

DUMPSTERS FOR RURAL ALASKA

A trash collection dumpster can hold a lot of waste and can significantly reduce the number of trips taken to the dump which can also reduce the labor hours needed for “door-to-door” trash collection. Using a collection service keeps people away from the dumpsite, assists in managing trash properly at the dumpsite, and reduces health risks. Dumpsters in Alaska villages are mostly used as shared containers for residents to discard their trash. Then the dumpster is transported to the dump. That way, the community is kept from the dump, but the higher operational costs of a household door-to-door collection system are avoided.



Trucks

In this factsheet we focus on the dumpsters. Dumpsters are made to be transported via 3 modes: 1) Lifted with a Forklift, Bobcat, or Loader and tipped onto a flatbed, ground, facility floor, or burncage, 2) Front- or Rear- loaded into a garbage truck (typically a compactor) and 3) Rolled on (and off) a trailer and pulled.

A front-load or rear-load container fits standard front or rear load garbage trucks. A “roll off” container/trailer system can have any number of dumpster designs. For the small 2-6 yd roll off containers that might work for villages, a matching roll off trailer that can be pulled with a heavy duty pickup truck can often work.

For villages with boardwalks, you will need to size the dumpster/trailer combination for weight and width dimensions for pulling with an ATV (and desirable stress load on boardwalk). The Village of Eek has some experience with problems in this area (see below for contact). See our collection cart doc at http://www.zendergroup.org/docs/collection_carts.pdf for several examples and Alaska vendors that sell smaller wheeled carts that can be pulled with ATV's. Otherwise, you might plan for dumpster placement and transport only along any roadway you might have. Some of the vendors listed in this document sell trucks and trailers that work with the dumpsters, and others assume you will find that equipment separately.

Some considerations when researching dumpsters

When contacting companies that sell dumpsters, you can ask them about the different options they have. For example:

- What kind of material is available? Metal and plastic dumpsters have pros and cons and you can ask about the features of each. Some plastic material is very durable and can be cheaper to ship (since it's lighter).
- Does it need to be self-loading, so that household garbage can be thrown in by hand?

- Does it need to be tippable by a forklift/bobcat?
- Does it need to be bear proof?
- To reduce shipping costs, can the dumpsters stack for shipping?
- Will you get a cost break if you buy in higher quantity?

Some types of dumpsters used in Alaska

Roll-off Model

For villages without a trash dump-truck this 3.2 cubic yard capacity dumpster trailer system may be operated with a pickup, ATV, or snow machine. The Removable Dumpster will keep trash dry and animals out. This hand operated hydraulic dumpster trailer was designed for communities with boardwalks or roads. Native Village of Eek has experience with using the system on boardwalk. You may contact them at Nick Carter, 536-5208 nick_a_carter@yahoo.com. Summit Consulting sells these types of dumpsters <http://www.scsalaska.com/documents/RWMTrifold.pdf>



Self dumping hopper/tipper container

This type of dumpster can be used with a wheel loader. They are available in several sizes with a maximum capacity of 4 cubic yards, and you can purchase a hinged lid to keep trash dry and secure from animals. Capital Industries sells these dumpsters (see this link for specs <http://capitalind.com/images/sdh.pdf>) You can also contact Bob's Services <http://www.bobsservices.com/>



Bear resistant dumpsters

There are a variety of types (and sizes) of bear proof dumpsters (sold by a variety of companies). Some have easy-to-open counter-weighted loading doors. Two companies that sell these types of dumpsters are: www.bearsaver.com and <http://capitalind.com/images/blf.pdf> See our "Where to purchase" section of this document for more companies that sell these kind of dumpsters.



Some Communities with Dumpsters

We highly recommend **calling other villages** that have dumpster types you are interested in. They can give you a lot of information on lessons learned and possibly recommend certain custom-made features, etc. Dumpsters, trailers, and trucks are not cheap and the up front research can really help.

Port Lions

Through a Solid Waste Management Grant from the Denali Commission Port Lions was able to obtain several bear-proof dumpsters. These dumpsters were placed on pads later constructed after this picture was taken. Dumpsters are located around community and maintained by the City. Contact: Kyle 454-2593.



Togiak

Program has been in place for over 10 years, since new landfill was opened. There are 20-30 metal dumpsters (3 ft wide x 3 ft long x 4 ft tall) located throughout the community, where 5-10 households use one dumpster. Dumpsters are picked up 3 times a week (with an extra pickup after holidays). Phillys Ayojiak 493-5821



St. Mary's

St. Mary received a grant from Denali Commission in 2006 for Landfill fencing; the community also purchased 4 front loading dumpsters. These two are directly outside the entrance, so residents will have a place to throw their trash when the gates are locked. Contact: Harry Staven (907) 438-2515



Agdaagux Tribe of King Cove



To dissuade bears, a household collection service is not offered in King Cove. Instead, there are 9 rear-loading dumpsters sited around town that serve as mini 'transfer stations' for residents and businesses to drop-off trash. The City provides the heavy equipment for solid waste operations. The dumpsters were galvanized in an effort to have them withstand the weather longer. They ordered from Capital Industries

<http://capitalind.com/containers/> in April 2005 and received dumpsters by December. The total cost was \$32,000, and Capital

will design the dumpsters the way you want them. The City has recently bought new ones, but these are not used yet. "For the most part the dumpsters are fine. The lids are pretty heavy though so elders and 'not-so-tough' people do have difficulties."

For more information contact the IGAP Coordinator AnnDee Roehl, 497-2648

Chignik Bay

Chignik Bay has a long running program that works well for them. They have 3 dumpsters, custom-made from Bob's Services in Anchorage

<http://www.bobsservices.com/>. These dumpsters are placed at the busiest places around town. They are hauled with a garbage truck to the dump.

