

**Interior Alaska Green Star
Annual Report
2010**



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Executive Director
Andrea Miller
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Mission Statement

Interior Alaska Green Star is a non-profit organization which encourages households and businesses to practice waste reduction, energy conservation and pollution prevention.

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Message from the Executive Director



Interior Alaska Green Star (IAGS) had another great year in 2010 as we strengthened and expanded our programs in the community.

This year, we hosted the second annual Recycling Round-Up, which has become a very popular recycling event for the community. New for this year, we expanded the event even further to include an area for residents to learn about backyard composting and the opportunity to purchase a

backyard composting bin. We continued this new composting theme throughout the year, with multiple opportunities for access to information about backyard composting methods.

Congratulations to the Fairbanks Community Food Bank for achieving their Green Star Award! They worked very hard to achieve their Award in August 2010 and we are proud of their accomplishments. The Award program was in hibernation for a number of years, but now that we are back online, local businesses are showing interest in “going green”. This is very exciting and we encourage businesses, schools, and government organizations to contact us for more information about this program.

We also saw some changes on our board, with two members leaving over the course of the year – Kristen Thomas in April, and Eva Norwood in September. We were all sorry to see these strong supporters of IAGS move on to other commitments, but we greatly appreciate all the time and energy they dedicated to the organization during their tenure on the board.

As always, I continue to be grateful to everyone who helps make it possible for IAGS to play a role in our community – including the dedicated IAGS board, hardworking volunteers, and community-minded business sponsors. Without the help of all these committed individuals and organizations, it would not be possible for IAGS to continue offering the programs and services that we provide. Thank you for all you do – and here’s to another great year for IAGS!

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Electronics Recycling Events

WHY WE CARE ABOUT ELECTRONIC WASTE

According to the EPA, 3.16 million tons of electronic waste was generated in the U.S. in 2008; only 430,000 tons of this electronic waste (e-waste) was recycled. This means that 86.4% of our e-waste – or 2.73 million tons – ended up in our landfills in a single year.

E-waste contains toxic materials such as lead, mercury, cadmium and brominated flame retardants. For example, an old CRT monitor can contain between four and eight pounds of lead. It is estimated that nearly 40% of the heavy metals in landfills comes from discarded electronic equipment. Aside from the toxic issues surrounding electronics disposal, much of the materials present in computers and other electronic devices are recoverable, such as gold, copper, metal, and plastic. Rather than throwing away these valuable resources, it makes sense to recycle the devices and reuse as many of these materials as possible.

IAGS TAKES ACTION IN FAIRBANKS

In 2010, IAGS held two recycling events and diverted a total of **69,281 pounds (34.6 tons)** of electronic waste from the landfills of Interior Alaska. See below for more information about each of these recycling events.

Spring Electronics Collection at the Recycling Round-Up – May 21-22

Our spring electronics collection at the second annual Recycling Round-Up event was a huge success. We collected electronics from a total of **289 businesses and households** over two days – Friday and Saturday. We were very busy throughout this event weekend and collected **38,000 pounds (19 tons)** of electronics over the course of two days.

Fall Electronics Recycling Event – September 24-25

Once again, our annual Fall Electronics Recycling event was held in late September. At the 2010 event, we had a total of **220 businesses and households** come through to recycle their obsolete or unwanted electronics. In total, they brought in **31,281 pounds (15.6 tons)** of material to be safely recycled.

Electronics Recycling Partners

- IAGS selected *Total Reclaim, Inc.* as our electronics recycling partner based on their high recovery rate of e-waste materials and their responsible handling of toxic materials. Total Reclaim was recently awarded ISO 14001 and R2 certifications, and they are currently working towards achieving an e-Stewards certification.
- The *Fairbanks North Star Borough Solid Waste Division* continued to be a key partner in our recycling events. We depend on their contributions of skilled forklift operators to safely load the pallets stacked with collected electronics material onto trucks for shipment to Anchorage.
- *Tanana Valley State Fairground Association* provided the venue for the Spring Recycling Round-Up and the Fall Electronics Recycling events in 2010 by donating the use of their main parking lot. As always, this site was an excellent location for our recycling collections.

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Second Annual Recycling Round-Up Event – Saturday, May 22

IAGS held the second annual Recycling Round-Up event to help meet the recycling needs of our community. Several local businesses and organizations participated in this “one-stop” recycling event, by setting up a collection point at the Tanana Valley State Fairgrounds to gather a wide variety of materials for reuse or recycling.

