

Recycling Summit, February 2005

The first annual recycling summit was integrated into the Alaska Forum on the Environment. Two 90-minute sessions were held on Tuesday, February 8 and Wednesday, February 9th. A field trip was available to participants on Thursday, February 10, followed by a full day meeting on February 11th. Participants could attend as many of these sessions as schedules allowed. All participants were asked to place a dot on the map of Alaska. The colors of dots have no significance.



This report includes the following sections

- 1. Communities and resources represented and their expressed needs or experiences.** All participants introduced themselves, their location, current efforts and needs. A few participants had been asked in advance to share their experience to assure diverse presentation of resource ideas appropriate for rural settings. The format was structured to position all participants as having information and ideas to offer. Informal networking happened during sessions and after sessions. This report cannot adequately reflect the results of the networking.
- 2. Action Plan created to continue working toward a statewide network**
- 3. Summary information from a presentation on Zero Waste Management given by Eric Lombardi, Executive Director of Eco-cycle**
- 4. Photographs taken on the field trip to recycling centers in the Anchorage and Mat Su area.**

1. Communities represented and their expressed needs or experiences

Newhalen. Cleaned up dump, including 32 cars. Recycled everything and now it is back to a gravel pit and burn box. Don't make any money but it is coming out of the community. Now have to send someone out with recycling center. 9 years ago, someone moved to town with recycling experience from Washington state. Meeting on batteries. Nine-volt batteries and flashlight batteries are bad – dry cell can go for miles. Now these places take car batteries. Will take flashlight batteries. Keep it separate. Everyone enjoys recycling and they do it. Now our dump looks like a gravel pit. Cleaned up and cut cars. Showed Power Point with pictures of before and after the clean up. (James Thomas Thompson)

Akiachak: Closed old dump site, based on discussion at a community annual meeting. Built a new dumpsite. Worked with Joe Sarcone. BIA. (Eric Phillip)

Akiak: interested in recycling and dealing with solid waste

Eklutna: want ideas to teach youth on recycle reduce reuse. Skagway traditional council: wants ideas (Jolene Waskey)

Kake: recycle aluminum cans to support Boys and Girls Club. Sends vanload every 3 months, earning \$800. Shipping is donated to the tribe (letter sent to acknowledge donation), Car/boat battery recycling. (Edna Jackson)

Hydaburg – wants to start/ open dump

Eklutna – Ideas to educate youth

Ekuk village council: Bristol Bay area. Administrator. IGAP grant recycling project. Taking a little while to get it up and running. We have to transport all of the recyclables. Batteries. Heavy metals, cans up to Dillingham. Working on lead paint in the school. (Brenda Mulkeit)

Nulato: Successfully completed backhauling of vehicles, batteries through Yutana. (Shirley Kriska)

Levelock: Recycling aluminum cans. Just hired as solid waste operator. Go to each household to dispose properly. Would like to collect batteries to send out by barge. (Shirley Andrew, Hans Apokedok)

Mat Su Valley: grass roots, community based – staffed. Education. Vision-model for reuse/recycling. Goal is to have 25% diversion by 2010. (Molly)

Tuntutuliak: Partnered with airlines from Bethel – backhaul aluminum cans. One was kind enough to provide with hazmat paperwork so we can send back lead batteries. Hoping to do more with plastic and paper as times come along. (David Enoch)

Atka Solid waste, research and rodent control. (Ray Golodoff)

Togiak. Been on this program before. Interested in backhauling of batteries and landfill relocations. IGAP successful and helped us initiate environmental issues. (Peter Lockuli)

Chevak. RuralCAP Volunteer - recycling and backhaul batteries and hazardous waste. Trying to get it going. (Bryson Kanrilak)

Newtok Margaret Nickerson is new and wanting to get information from others

Yakutat Tribe: Violet Sensmaier wants information

Evansville: here to get ideas. They do basic aluminum recycling, paid out of pocket by council. Proceeds pay for gas. Has class 3 permanent landfill. (Marsha Mlinar, Naomi Costello)

Ekwok. Solid waste manager. Was Americorp. Took care of dump. CDL, compactor, closure. Buried old dump. Too full. Started a new dump and dug a trench. If we get warm snap, get a dozer. Built perimeter fence close to the area. Some of the problems - no more fires. Got good burn box. Upgraded that, and have a lot of better material from village. Now got thicker mesh for burn box. Want to recycle more. Want to pick up a presentation. 3 are working in the office, and are heavy on the education. Staff is starting get into writing articles. Getting close to finished on comprehensive community plan. Need a integrated solid waste plan. Lots of voting dots on landfill, but that doesn't mean they want to plan. A lot of pop cans in the dump. (Charles Nelson)

