

Sharing Environmental Education and Outreach Ideas Tribal Communities of Alaska

Village	Project Description (Education effort, project or event)
<i>Example: Raven</i>	<i>Powerpoint presentation at community meeting. It included pictures of spring clean up day, recycling bins and how to use them. People enjoyed seeing their pictures in the presentation. The presentation was also a good visual for people to see our efforts and how they can help.</i>
Kwinhagak	<p>Focus on “Leave No Trace”- 7 principles for outdoor ethics education, adopted from USFWS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate people coming through our village who use the river and reduce their impact; • Info provided through monthly Tribal IGAP newsletter. • One principle each month, then start again when review them all. • Send newsletters out by email to all our contacts. • Did it by scanning and emailing, and send copies through post office in village • Developed posters around community. • Found a Youth Leave No Trace program. • Get a group of kids, teach, with games, provide a snack. <p>Also use MySpace site with program info there, and newsletters on there. www.kuinerragenvironmental.com? [not the correct spelling]</p>
Tanana Tribal Council	TTC eliminated plastic bags, but took a couple of years. The first spring, bags were everywhere- in the trees, shrubs and landfill. They posted pics of them at store and post office, with a large-sized question, “What are we gonna do about the plastic bags?” They asked their Tribal Council to pass a resolution to eliminate using plastic bags. That was fairly easy. Next step was to go to the City Council to pass ordinance, but had to have community vote. We did vote and it passed. It gave the one store 90 days to use up it’s supply. Picked up 70 large yellow bags full of plastic bags. Volunteers, and hired crew. IGAP funding bought reusable cloth bags. Read that AK is leading the nation in banning plastic bags. Ireland/UK uses least plastic in the world. People are getting used to not using plastic bags now.
Tanana Tribal Council	The Burn barrel issue, it’s pretty hard for people to change their behaviors. Borrowed an example from a nearby village (Fort Yukon) for a flyer. Put a picture on it of our dance group, and the dump, with facts about what comes from burning plastic and styrofoam, and the bad effects on elders and children. Tribal Council passed a resolution. For solid waste management, now making a plan for how our community can eliminate trash barrels. It means the city would have to collect trash . The key is that we can’t just eliminate burn barrels alone, we have to have a plan to replace it with something better. The Zender class really good for this!

Shu'naq Tribe of Kodiak	<p>Working on get solid waste training in Kodiak. We have ICWA program (Indian Child Welfare Act), and working with dance group that works with kids, teaching kids on environmental issues, how to reuse and recycle. For example, they bring old clothes not using at home, and they also sew bags: can use them for laundry bags, shopping bags, for hunting and fishing.</p> <p>Re-Use the plastic bags. Traditionally we used grasses to make ropes, now reuse the plastic bags instead to make rope and it lasts a long time.</p> <p>In Ouzinkie (Kodiak Island), little community of 250, wondered how much soda pop people are drinking. In statewide news its a huge deal. Maybe through IGAP work we can do an inventory of how much pop comes in. How much the store getting in each year? How much people bring with them from outside village. Then compare that to how much cans put in recycling. Challenge people in newsletters to recycle, set goal, let's get this much.</p>
Mountain Village	<p>Lots of talk about big waste, old trucks, snowmachines. Started Backhauling a few years ago. One person appointed to attend Tribe's Environmental Services. The way info shared and found out 1 or 2 really good ways of getting people together. Such as a fundraising event over the weekend for the whole community. Or potluck with whole community. Then, during that event, we make announcements of issues brought up and talk about how to work on them. So during event, a speaker from tribe or env. services can talk about how we can stockpile old machines, trucks or stockpile waste oil and then back haul it all out of village. Share info that way and then people ready for it at next event, and work together. Like plastic bags, the Corporation board was leasing the building to the grocery store. Corporation requested the manager to switch to paper sacks and boxes and eliminate plastic bags. People starting to bring own bags.</p>
Goodnews Bay	<p>Went to school and talked with students about making DVDs about solid waste, asthma, and they made DVD's with information and their stories, and gave out to each household. And worked with kids to make petitions to stop use of styrofoam, and gave to local businesses in 2001. "Look these kids want you to stop the use of styrofoam cups and such." Ordinance was developed to ban plastic bags and was taken to the Tribal and City council. Also, article was written for local paper to praise what is being done in the community, showing positive results encourages more people to do the same.</p>
Dillingham	<p>In IGAP program, how is educational component included for both students and adults in community? About the emissions from burning and stuff, how do we include info for students to learn? So looking at the long term, educating our children is important.</p>
Clark's Point	<p>One main component on IGAP is Educational Outreach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using 3 R's: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, for past 5 years. • Started with newsletters to each household. • Surveys house to house. • School presentations and demonstrations. Go to school, invite public and have educational packet of

