

The 9 Ingredients for a Successful and Sustainable Backhaul Program:



1. Backhauling / Companies: Without them we would need our own barges and airplanes. The purchase of planes and barges cost a great deal, so we may as well politely and respectfully ask companies to continue to provide this vital community service.

2. Active Community: Since money is scarce in rural Alaska an active community is required to separate materials and gather local resources. Without an active community then projects run the risk of being imposed externally and are not ultimately sustainable. For ideas on how to get your community involved visit our website,

<http://www.zendergroup.org/community.html>



3. Coordinating Organization: This could be a tribe, a consortia of tribes, an environmental non-profit, a for-profit recycling business and city or state government.

4. Markets: They are ever changing. Don't take it personal if the markets change. Just be patient and stockpile what can be stockpiled for a later date.



5. Start-up money: This helps with initial training and overhead costs. Programs benefit from ongoing external funding but are wise to minimize costs to sustain efforts with minimal operational costs. For a list of funding opportunities visit our website, <http://www.zendergroup.org/docs/erecycling.pdf>

6. Volunteers: They are the backbone. Treat them good. They won't forget. Remember they are the ambassadors for the work. (Contractors can become volunteers and they can be asked to take backhaul materials away at the end of a job.)



7. Handling / Spill Response: Let's do it right so nobody gets hurt and no spills occur while we follow regulations. For resources on emergency and spill response plans visit our website, <http://www.zendergroup.org/erp.html>



8. Proper placards: Label everything well so that the product is known and contact information if available. It is the right thing to do. For more information on shipping labels visit our website, <http://www.zendergroup.org/labels.html>

9. Recycling Companies / Destinations: Be grateful, build relationships and seek their guidance as they know how materials should be labeled, staged, packaged and they know the markets as well as the destinations. For a list of recycling companies visit our website, http://www.zendergroup.org/docs/recycling_buyback.pdf