Chalkyitsik has an aluminum cans recycling program. Would like to do more. (Tamera Henry)

Fort Yukon. CATG Council of Athabascan Tribal Gov't) and Natural Resource Dept. Looking for information to help surrounding village when they ask for it. (Gary Webber)

St. Paul Island: recycling aluminum cans, corrugated cardboard. Peter Gabe Tetoff.

Tetlin: Winema David, Marie Easton, Rowena Paul work in environmental office. Basic recycling program, and wants to do more.

Copper Valley – Recycling Our Area's Resources (ROAR) nonprofit with capacity expansion plans to serve outlying region. Work with consortiums and government. Worked with 100 tons of paper and aluminum - mostly paper in tonnage. Now working with Advisory role with the group. Through IGAP got ½ time recycling coordinator. Still trying to get recycling going. Lynden and then Carlisle provided transportation. Had to move in 1.5 hour, which meant handling it twice. Thanks to Rasmussen Foundation, now have a trailer that is road worthy. Now have a distributor backhauling for us. Trying to build econ. Sustainable program. EPA pilot – newspaper - fans, crushing cans. (Arlene Rosenkrans)

Eek: Closed out IGAP grant they had for couple of years. Want to open a new one.
(Carlie Beebe)

Enoch Tribal Council – Cans, cars fishing wheels. Have continued burn barrels. We all have to work together. (Ray Hurska)

Nulato make sure we do things the right way for all of our programs. (Walter Stickman)

Port Hieden – Hank Matson is here to learn.

Dillingham 1st class city. Handling waste. Trying to work with city in coming up with cooperative agreement. Class 2 permitted landfill. Whatever comes in stays in. What goes out leaves by either by air or water. No longer backhaul for free. Need to generate revenue. Bill J Maines with tribe

Denali Park– started in late 70's with recycling cans and paper products. Community and the program are expanding. Big problems: transportation into bigger municipalities. Less than 200 guest rooms – now more than 2000 and have programs but they tend to be seasonal. Hard to start/stop – or fill garage during winter. Working with park service. Environmental management. What do we bring in, buy or not buy. Really driven home when a new batch of computers arrived. IT got together to program them all. They had tables of new computers. Old computers need to go somewhere plus Styrofoam, and cardboard boxes. Our backhaul goes to Fairbanks. Fairbanks isn't as progressive as Anchorage. Pellet program is dead. Mayor Begich said he wanted to support rural activities. Until GreenStar set up bins, there was no recycling here at the Forum.
(Michael Cobbold)

Atka: Recycle paper, cardboard, barrels, (Jason Dirks)

Juneau.Tlingit Haida.... IGAP staff southeast to get rid of abandoned vehicles, SWAN website, recycling information and information for all tribes. (Mitch Brooks, Ray Paddock Jr.)

Nunapichalk: Here to learn, recycle paper.

Newtok – recycling cans, planning a center for plywood for acid batteries. Going to make some box for them. How are we going to ship batteries on the barge? Right now having people collecting those batteries, going house to house to put in plastic and then call our office. Dealing with landfill development in mud soils. They are collecting old batteries Can we recycle ignorant humans!! (Ray Hurska, Margaret Nickerson)

Perryville: Recycling aluminum cans with ALPAR. Collect batteries, used oil and antifreeze. (Darcy)

Koyuk: Recycle pop cans. Need to deal with batteries. (Arlene Johnson)

Ahtna Region (3 tribes) Recycling of Glenallen, cans batteries, paint cans on recycling – trying to set up network. Paper, cans, batteries, paint (Joe Hicks)

Chickaloon village – recycling stations and donate time. (Maureen Carr)

Allakaket (Eric David)

Fairbanks. Appreciate attention on recycling. Glass recycling – Lyndon + paper and aluminum.

Military leadership – pelletized paper. Fairbanks spends \$3 million/year to bury paper – which is a source of fuel. (Carl Bensen)

Aleknagik Biggest problem – nobody is interested. Educating the community. One family is doing composting and we have problems getting things out. Dillingham starting to do cans again. We have a problem getting junk cars out. Two landfills, one on north shore, south shore – no control. Hooked up with 25-mile road to Dillingham. Construction people take their construction debris, computers, and dump in our landfill. Want to reduce plastic bag waste.

