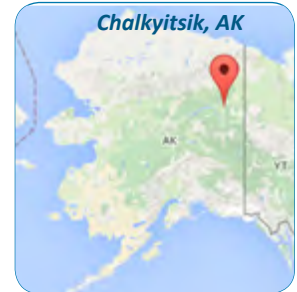


**Indian Environmental General Assistance Program
Success Story**

After learning about the harmful health impacts from hazardous wastes, Chalkyitsik Village prioritized the creation of a recycling program. They started small in 2012 by recycling bottles, cans, appliances and electronics wastes. Since then, they expanded to recycling thousands of pounds of white goods (large appliances like dishwashers, freezers, etc.), shipping totes full of hazardous lead acid batteries, electronic wastes (like computers and televisions), florescent light bulbs, abandoned vehicles, and other items.



Map data ©2015 Google, INEGI

**Recycled Materials
2013-2015**

Items	Pounds estimated
White Goods	26,031
Small Appliances and Scrap Metal	4,589
Electronics	3,610
Batteries	3,100
Propane Bottles	1,600
Junk Vehicles, Tires & other	1,198
Bottles and Cans	864
Printer ink cartridges & toner	697
Florescent Light Bulbs	418
Clothing	286
Total	42,393

Geared up for lead acid battery recycling



Racheal Lee of Tanana Chiefs Conference and Patricia Salmon of Chalkyitsik Village

Photo: courtesy of Patricia Salmon

Like many rural Alaskan communities, Chalkyitsik is not on the road system, thus transporting recyclables out of the village can be challenging and requires ingenuity. When the tribes' housing program charters a plane to deliver building materials, they send some of the recyclables out on the return flight – demonstrating just one way, Chalkyitsik, like other remote communities, address this unique challenge.

How has the project made a difference in the community? Patricia Salmon, Chalkyitsik Village's Environmental Planner responds, "I think we've cleaned up a lot. It's not an eyesore anymore, and it's better health wise."

⇒ Continued

Items Staged for Recycling



Photo: courtesy of Patricia Salmon

⇒ Continued

Chalkyitsik Village just completed construction of a new recycling center, and with the capacity they've developed through their GAP grant, they are collaborating with the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium to use State of Alaska Capital Improvement Project funds to build a state-permitted landfill and access road.

Partners & Support

Alaskans for Litter Prevention and Recycling

Bottles and cans recycling

<http://www.alparalaska.com/wp>

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Technical assistance with grant applications, and landfill planning and design

<http://anthctoday.org>

Everts Air Cargo

Shipping recyclables (backhaul)

<http://www.evertsair.com>

K&K Recycling

Recycling and disposing of lead acid batteries, white goods, scrap metal and propane bottles

<http://kandkrecycling.net>

OfficeMax

Recycling printer ink cartridges and copier toner

<http://www.officedepot.com/storelocator/ak/fairbanks/officemax-6466>

Tanana Chiefs Conference

Technical assistance with lead acid battery packaging for shipment

<https://www.tananachiefs.org>

Total Reclaim

Appliances, florescent light bulbs, and electronics waste recycling

<http://www.totalreclaim.com>

Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council

Shipping recyclables

<http://www.yritwc.org>

Community Profile: Chalkyitsik

Population: 77

Culture: Traditional Gwich'in Athabascan village, with a subsistence lifestyle.

Location: Chalkyitsik is located on the Black River about 50 miles east of Fort Yukon.

Transportation: Access is primarily by air; there is a gravel runway. Residents own ATVs, snow machines, and skiffs for fishing, hunting, and recreation. No roads connect Chalkyitsik with other villages, although there is a winter trail to Fort Yukon. It is accessible by small riverboat.

Source: State of Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development Community Database

EPA Region 10's Commitment to Federally Recognized Tribes

EPA Region 10 is committed to helping tribes strengthen their abilities to manage environmental programs in Indian country, and to ensure that tribes have a voice in decisions that affect their land, air and water. Region 10 serves 271 federally recognized tribes in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. The goal of the EPA IGAP grant program is to assist tribes and intertribal consortia in developing the capacity to manage their own environmental protection programs, and to develop and implement solid and hazardous waste programs in accordance with individual tribal needs and applicable federal laws and regulations.

<http://www2.epa.gov/tribal/region-10-tribal-program>

<http://www2.epa.gov/tribal/indian-environmental-general-assistance-program-gap>

For More Information

Chalkyitsik Village Environmental Planner

Patricia Salmon

Chalkyitsik Village ☎ 907-848-8618 or 907-848-8117

EPA Grant: Indian General Assistance Program (GAP)

EPA Project Officer: Sherry Kimmons

☎ 907-271-6322 ✉ kimmons.sherry@epa.gov