2010 Recycling Round-Up Collects Nearly 35 Tons of Material		
Material Collected	Amount Collected (lbs)	Organization
Aluminum Cans	800	Fairbanks Rescue Mission
Building Materials	200	Habitat for Humanity
Clothing	1,000	FRA Closet Collections
Compost Materials	120	Basically Basil Farm
Electronics	38,000	Interior Alaska Green Star
Food	164	Fairbanks Community Food Bank
Food Cans & Scrap Metal	750	C & R Pipe and Steel
Glass	10,904	Local Resident
Household Hazardous Waste	3,939	FNSB Waste Management
Paper	12,000	Fairbanks Rescue Mission
Plastic	1,600	Smurfit-Stone / Wal-Mart

This year, our Round-Up attracted approximately 675 participants. Overall, this event was a tremendous success for the Interior Alaska Green Star organization, all the organizations who participated, and the Fairbanks community as a whole. The amount of material collected at this event and the number of people who participated show a huge demand for recycling, which will only continue to grow.

Tanana Valley State Fair Recycling – August 6-14

Once again, IAGS partnered with the Tanana Valley State Fair Association and several local organizations to coordinate the recycling efforts for the TVSF. This year, Alaska Waste and K&K Recycling generously provided the collection bins for the plastic and aluminum collected throughout the duration of the Fair. At the end of the Fair, 15 cubic yards of plastic bottles were delivered by Alaska Waste to Wal-Mart for recycling, and 441 pounds of aluminum were picked up by K&K for recycling. A huge thank you goes out to our tireless volunteer team who dig through trash bins, sort plastic from aluminum, and carry bags of recyclables around the fairgrounds to the collection stations. We could not do this work without them.

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Public Outreach and Education

Bike to Work Week - May 17-21

The third week in May was Bike to Work Week in Fairbanks. IAGS collaborated with several other local organizations and businesses to help coordinate fun activities to promote biking to work or school in Fairbanks.

Tanana Valley State Fair – August 6-14

IAGS staff, board, and volunteers thoroughly enjoyed the time spent at the Tanana Valley State Fair hosting an informational booth in the Borealis Pavillion. The Tanana Valley State Fair represents the perfect opportunity for IAGS to reach out and connect with our community, so this is always an important event for our education efforts. Thanks to many hours put in by IAGS volunteers and board members, we were able to educate Fairbanks area residents on our mission, programs, and events.

Informational Booths

IAGS is often invited to participate in events coordinated by other local organizations. We appreciate these opportunities to share information with community members about our organization's mission and activities – as well as the chance to meet and network with other local organizations. In 2010, IAGS hosted informational booths at the following events:

- Alaska Interfaith Power and Light – One People, One Earth Event – January 30th
- North Haven Communities (Fort Wainwright) – Earth Day Event – April 17th
- Fairbanks Memorial Hospital – Earth Day Fair – April 22nd
- Fairbanks Community Cooperative Market – Harvest Fair and Annual Meeting – September 11th
- Alaska Bird Observatory – Green Holiday Sale – December 11th

Green Star Award Program

A major organizational goal for 2010 was to reinvigorate our Green Star Award program for the business community. IAGS congratulates the board, staff, and volunteers at the Fairbanks Community Food Bank for earning their Green Star Award in August, 2010. The principle of recycling is integral to the Food Bank's core mission, so it was easy for them to expand their efforts into a full-scale recycling program for the organization. The Food Bank also did a phenomenal job of engaging all staff, volunteers, and visitors in this process. A variety of fun activities proved very useful for getting everyone into the spirit of the program and keeping the interest high as they completed the steps to achieve their Green Star Award. Congratulations to the Food Bank on their accomplishment!



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Compost Bin Sales

One of our new projects for the spring and summer seasons of 2010 was to provide education and information about backyard composting. Composting is an easy way to turn a large portion of household waste into a valuable product. IAGS provided composting handouts and also offered the Earth Machine compost bins for sale at several events in 2010. These easy-to-use compost corrals are made of 50% post-consumer recycled plastic, and are an excellent way to get into composting for people who are just starting out with this activity.

Compost Bin Sale – Randy Smith Middle School Garden Bazaar – April 24

IAGS was invited to participate in Randy Smith Middle School's first annual Garden Bazaar and Earth Day Fair, which is a fundraiser event for the school's garden. IAGS used this opportunity to kick off our spring sale of Earth Machine backyard compost bins. In addition to the bin sale, we hosted an educational booth, where gardening experts answered questions about composting.

Compost Fair – Recycling Round-Up – May 22

IAGS also sold Earth Machine compost bins at the Recycling Round-Up event in May. In conjunction with this sale, we invited several local organizations to be on hand to answer questions and help residents with information about composting in Alaska. The organizations who participated in this portion of the event included: Cooperative Extension Service, Calypso Farm & Ecology Center, Fairbanks Community Co-Operative Market, and a local vermicomposting (worm composting) expert.