Village council has a problem transporting batteries, fishing nets, cans, products. The have a contained burn barrel. Need to work together. (Tina Karrin)

Chistochina – moved 600 vehicles. Parked in the boonies. Worked through Learn and Serve program and IGAP. Worked with agencies in the area. Donated equipment.

Been with IGAP almost 10 years. This has been biggest issues. Only way to be successful. Come together as a group - Need to change philosophy.

Themes from Tuesday and Wednesday:

- Develop community support.
- Logistics/transportation
- Looking for ways to involve youth
- sustainability
- Containers
- Solutions for dealing with used oil and batteries

Resources present:

Steve Sumida: AITC hoping to get partnerships – successes here. So many in your community have piece of the puzzle. Military have lots of projects. Even GSA can backhaul. People on this end who could help you – once the plane lands..... You've got another piece I can use.

Jennifer Williams Institute of Tribal Environment Professionals (ITEP) - running courses regionally, Craig, Venetie, King Cove, St Mary's.

Green Star: Recognize businesses, electronics recycling – all over the state. 300 tons – 27 trailers, expanding to rest of state. (Sean Skaling, true???)

Vender: selling recycling bins/solid waste diversion

IGAP Lynn Zender created list of barges and Seattle prices for recycled goods. Contact her for details. Also works with SWAN. Advise people to call for Seattle prices just before sending.

Jerry Sam: TCC 16 villages –Environmental Tech Resource person for tribes I'm working with. Help research information for them.

Doris : Resource person

Felicia Wright; tribal coordinator. Wash DC. Try to connect dots. Try to bring Alaska issues to national attention.

Diana Ervin. TCC Environmental Tech. Solid waste assistant is trying to get grasp of maintaining landfill. Wants to give presentations to schools and others. Youth at last year's convention introduced resolution to start recycling. Want to know how our organization can help those org. with their recycling program. Would like to try to measure Try to get materials out of here. There is lack of material to set up economic resource to make it sustainable. Create a statewide recycling program – need materials.

Keith Howard. Municipality of Anchorage. Solid waste.

Rural Community Assistance Corp. RCAC - have exhibit upstairs. George Schlender: Regional Manager of the northwest states. Supply resources of this important effort to bring together resources of local govt. RCAC work with 13 states. Beth Kang, Director RCAC environmental programs. Wants to better understand the issues, so we can direct resources to fill the need. Roland Shanks, local contact. Works with several groups around the state on recycling and solid waste issues. Working at the state level to develop forums like this, a statewide newsletter, and information distribution of funding opportunities and other recycling/solid waste information.

Fran Steffan: EPA – solid and hazardous waste in Seattle. Have been working more with pollution prevention, which fits into what you are talking about here. Reduce waste before it gets generated.

Diane Richardson from US EPA Anchorage will provide info on used oil testing. Contact her at 271-6329. Richardson.diane@epa.gov

ANTHC – rural sanitation coalition. Education, advocacy. Integrated waste management grants. Is anyone applying for the grant? What if I expend by 2 weeks. March 1?

Yutana Barge report by Endil Moore: Phone: 907-832-5505, fax 832-5553. Email address: ENDIL@yutana.com

Yutana Barge was asked to backhaul, then asked Alaska Railroad to participate if they'd bring goods to Nenana. Junk cars – there was no money in it at that point.

Nine steps process – pay \$5 or \$10

So just get them out.

Autos

Lead – acid batteries are put in fish totes, seal them and label for the barge.

In the last 2 years cars were transported by Alaska Railroad and Lyndon Transport.

Alaska Railroad gondola – open top and filled it.

160 – 200 cars in St Mary's from Emmonak. Nulato – picked up. Huslia.

1. Take oil and antifreeze out – separate.
2. Take trans.oil out – must be dry
3. tires & batteries (in tote) ok.

Getting calls from Kuskowmin area and the coast. Can take to Bethel, Nome, Dillingham, Naknak. Need someone to take it south.

*Need to work together to get carrier to haul south.

*Need to work out containers.

Schedule – usually fall for the coast, need to plan with other carriers.

*Need Bethel to deal with dock fees.

Dillingham Naknek.