	<p>what creating to make project. Plastic lids....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With plastic lids make windchimes. Also make windchimes with “eekeetooks,” dried out reeds in fall and hollow just like bamboo. Dry and cut and laminate, and make windchimes. Always something for reuse. • Used paper cut up and make notepads, take to post office and their gone! • With food wastes, coffee grounds, veggie skins, egg shells, bits of bone. Small grant purchased compost buckets called “Bukachi”, that Japanese use in their small apartments, they don’t smell! Use the activator to put in plants, and for community garden, and use to clean out sinks. • Plastic bottles, we’ll make fish mobiles. • Look on internet for neat ideas to recycle plastics. “Google: Recycling Project” • Cardboard, not had problem, no storage, so flatten out and use as mats for rain break. Use for floormats in steam bath and then burn up. • Make paper logs out of cardboard to raise money for student fund. • Old posters make rain sticks: roll up, stick in toothpicks on end, put rice in, and paper machè outside. • Before each project we do with the students, one send out newsletter about dangers of plastic or other item, with notice to say doing a demonstration project with that item, so send in what you have. • Takes time to change behaviors, use outreach and teach what’s contaminants and what’s not. • Use VHF announcements. Flyers.
Chalkyitsik	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our village is on Black River, known as “Chaan sit”, people on the Black River. • New landfill in Chalkyitsik. Use local men who have expertise in welding, cutting metal, steel barrels, create local enviro burn barrel in community. • Every fall seems influx of out of towners, non-residents come up to go hunting in Black River area. In the NE corridor area, going into Salmon River and Cheetsik, we offer to pick up whatever we can take in: pop cans,etc, We give them used cardboard boxes to bring back their trash to community to keep area clean and pristine. • Use traditional ecological knowledge in community. • Env. program envision will have far reach, successful project!
From Venetai, work in Ft Yukon as Gwich’iin Tribal Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When we started, there was already a backhaul project going on. Have staging area set up. Successful because had a lot of vehicles brought in. We leave them there for people to use as parts. Old snowmachines, really good parts from them. At school, told kids that parts down there to use. So, they got and get bigger mufflers to put on their machines! • Good recycling program there. Had trouble with people taking recycle bins for trash cans, but with help from kids and community, they’ve stopped. Local businesses started recycling too. • Main thing teach our people and kids on how to recycle. And what is good to recycle. Like paper boxes and paper to build fire, etc. Teach our kids how, and then they bring it home. When kids goto