Compost Bin Sale – Alaska Feed Company (Ongoing)

Following our spring events, we partnered with the Alaska Feed Company to sell the Earth Machine compost bins. Through the second half of 2010 and into the future, compost bins are available for purchase at Alaska Feed Company for \$75 each. A portion of the sales goes to support IAGS programs and events.



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Board of Directors



Pam Seiser, President
Alaska Biological Research, Inc.



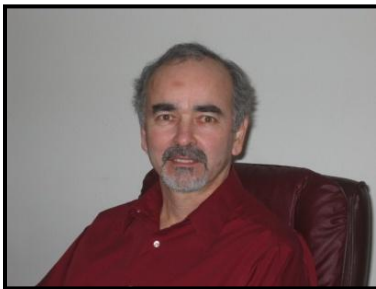
Darcie Warden, Vice President
Alaska Wilderness League



Ty Keltner, Treasurer
Cold Climate Housing Research Center



Eva Norwood, Secretary *(through September, 2010)*
Fairbanks Resource Agency



Bill Smyth
Department of Environmental Conservation



Kristen Thomas *(through April, 2010)*
Cold Climate Housing Research Center



Carol Ann Varner
Tanana Valley League of Women Voters



David Weissman
Design Alaska, Inc.
FNSB Recycling Commission

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Volunteers

Thank you to all of our dedicated IAGS volunteers!

Amy Aholelei	Elizabeth Cruikshank	Ty Keltner	Jessica Schall
Judy Anderson	John Cruikshank	Marie Leander	Rochelle Schall
Ciandra Arnold	Andrew Cyr	Jesse Lentz	Michele Scouten
Jen Arseneau	Ashley Dahlke	Will Lentz	Josh Silver
Linda Baker	Lynette Dobler	Susan Logue	Cailan Simon
Marylee Bates	David Drumhiller	Amanda Lynch	Adrienne Smyth
Alfred Beaver	Caitlin Ebbets	Melissa Lyon	Bill Smyth
Diana Becker	Bethany Eisenman	Anna Maguire	Eli Sonafrank
Alexander Bergman	Art Eveland	Michelle Maynor	Sue Sprinkle
Michael Berrie	Davya Flaharty	Steve McElreath	Matthew Steele
John Bittner	Ana Fochesatto	Elley Messina	Michelle Strickland
Shannon Boyle	Morgen Frazer	Kayla Messina	Bill Stringer
Carey Brink	Regina Frazer	Teresa Messina	Ann Swift
Bryce Brown	Beverly Frey	Ginger Meta	Kristen Thomas
Susan Brown	Dave Frey	Patricia Moodie	Jackie Triplett
John Bunten	Ryan Geiser	Derrick Morris	Tom Van Dorp
Scott Calder	Lilly Gesin	Robert Morton	Carol Ann Varner
Dana Camp	Rusty Gesin	Mary Ann Nickles	Stuart Varner
Maddy Camp	Dave Hamilton	Eric Nicolier	John Walker
Emily Carpenter	Keiko Herrick	Isabelle Nicolier	Darcie Warden
Alison Carter	Charlie Hooper	Jenny Patch	Norm Warden
Morgan Carter	Edna Johanson	Angel Peger	Shelly Warden
Catherine Chandler	Anne Johnson	Ellie Richter	Walt Weese
	Andrew Johnson	Marilyn Russell	David Weissman



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Sponsors

- ABR, Inc.
- Air Land Transport
- Alaska West Express
- ALPAR
- Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
- B-Line Construction
- Design Alaska
- Flint Hills Resources
- FNSB Solid Waste Division
- Golden Valley Electric Association
- North Haven Communities
- Oliphant Tool Company
- Rasmuson Foundation
- Schneider & Shilling, CPAs
- Tanana Valley State Fair Association
- Total Reclaim, Inc.
- Turtle Club
- Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council

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2010 Financial Statement

Balance Sheet

	2009	2010
Cash, savings, and investments	\$3,483	\$3,818
Land and buildings	\$0	\$0
Total assets	\$3,483	\$3,818
Total liabilities	\$0	\$68
Net assets or fund balances	\$3,483	\$3,750

Statement of Activities

Revenues

Contributions, gifts, and similar amounts received	\$39,357
Program service revenue	\$9,004
Membership dues and assessments	\$0
Investment income	\$9
Gross profit (or loss) from sales of inventory	-\$2,065
Total Revenue	\$46,305

Expenses

Salaries, other compensation and employee benefits	\$12,831
Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	\$2,987
Office expenses	\$414
Conferences/meetings	\$202
Promotion and public awareness	\$6,513
Recycling expenses	\$20,937
Bank service charge	\$30
Dues and subscriptions	\$250
Insurance	\$885
Supplies	\$264
Licenses and permits	\$725
Total Expenses	\$46,038

Assets

Excess or (deficit) for the year	\$267
Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year	\$3,483
Net assets or fund balances at end of year	\$3,750