Maybe 150 cars/75 depends

Denali Commission: croberts@denali.gov Gave a brief summary of their program and potential resources

Maurie from Environmental Conservation. Little funding for solid waste but individuals are interested in helping.

Lanie Hughes, Kenai Borough Rural Solid Waste Coordinator: The Borough currently has an integrated solid waste program which encompasses operations and maintenance of two large landfill/baling facilities (Soldotna and Homer); one landfill for inert waste only (Seward), five rural landfills (Tyonek, Beluga, Nanwalek, Port Graham, and Seldovia), four transfer facilities, eight transfer (dumpster) sites; recycle collection stations; hazardous waste disposal stations and many waste related programs and projects. No Borough landfills are lined with the exception of expansion at Soldotna's Central Peninsula landfill that will open in summer 2005.

Questions Raised:

1. How did you close a landfill (asked of Eric Phillips)

- Annual meeting of community who agreed to do it

- Planned opening a new site
 - BIA – closed out
 - 3 person construction crew
 - Community education
2. If you have no gravel, how do you deal with mud and erosion?
- Reduce the footprint
 - Segregate materials
 - Move out or backhaul
 - Minimize materials being dumped.
 - Burn what can be burned.
3. Funding to monitor closed landfill?
- Monitoring wells ideal
 - Oral histories – what was dumped?

4. What can you do within the community?

Batteries: lead – acid – ready market– free recycle

Alkaline – unregulated. If it becomes hazardous materials, it can be removed.

Paper into insulation? Polar glass?

Paper into animal bedding? (Recycle our Area’s Resources – Copper River)

Community for Recycling Solutions (Mat-Su)

Therma Kool – newspaper – make insulation

Idea: *Whales* – government enlightened leadership. People need help. Landfill tax that created a fund and you were given a per ton transportation fee to cover your costs. Plus you got a per ton conversion for every ton composted. Nationwide. It takes big thinking and bold leadership.

Idea: Donations to federally recognized tribes can be tax deductible. Stevens Village is using that system.

Idea from Kotzebue – Someone found an old Case 450 and took it out piece by piece to reassemble it. (In response to question about how to remove old cars out in the tundra.)

Yutana Barge: waste oil. DOT says has to be tested and certified as waste oil. When you go from carrier to carrier..... count on you to deal with it. These testing fees can be high. Yukon – Supplied testing. Went well until there was no more \$ for testing. Nenana is going to test theirs as long as you don’t have to transport from carrier to carrier. Then you have to use federal.

Action Plan

2010 Highest Priorities (see complete brainstormed list further in this document)

- Information/measure success
- Resource recovery plants
- Funding mechanism
- Education/everyone thinks reuse/recycle is what to do

2010 Other Priorities

- zero waste management curriculum
- junk car recycling/reuse
- tribes support zero waste
- school recycling
- Alaska beverages are aluminum

Next steps:

Organizing Committee

Roland Shanks (agreed to convene first meeting), (rshanks@rcac.org, phone number is 279-1126)

Arlene Charles (Koyuk),

Mollie Boyer (MatSu Community Recycling Center),

Sean Skaling (Green Star),

Violet (Anvik),

Garry Webber (Fort Yukon),

Diane Ervin (Tanana Chiefs region),

Jerry Sam(TCC),

Roy Hiraesaka (BB),

Steve Sumida (AI-TC),

Rosalie Kalistook (AVCP),

Ray Paddock (SWAN),

Lanie Hughes (Kenai Peninsula)

Major Tasks:

Create a work plan

Seek 501(c)3

Identify interim fiscal sponsor

Seek funding for committee to meet

Plan next year's recycling summit

Could seek existing nonprofit to house it as an intermediate relationship until fledged.

Could it become a chapter of a national organization?

Benefits for village participation:

- Cleaner water
- Health
- Information/communicating
- Unified voice
- Power in numbers
- Training
- Workshops
- Access to funding
- Shared burden
- Action/results/positive change

Who are Potential Allies or Partners?