The dumpsters have built-in steps and doors on the side for easy access and they have hooks that attach them to the truck, essentially making it the body of the truck. The dumpsters have two rollers in the back and for emptying them, the back doors open and can be emptied like a garbage

truck. For more information contact Jeannete Carlson 749-2481 jeanettescarlson@aol.com



Where to purchase dumpsters

NOTE: Most dumpsters can be made to lift with a Forklift or Bobcat and tipped, or to roll on a trailer and pulled. For some dumpsters, you will need to purchase a garbage truck that fits to them. Some of the vendors below sell trucks and trailers that work with the dumpsters, and others assume you will find that equipment separately.

See the first page of this document "Some considerations when researching dumpsters" for questions to keep in mind when contacting companies.

Capital Industries, Seattle Washington

Manufactures a variety of containers from 2 to 40 yards including bear-resistant and self tipping dumpsters. Contact: Troy Steadman, email: tstedman@capitalind.com

Toll Free: (800) 967-8585 Website: www.capitalind.com

Bob's Services, Anchorage Alaska

Contact: Kevin Lockwood, email klockwood@bobsservices.com

(907) 276-3221 Website <http://www.bobsservices.com/>

Summit Consulting Rural Management, Anchorage Alaska

Contact: Dave Lancaster, email: dlancaster@scsalaska.com
(907) 563-5675 Website: <http://www.scsalaska.com/>

T&T Fabricators

Contact: Tracy, email palmerwelding@yahoo.com
907-350-3708

Mackey Lake Welding

Steel fabricators of bear-resistant dumpsters and dumpster lids. 6 and 8-yard dumpsters with child friendly roller tops are in use at Kenai Peninsula schools. Also manufacture custom sized bear-resistant aluminum boxes and containers

41737 Dolly Varden Way Soldotna, Alaska 907-262-7456 mackeylk@alaska.net

Bearsaver, California

Total bear-proof garbage container, found in many parks around Anchorage area. May need special forklift apparatus to tip this dumpster.

Contact: Steve Thompson steve@bearsaver.com 714-225-4306 Toll Free: 800-851-3887

Website: http://www.bearsaver.com/Commercial_Containers.htm

Bear Necessities Waste and Food Storage, Inc.

Manufactures bear-resistant containers for campgrounds and permanent installation. Sized from 60 to 200 gallon. Self-closing top doors, emergency release chain on rear door allows for the event a child may crawl in and become trapped. Company also makes "hydraulically activated waste containers for community collection stations.

210 Lady MacDonald Dr. Canmore, Alberta, Canada T1W 1H3 403-678-6304 www.bearbins.com

Bearproofing-R-Us

Manufactures 2,3, and 4-yard dumpsters. Approved for use in Great Smokey Mountain National Park.

Mountain National Park Gatlinburg, TN 865-430-8902 www.bearproofingrus.hostead.com

Haul-All Hyd-A-Way Haul-All Equipment

Manufactures a very widely used bear-resistant system-requires conversion to entire system-bins plus specialized trucks. Approved for use in U.S. National Parks. System is used in Prudhoe Bay oilfield where both grizzly and polar bears present.

4155-18 Ave North Lethbridge, AB T1H 5G1 Canada (888) 428-5255 <http://www.haulall.com>

Solid Waste Systems Equipment

7855 Lark Drive Parker, CO 80134 Manufactures 2 to 8 yard front-loading dumpsters.

1 800 944-7973 <http://www.solidwastesystems.com/frontpages/products.php>

Need help in deciding what to buy?

You can contact us at Zender Environmental Health if you would like help in determining best dumpster sizes, number of containers, features, and best-cost options. Our Engineering Staff can help you go through calculations and considerations. 277-2111, ssebalo@zendergroup.org.

Additional Resources for Garbage Trucks:

If you are interested in a fitted dumpster system that empties into a regular garbage truck, such as pictured with Togiak and King Cove, you'll need a truck to go with your dumpsters. Type in any search engine words such as "small roll off truck, small front load garbage truck, or simply small garbage truck. Used trucks are often a very good deal and can work well for the relatively low use requirements of a village. Because of the expense, we highly encourage villages that are considering purchasing trucks to call Ted Jacobsen, stationed at RurALCAP, tjacobson@ruralcap.com, 865-7363, or Doug Huntman at ADEC, 269-7642 doug.huntman@alaska.gov for additional help in locating the right equipment and finding a good deal.

Possible Funding Sources:

- ✚ ANTHC Environmental Demonstration Grants <http://www.anthc.org/chs/ces/hve/>
- ✚ USDA Rural Development Water & Environmental Programs
http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/UWEP_HomePage.html
<http://www.zendergroup.org/docs/usda.pdf>
- ✚ RurAL CAP, Inc. <http://www.ruralcap.com/>
http://www.ruralcap.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=173&Itemid=249
- ✚ For Additional Funding Sources & Information <http://www.zendergroup.org/funding.html>

Remember the good reasons to start a trash collection program in your community:

- ☀ People avoid the many health risks that are associated with visiting the dump.
- ☀ Disease risks for the community are lowered.
- ☀ Less dump injuries occur.
- ☀ With less people accessing the dump, operations are better managed.
- ☀ Cleaner and safer dump road and town roads to the dumpsite result.
- ☀ A collection program stops the need for risky home barrel burning.

**NEED GUIDANCE AND ADVICE ON HOW TO START A TRASH COLLECTION SERVICE
IN YOUR COMMUNITY? SEE OUR COLLECTION RESOURCES PAGE AT:
<http://www.zendergroup.org/collection.html>**