

# Green Star® Community Program

## Supporting Alaskan Communities



# Green Star<sup>®</sup> Communities

The Green Star program supports Alaskan communities that want to advance their practices and demonstrate leadership in preventing pollution, conserving energy, and reducing waste.

This program is generously supported by the USDA Rural Development.





# Past Green Star Awardees



## Community Awardees

Akutan	Gulkana	Nulato
Aleknagik	King Cove	Nunam Iqua
Anvik	Kipnuk	Port Alsworth
Atka	Kivalina	Sand Point
Chignik	Kokhanok	Tanacross
Chignik Lagoon	Kongiganak	Tazlina
Chignik Lake	Koyukuk	Togiak
Chitina	Kwigillingok	Tununak
Ekuk	Minto	Ugashik
Gakona	Napakiak	



# What is the Green Star Program?



Focus on Rural  
Alaska communities.



Technical Assistance &  
collaboration to build a 5-  
year work plan.



A non-regulatory &  
FREE program!



**Recognition** for your  
efforts to create a  
healthier environment.



In-person community  
assessment of  
infrastructure.



Environmental  
worker training  
support.





# Visit & On-Site Assessment

- On-site walk through of Community
  - Tour local water, power, solid waste infrastructure
  - Speak with operators when possible
- Evaluate Green Star Award Standards
- Discuss Safer Choice / P2 opportunities
- Complete the Green Star Award Standards Achievement Report



# Report & Work Plan

- Write up of community assessment and discussions with local stakeholders.
- Identify opportunities for short-term and long-term goals to continue progress in environmental excellence.
- Collaborate with community leaders on opportunities to engage locals on Green Star Standards, community goals, and the Safer Choice program.





# The Chigniks' GSC Highlights

Building a framework of goals and priorities through the 5 Year Work Plan as part of the assessment.

Technical assistance on landfill operations, backhaul planning/preparation, pollution prevention, and more.

Compilation of efforts across the community advancing environmental goals towards Green Star Standards.



# The Chigniks' GSC Highlights

Connection to environmental worker training opportunities through Alaska Connect.

Collaboration and assistance identifying next steps for progress towards environmental excellence & Green Star Standards.

Recognition for the strong regional leadership and collaboration.





# Chignik Regional Backhaul Project

- 181,000 pounds of material was removed, diverting it from local landfills and mitigating impacts on clean drinking water and subsistence resources.
  - Batteries palatized, used oil drums crushed and palatized, appliances, SUVs, and light-duty trucks were staged at the barge landing.
- Kudos to Delta Backhaul Company, Chignik Bay Tribal Council, Chignik Lake Village Council, and Chignik Lagoon Village Council IGAP programs for the extensive collaboration on the project.





# Chignik Bay Certification

- Regional leadership by Chignik Bay Tribal Council and the community.
- Public education about EPA's Safer Choice program.
- Power line upgrades to mitigate fire danger.
- Working on large scale hydro plant & upgrades to drinking water systems.
- Landfill in good working order, pending installation on a new incinerator.
- Recent regional backhaul project in collaboration with Delta Backhaul Company - 45,000 pounds removed from Chignik Bay.





# Chignik Bay Certification

- Strengthening landfill operations, including: emphasis on visual monitoring, storage for HHW & backhaul staging, signage & fencing.
- Public education about EPA's Safer Choice program.
- Collaboration with Trident for old cannery remediation.
- Energy efficiency upgrades with AEA Village Energy Efficiency Project, as well as weatherization and energy efficient appliances.





# Chignik Lagoon Certification

- Recent regional backhaul project in collaboration with Delta Backhaul Company - 181,000 pounds removed from region.
- Recent drinking water facility upgrades – piping and control panels. Primary operator completing certification.
- Collection program for HHW through IGAP office, used oil used to heat community shop.
- Community has hydroelectric project and is collaborating with LPB for solar feasibility study.
- Looking into revamping air testing practices (with ANTHC), formalizing landfill operations and procedures, working on facility upgrades.





# Chignik Lagoon Certification

- Strengthening landfill operations, including: emphasis on visual monitoring, storage for HHW & backhaul staging, signage & fencing, access road upgrades.
- Public education about EPA's Safer Choice program.
- Creation of designated staging area for appliances and identification of freon removal completion.
- Building a robust communication plan for new recycling program established within the community to ensure strong participation.
- Researching home weatherization options and renewable energy generation options.



# Chignik Lake Certification

- Recent (at the time of assessment) new diesel power generator installation – reduced emissions and air quality.
- Collaboration with Alaska Rural Utility Collaborative (ARUC) to develop a sustainable and safe water system.
- Recent (at time of assessment) upgraded most of the homes in the village to piped sewer.
- Recent (at time of assessment) landfill facility clean-up project & backhaul, new signage installed.
- E-waste collection drive, established used oil collection program, waste oil furnace installation.
- Plan to purchase and implement a scrap wood hammer mill and briquette maker.
  - Wood briquettes have a lower ash content and burn at a higher temperature





# Chignik Lake Certification

- Tribe was drafting an Integrated Waste Management Plan to strategize future projects in the village.
- Water plant upgrades/replacement – facility was being evaluated and funding sources researched.
- Energy audits being researched.
- Sustainable Biofuel program was being researched, along with used oil centrifuge.









# Get Involved

We're currently looking for 2024 enrollees!

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