- Markets (industries that want what we have such as composters, glass, small business development)
- Bottlers
- Industries generating waste
- Private stores
- Businesses and restaurants (s+w construction districts)
- Resource conservation and development councils
- Job training, YET Job Corps
- US Census
- Department of Labor and Workforce Development
- Local governments (purchasing, procurement office)
- Tribal government
- SWANA, SWAN
- State government
- Health Aides
- Alaska 20/20
- ISER
- Schools – principals, school boards, teachers, district
- 4-H and Cooperative Extension
- ACES
- ALPAR
- Elders/all cultures
- Private foundations (Rasmussen/Environmental)
- Wholesalers
- Distributors
- Big box stores
- Transport companies
- Smurfit Stone & other buyers
- Yutana Barge
- NAC
- Lynden Transport
- TOTE
- Crowley
- Northland
- Ak Truckers
- Fuel suppliers
- Thrift shops
- Consuming companies
- Alaska Railroad
- AMHS
- Air carriers
- Air taxis
- Alaska Air
- Horizon
- W. Pioneer
- Pacific Metal
- Hospitals
- Regional Health Corporations
- Alaska Metals Recovery
- Trash haulers
- Cruise ship tour operators
- US Military and FAA
- Flight schools
- Nonprofits/citizens in urban – to receive rural
- Civic organizations
- Stores in hub villages
- Health Clinics
- Churches and religious organizations
- Health Fairs

2006-2007 Workplan could include:

- Networking
- Statewide organization
- Planning –implementation
- Transportation
- Raise awareness locally and statewide
- Resolutions – tribes, organizations
- Build political support
- Identify location (s) for hubs of service throughout Alaska and develop local support and marketing.
- Make new friends: educators, legislators, transporters
- Do a cost-benefit analysis (include all costs and benefits)
- Feasibility study
- Build political respectability
- Message: right thing to do
- Saves landfill costs
- Eliminates groundwater contaminants
- Community health
- Show economic benefits
- Show jobs
- Economic feedstock – local growth
- Tell village success stories – into technical study plans – why didn't others succeed
- Find partners who agree with the message
- Incorporate concepts into training programs on demolition and construction

Background Notes from Organizational Discussions

Organizational Structure

Representation statewide – like Alaska Trails Coalition that includes individuals as well as groups like government, tribes, nonprofits, and corporations.

Geographic distribution – 12 regions

Higher education system

How are other groups organized?

RCDP – challenge – lack of focus/mission

SWANA – teleconference. Quarterly meetings in person/members pay

Alaska Solid Waste Group meets – piggyback

Alaska Food Coalition – quarterly teleconference – annual face to face meeting

Award programs – highlight success and use the media

Meet outside Anchorage (Regional hub meeting participation)

Potential Names and Slogans

Slash trash

Stop the Waste

Alaska Zero Waste

Association

All Alaskan something

Zeroing Zone

Resource

Reduce

Alaska

ZWAK

ZWAA

ZWAKA

Bobbing your head

Help Us Help You

RRR

Recycling our area's

resources

Coalition

Association

Partners

Alliance

Group

Team

Advocates

AWRARRA (Alaska Waste Reduction And Resource Recovery Association)

Brainstormed list of possible priorities and number of votes (each participant had 5 voting dots)

Formation of economic sector that reuses 4
Lower 48 knows initiative to protect national resource in Alaska. Financial revenue producing 3
Talking about sharing Alaska model with Hawaii and Wyoming – documented Annual report card on recycling. Measurement standard volume/tonnage/type. Sales of used material. Job creation results. 14
Website – resources & info 5
Legislative scorecard on achieving zero waste. 5
Anchorage Convention Center has own recycling process/ new convention center zero waste. 4
Zero Waste Management courses at school, university – grade school, curriculum 8
Village environmental specialist program includes Zero Waste Management in curriculum 6
Wind turbine remanufacturing facility 2
80% organics composted. 4
Alaska materials exchange including 2
Open burning eliminated 4
Class 3 landfills 5
Most hazardous materials – permanent programs in place 6
Junk car recycling in place statewide 8
State investment in recycling 7
With viable funding mechanism \$5mm/yr resource recovery 11
Resource recovery authority 2
villages getting junk cars to hubs 6
everyone thinks recycling is what we want to do 12
state landfill surcharge creates state grant fund to finance recycling with other two governor is keynote speaker
participating in national effort for recycling/reuse – producer responsibility fee. 5
all Alaska beverages in aluminum, not plastic 7
tribal/borough governments understand zero waste 7
resource recovery plants serve all of Alaska 13
exhibitor group 1
most schools have recycling program 7
effective legislation supports poll prevention/recycling 4
formalized transport/backhaul air-water-land 7
economic incentives to recycle 6
present back hauler with award. 3