	<p>school, we don't see their parents everyday. Kids see them everyday, so they teach their parents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking at health issues along with all the waste. Don't need that in landfills anymore, stuff go in that could go into incinerator to ashes. Not cans and metals. Teach not dump things just anywhere. Everybody in town knows now where to put refrigerators and freezers. Keep staging area clean and nice with signs so people no <u>where</u> to put their recyclables or big waste items. • Need to teach people on the river to respect the rivers, to back haul all their stuff. If they don't, the animals get into it, build their houses out of it, (spread garbage around). • Housing materials: big crates and boxes, they get busted down, and people re-use them, like for making dog houses. We told the Housing Office, we want these boxes, and they save them for us. We have vocational classes all week for some older kids, but then on weekend nothing to do. So they work on making trash boxes out of the materials we get from the Housing Office, so crows and animals don't get into trash. Boxes are donated to elders to help them. To keep our village pristine, so visitors can see what a good community we have. Making boxes, they learn measurements, mathematics, how to properly paint a box, they're helping the communities. Setting example. • Teaching about separating trash, so can recycle cans, and burn other trash. Tell them different way and how it's gonna help them.
<p>Algaaciq Tribal Govt in St. Mary's</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coworker had privilege to intro banning plastic bags. Council allowed him to go to city to ban plastic bags and styrofoam cups. And was passed! Don't see the "white birds"(plastic bags) flying into the trees. Come out really good in community. • Also, provided brochures to all community members on hazards of burning some items in burn boxes. Also provided info on locations to drop off recyclables. And info on city for where and when they do local trash haul. Get word out on hazards of burning. • This year working on quarterly newsletter to tribal members. Very important to keep educating, keep pushing, a lot of people didn't know these things. Parents and grandparents talked and taught us about how to respect land and water and air. Now spoiled about all these things we have. • Important to keep going so get info on recycling and reusing. • Another project, wind study. Gathered data on internet, and met with AK Energy Authority, approached AVEC who does power and got them into it, and now study wind speed, and turbulence. One more year to get our wind turbines. <p>Respect is really important word. Need to respect what our mother earth provides in all aspects of survival, air water food to eat. So really important to include in your information.</p>
<p>AVCP: work with 56+- tribes in YK area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication through email, or fax, or mail. • We do quarterly newsletter too. Feature villages that have successful programs For example, Nightmute's Solid Waste Program. After that their IGAP Coordinator said he was getting so many phone calls from other villages interested in their successful program.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 700+ super sacks (heavy duty woven sacks) filled and ready to go. • Like to recognize tribes working hard and what their doing through education outreach. • Also, it motivates other villages to see success stories of what's going on in YK. • So if any AVCP region villages want to be in newsletter can do that.
Elim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doing water quality sampling, with onslaught of all the prospecting for minerals. Involving students in that. Water sampler- sends those to the university and they go to Albuquerque for analysis. Kids are involved and they make a report on it to get school credit. • Got rid of trash bags about 10 years ago. Used power of city at meeting, where all people agreed. Got rid of all at once.
Kalskag	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hire teenagers, teaches them about recycling and they go to Elders and separate their trash. Take cans to connex for recyclables, pick up batteries. • Plastic bags, with yarn, make bags. Good "muqli" bags and bullet bags. Went to local stores and asked them to get rid of plastics and styrofoam. • Presentations to K-12, goes to city and tribal govts and lets them know what works and what doesn't. Monthly newsletter encouraging people to keep land and water clean. • Every Friday picks up yellow full bags of recyclables and then gives them new empty bag. • We have a community garden, the 3-4 student workers help with that, and then pick veggies at end of season and give to elders and those who need. • Last year, with grant with First Alaskan's grant and tribal gov't involved. A few day summer camp, did water samples at campsite, learned about beavers, and talked to kids about how keep environment clean. • Made recycle bins out of 55-gallon barrels, and put around town. When full they pick up and take to spot in the dump for that. • Pick up trash for elders every Friday for no cost. • We have Clean Up-Green UP every summer, with kids, and a picnic. • Grant with Upper and Lower Kalskag and tribal govts to clean up dumpsite cause we share it. Looking for grant to get new one. • Funding for loading dock for barges that come in. • Want new connex for store recyclables until barge takes it away.
Kaltag	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling cans which is doing good. Work with school staff, first grade to 8th grade. With this one, get more kids, focuses attention, like activities we take to school, fun and learning experience. • Got a "paper log roller" and use for old papers. Taught kid how to use it, and then kids come after school to roll them. Good firestarters, like little logs, passed out to elders and others who need it. They like doing that. • Also, to keep them more interested in recycling, have a monthly EPA party where we have games,

	<p>and make it educational. Like the “pin the tail on the donkey” game, we did pin the can on the Big Alpar bag. We do relay game and use the Alpar bags for that. Repeating education again and again. Another game is with two teams, have empty pop cans and they race to throw in the bag. Also at EPA party have refreshments. Slowed down this summer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using internet, use myfamily.com. Word gets around when have something
Tanana Tribal Council	A program called Cartridges for Kids, to recycle printer cartridges. Sign up online, they send us shipping labels for UPS but we send regular mail. We sent in and they pay us
Eek Traditional Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collects cans, old batteries, etc. and sends to recycling • Do a spring clean up every year • Have 55-gallon trash cans around village, and hired someone every day for 2 hours a to pick-up trash and take to city dump, and burn some of it.
ANTHC	<p>ANTHC, Utility Business Support Service, provide utility support through ANTHC. When started, travel out to the villages, over 70K miles of travel, work with tribal and city councils, tribal and city administrators and interact with community. Help them keep their water and sewer grants under RUBA assessment. About 150 communities on State website, ANTHC for those villages, work with about 50 on water and sewer project. Used to be a lot of high turnover for staff and red tape involved to run the RUBA assessment. Lot of training for water and sewer, honey bucket hauls, and sewage lagoons. Since started over three years. In first year, spent about \$26 million in helping communities keep their water and sewer grants. Second year, again exceeded 26 million. As result, in third year, between 75-100 million. A lot of work to do and continuing to improve all the time. Used to be high turnover, now more are staying in tribal and city govts, like administrators and staff. They become more knowledgeable at what doing and do better job. Longer stay, better job, and more grants can get. Thank you, and support your tribal and city councils and those taking care of water and sewer projects so they can do better job. A big accomplishment to have water and sewer lines out in rural Alaska!</p>
Kwinhagak	<p>Grant for community plan. Hired consultant who did website: info on community and projects we’ve done. That community planning grant paid for getting that. Projects, how government set up between tribal and city government. Good for other organizations to see what we’re doing and if they can help and get involved.</p> <p>Kwinhagak.org?</p>