity and community resiliency in environmental health issues. Visit us on the web at www.zendergroup.org

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