Final thoughts:

- Hope to see it go underway and get started.
- Pass

- Pass
- We did a lot of good work. Lay the groundwork for continuing good work and of great value.
- The group has moved things along and avoiding duplication
- There is a lot of commitment and concern here.
- Hope organization gets off the ground. Suggest another name: Arlene Charles from Koyuk.
- This is a benefit whole state, including rural. We are all here for our people. Spread the word to villages that aren't here. Want to survey villages around me to get information on barges and airlines. Work with our people and for future generation. Want to get villages working with transporters. Survey what is recycling. What is most used in their villages and work on it. High rate of cancer and diabetes. Watched parents die. Diabetes, emphysema, cancer. We can all do things. Raise taxes on people who throw stuff instead of recycling. Thankful for facilitators, and the Forum for housing the Summit. Want to do this annually. We can change the voice of how we deal with waste. Try not to conflict with other training. Timing is important.
- It would be nice if villagers had to attend this meeting.
- Got motivated going back home and getting info to my people. 100 people. Even though we are small, can make a difference. Have dumpsite problems.
- Videotaping could help put message on airwaves.
- We are going in a good direction. Hope that when things are put together, not over complicated. Hopefully it will be simple enough to move quickly.
- We have a basis for a fresh outlook in this state. Hope it can succeed. Confident it will. Thank you for opportunity to attend and the quality of presenters. It was nice to meet others with common interests and goals.
- Shifting consciousness is good. Will it pass the so what test. Good ideas and connections. Already starting to imagine the presence we could have at the forum. What if we had to do a field trip? What if at beginning of forum there was a big display that had bales of cardboard, plastic and aluminum. One with products made of recycled goods. Media would be all over it.
- Pass
- Thank Eric, Roland who will run with it, facilitators, Molly for showing the tour. Participation and excitement was great.
- Really exciting to see people involved. As director have been out there 4 years, but felt like lone ranger. Although tribal government has been doing it with many doing it on their own. Concerted effort by larger group of rural/urban will have great momentum.
- Want to continue doing shipping in south central. Facilitate discussions between shippers in bush communities.
- Selfish level. Personally uplifting. People who talk about ideals, and wanting to make things better. Very nice.

- Eric: Honor and privilege to be here. Don't doubt that a little group can make a difference. Most of are like Colorado and Wyoming. You are not alone. We are doing things together. Dig in and go. And stay in touch.
- Thank rural communities for being involved. Important that voice is here.
- People can make a difference. It doesn't take a lot of people to make a change. With the energy and commitment in this room, we can make a difference. Travel safely.
- If we get youth involved with reduce and reused project and have them talk with organizations. It would be easier for organizations to make up their minds. Things would move faster. They would know what is going on and could pass it on to each other. One big thing we have to do in our lives is to keep it going.
- We need to thank MatSu Valley Recycling Center for loaning us Mollie. She raised most of the money to make this happen. Lunch, speakers.... ACAF gave small grant. Roland chipped in a little bit. AI-TC contributed.

Vision 2010 Recycling Summit accomplishments

- Tribal and borough government will understand Zero waste
- Resource and recovery centers serving all of Alaska
- Will be an exhibitor
- Most schools will have some type of recycling program
- Effective legislation that supports pollution prevention
- Formalized backhaul arrangements for what cannot be done locally. Air, water and land.
- A lot more economic incentives to recycle
- We'll present a back hauler an award for their program.
- We'll begin formation of economic sector that uses recycled material
- Lower 48 will know there is an economic initiative we should all be taking to protect natural resources in Alaska.
- How to share this model with other states with rural component
- Document our process
- Some sort of report card on how much we recycle. Measurement standard that can be used. Double count
- % and volume, tonnage,
- sales of used materials
- job creation results
- clear impact = success indicators
- website to get resource information
- overall economic affect on the state.

- Legislative score card of progress on zero waste.
- Able to report Anchorage has a recycling into their operations.
- New convention center will have zero waste. And have composting system
- Establish zero waste training/course – part of environmental engineering down to grade school
- Village environmental specialist program
- Program for Tribal administrators – incorporate zero waste mgmt
- Wind turbines and recycling system. (Other places are removing them to replace with larger. Alaska needs that size)
- Any % compost...
- Alaska materials exchange – web based now.
- Open burning has been eliminated.
- Class 3 landfills eliminated.
- More ways of dealing with hazardous materials -permanent program
- Recycling cars
- State coordinator of recycling
- Resource recovery with equal or more authority than solid waste
- Get tribes working together to crush vehicles machine
- Everyone will want to recycle
- State involvement: Apply a landfill surcharge to landfills for any community of 1,000? Or whatever. Create a state fund that could go toward financing. \$5 million. Keynote speaker who will be the governor.
- Tax the users –
- Viable funding mechanism, supplies and revenues \$5 million year? 3% tax on everything coming in our state. Producer responsibility fee. (Toronto)

How to get there?

