

# Summary of Small-Medium Recycling Centers in Alaska

## Overview of Comparable Recycling Service Providers

	VCRS	HFR	Gustavus	Threshold
<b>Established</b>	1998	1998	1994	1984
<b>Type of Organization</b>	Non-profit	Non-profit	Municipal	Non-profit
<b>Area Served</b>	Matanuska-Susitna Borough	Haines Borough	City of Gustavus	Kodiak Island Borough
<b>Population Served</b>	108,317 <sup>1</sup>	2,530 <sup>1</sup>	537 <sup>2</sup>	12,998 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Processed in 2019 (lbs)</b>	3,304,480	215,500	197,497	552,231
<b>Balers</b>	3	1	2	3
<b>How are materials collected?</b>	Self-haul	Self-haul	Self-haul	Collection/Self-haul
<b>Facility Size</b>	23,000 sq. ft.	4,000 sq. ft.	1,400 sq. ft.	4,100 sq. ft.
<b>How are materials shipped:</b>	Containers	Containers, Pallets & Supersack	Pallets	Containers
<b>Transportation Modes</b>	Truck to Anchorage	Barge to Seattle	Barge to Seattle	Barge to Anchorage
<b>Annual Shipping Costs</b>	\$5000 - \$8000	\$3000 - \$8000	\$20,000	

## 2019 Funding Sources for Comparable Recycling Service Providers

	VCRS	HFR	Gustavus	Threshold
<i>Memberships</i>		✓		
<i>Borough/City</i>	✓		✓	✓
<i>Grants</i>				
<i>Fees for Services/Donations</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Sales of Materials</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓

<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau; QuickFacts (v2019)

<sup>2</sup> Alaska DCRA Information Portal (2019)

## Items Accepted at Comparable Recycling Service Providers

	VCRS	HFR	GUSTAVUS	THRESHOLD
CARDBOARD				
MIXED PAPER				
OFFICE PAPER				
SHREDDED OFFICE PAPER				
NEWSPAPER				
TYPE 5 POLYPROPYLENE CONTAINERS				
PLASTIC BAGS & FILM				
ALUMINUM CANS				
TYPE 1 PETE BOTTLES				
TYPE 2 HDPE BOTTLES & JUGS				
STEEL FOOD CANS				
KITCHEN ALUMINUM				
EGG CARTONS				
ELECTRICAL WIRES & CORDS				
BROWN PAPER BAGS				
PACKING PEANUTS				
NON-FERROUS METALS				
TEXTILES/CLOTHING				
EWASTE				
APPLIANCES				
REFRIGERANT CONTAINING DEVICES				
COMPOSTABLES				
GILL NETS				
FLUORESCENT LAMPS				
REUSABLE ITEMS				
FERROUS/SCRAP METALS				
GLASS BOTTLES & JARS				
CERAMICS				
BATTERIES				
NON-COMMERCIAL USED OIL				
VEGETABLE OIL/DEEP FRYER OIL				
AEROSOL CANS				

## Advice for Start-ups from Comparable Recycling Service Providers

<b>VCRS</b>	Start small. Determine the level of support within your community. Rely heavily on volunteers to get started. Leader at the top needs to have a passion for the mission. Meet regularly, set goals, be honest if you're meeting the goals and be ready to change course when necessary.
<b>HFR</b>	If shipping in containers - you will need a forklift and/or skid steer. Pallet jacks also very useful/necessary. Need either 1) Loading dock or 2) exterior loading ramp so loads can be double/triple-stacked (maximize available space). <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- A baler is a must have if shipping any fibers, cans, or plastics</li><li>- Don't burn out your board and volunteers</li><li>- Don't get "stuck" with material...have a plan to ensure anything &amp; everything you collect will eventually be shipped out</li></ul>
<b>Gustavus</b>	Start small and only accept materials that you know you can ship. Expand your operation as you develop markets for new materials and the labor and facility to process those materials. Get your customers to do as much of the sorting as you can. The more educated the public is on your recycling strategy the less sorting and separating the operator will have to do Be as friendly and consistent as you can with your customers.
<b>Threshold</b>	Treat it like a business. Don't take a product that you cannot find a market for.