



Holy Cross Village Council Increasing Public Engagement to Recycle (FY15-16)

Project Description:

The Holy Cross Village Council received a grant for \$6,814.00 to purchase recycling bins for their community so they can increase the participating households from 22% to 95% (76 total household and businesses)

Why this Project will assist Other Tribes:

The project will show that being consistent on efforts to get more households to participate in recycling will eventually pay off and result in cleaner environment and less waste in the landfill.

How this Project will assist Other Communities:

Holy Cross staff intends to document all efforts to increase public participation in the recycling efforts. Pictures before and after will be taken. Quantities of aluminum cans and plastic bottles collected from household will be documented. Educational flyers and PowerPoint presentation will be developed and presented to community members. These presentations will be made available.

Work plan elements completed:

- Doing community outreach.
- Ordered recycling bins.
- Recycle bins distributed to households.
- Households delivering bags of recyclables to Tribal office for recycling.
- Documenting number of households bringing recyclables, and how much is being brought in.
- Gathered estimates for shelving to put in existing shed to use as recycling drop-off.
- Ordered materials for inside shed "recycling drop-off" needed. Waiting for their arrival via barge and air-barge transport. Received materials on September 19.
- IGAP Coordinator resigned, and new coordinator hired.
- Preparing presentation for AFE.
- Presented project and lessons learned at AFE session.

Community Education/Involvement Activities Taken:

- Started door-to-door campaign to see who is interested in home recycling 16 homes have signed up so far.
- Developed an educational pamphlet and shared with community members.
- Developed another educational paper showing why to recycle and shared.

- Noted which households had reduced recycling in September through December. Talked with the households to determine what caused the decreased recycling, and try to help solve any challenges that prevented recycling.
- Worked with residents to put up shelves in recycling shed and painted it to create a welcoming space for residents to drop off their bags of recyclables. This is helping people to think about recycling as an ongoing effort and not just once in a while. They see the recycling shed and it reminds them to recycle at home. This also helped to get space back in the office.
- Planned and conducted student art projects with recycled materials at YIK days at the beginning of March. Some of the artist comments are: they learned that aluminum can be recycled forever, and if we're not going to recycle cans and bottles then don't buy them! The students had fun and were creative with reusing materials.
- Presented at AFE. Preparing for the presentation helped to see how recycling has progressed, and the ups and downs of the number of bags people were recycling.
- Continue encouraging residents to recycle and pointing out how the community looks cleaner with less recyclables on the ground.