Networking

Form statewide organization

Planning (implementation plans)

Transportation

Make a friend – legislators, transporters

Are people willing to stand up to say they support it – the climate for it

Feasibility studies (individual, regional, transport issues...needs funding for research)

Building political respectability

Zero Waste Management

**presented by Eric Lombardi, Executive Director of Eco-Cycle
www.ecocycle.org**

“The path toward creating a Zero Waste Society is more of a journey rather than a destination, and success will come in victories, small and large, over a long period of time. But if the human race is to be successful in reversing the global environmental crisis we find ourselves in today, then it is the only path to be upon.” Eric Lombardi

Eric explained a 9 point cycle to a zero waste system

1. Changing the rules. Put policies and practices into place that favor environmentally and economically sustainable practices over wasteful, polluting, and ultimately costly practices such as create financial incentives for businesses and residents to recycle more and create less waste.
2. Shift taxpayer subsidies away from wasteful and polluting industries and into supporting environmentally-friendly practices.
3. Design for the environment. Imagine all products and packaging designed with the use of non-toxic materials for either re-use, recycling or composting.
4. Clean production. Provide incentives for clean production methods and award efforts to protect workers and the environment.
5. Distribution/Retail: Where Producers and Consumers Meet. Under the Zero Waste system, distribution centers work with producers to reuse packaging such as pallets and crates and to reduce unnecessary packaging. They become not only

- points of sale, but also collection points for consumers to return products and packaging at the end of use.
6. Empowered/Educated Consumer. The consumer dollar is the ultimate voice to industry, and will be the driving force in changing consumption and disposal patterns.
 7. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) puts the legal, financial, and physical responsibility for materials entering the waste stream with the producer, not on the consumer at the end of the product's or packaging's life.
 8. Investing in Recovery Infrastructures, not landfills. While landfills impose a long-term economic liability upon a community, Recovery Parks keep money circulating in the local economy by adding value to resources and creating opportunities for economic development.
 9. Creating Jobs from Discards. According to the report *Wasting and Recycling in the United States 2000*, "On a per-ton basis, sorting and processing recyclables alone sustains ten times more jobs than landfilling or incineration."

Question Session:

It is critical to change rules. How do you do it?

State by state. Start at the local level. Example given of a mall construction site that was required to give the same amount of space for recycled materials as trash.

What are the hot button issues that will attract attention?

Community issue is health. Politicians notice jobs and youth loving recycling. Education of people needs to be comprehensive and ongoing. Watch for emerging leaders. Organize around common self-interest. Once you overcome one need, build on success. Set another goal and attract more people. Look for people wearing multiple hats.

What should we do about our concern of the litter, dumping and products used by boats coming through our area?

Shine the light on these issues. Create a local pamphlet to share information with people coming in by boat. Distribute through the harbor master, phone booth, post office, and other convenient places. If you could track the litter to the specific boat, it would be great! Gather the litter and give it back!!! ☺ National park example might work. Put up signs that tell people to take all trash back out with them. There are no trash containers available.

Idea for generating interest: Recycle pop cans to support an important cause.

Idea for airports where rural flights come in. – Some places give credit (Reverse vending machine idea from Europe)

How do we encourage schools to use cans, even though plastic is cheaper? Ask the distributors to pay the difference? Dell computers are now 90% recycle-able.

Idea: 'Green' buildings are energy efficient and use non-toxic materials. The Association of Homebuilders is including information on building green. Need to celebrate this.

Community Plans – An example was given where elders and every household were visited to get feedback, educate people and then plan a summit for several nearby villages. Boulder Colorado used a similar model and created volunteer block leaders.

What if we incorporated this information into demolition/construction training?

What if we had a state office on pollution prevention?

What if beverages coming into state are aluminum instead of plastic. Get Alcoa containers. Aluminum bottles are now available with screw tops.