



Working Towards a Trench and Bale Landfill: Native Village of Scammon Bay



Before in 2010



After in 2015

Challenge: Create a weather-proof staging and work area for baling solid waste to begin using the “trench and bale” methods of landfill management. The area needs to enclose the baler and provide heat and three-phase power. Document the “Steps, Strategies, and Solutions” it is taking to develop a sustainable solid waste collection program.

Project Objective

Scammon Bay hopes this project will demonstrate to other communities who have difficulty with managing their landfill or dumpsites, that trench and bale landfill can address many problems, such as open burning, scattered littering of trash, blowing of trash across the tundra, etc.

Results

- The freight costs increased substantially from when the grant was applied for, so Scammon Bay worked with Zender staff to find supplemental grant funding to help with shipping costs.
- The baler is now housed in the custom prefabricated shed that SBS made for recycle operations.
- The baler requires three-phase electrical power which has to be scheduled with and installed by AVEC. It also requires heat during winter conditions for the hydraulic components which can happen after the electrical is installed.
- There is a build-up of cans-aluminum and steel-that are collected after burning in the two burn units. These cans take up space while we wait for electricity installation for the baler.

Benefits

The collaboration with the City of Scammon Bay brought more cooperation to the goals of the landfill to reduce what goes into the landfill and recycle more of what we can. Being housed in the storage shed, the baler is kept safe from the weather elements of rain, snow and wind, as well as keeping safe from injury any curious people that aren't trained to use it. Landfill operations changed solid waste management in Scammon Bay. Looking at old pictures of the “dump” and the smell that lingered around the landfill is less irritating. This



Community Environmental Demonstration Projects

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Benefits continued

work has brought us closer to a sustainable solid waste system that is supported by the community members and organizations.

Lessons Learned

- Figuring out the logistics of purchasing and moving equipment to a rural village is a big part of the success of a project.
- When purchasing equipment, you must consider the storage, operations and maintenance needs of the item. Does it need to be kept out of weather? Does it require electricity or gas and oil? How long will it last before it needs to be replaced? Do users need special training?
- Asking others for help, communicating challenges being faced, and working with partners helps with the success of a project.
- Persistence in your efforts should not be quelled by challenges. Despite the unfortunate extended preparation, that did not change the outcome of what is expected and what we continue working towards.