



Environmental Newsletter

PORT GRAHAM VILLAGE COUNCIL/ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM

Environmental Planner Report: Violet Yeaton



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Hello Paluwik

As our summer comes to a close, I hope everyone has plenty of fish and berries put away for the winter. Yes, winter is definitely upon us, the termination dust has sprinkled our mountain tops, but change is always welcomed and good.

There have been some changes with the Environmental Program that I would like everyone to know about. The Port Graham Village Council has been receiving a Peer Assistance Network grant to train other Tribes in implementing the IGAP grant. Because of the sequestration, this program will no longer be funded from EPA, so I am working full time under the IGAP grant. Unfortunately we have had to cut the Environmental Technician time down to 5hrs, so Rita is working from 9am to 3pm. We still have a full

work plan to implement for FY14 and will be applying for FY15 IGAP grant in December. Another change is the Environmental Health Committee will be meeting quarterly, instead of their monthly meetings we have had in the past. We are feeling the impact of the sequestration so these are some of the big changes that are happening. We are continuing to do our best to continue our presences and building our environmental capacity in our community.

Fall/Winter Clean-Up was very successful. The Environmental Program greatly appreciates all the volunteers who came out and helps us pick up trash.

We continue to see many issues at the dump with improper disposal of waste. Wood waste and other garbage is being dumped at the inert waste site. The inert waste site is for large items such as washers, dryers and refrigerators (coolant must be removed be-

fore placing in inert waste pile). If you do not know how to remove the coolant, please contact the Environmental Program and we will make sure that is taken care of before taking to the dump. All aluminum cans should be placed in the recycling bins for aluminum cans. The paper and all burnable (wood, limbs, card board boxes) should be placed in the burn box. Everything else should be properly placed inside of the dump (beyond designated fenced area). Everything else is clearly marked as to where it needs to be staged, if you do not know where to put your waste, please contact us.

If you have any questions or recommendations for the Environmental Program, my door is always open. Qu yana



Pharmaceuticals In Our Water - Proper Disposal Is Key - National Take-Back Day October 26

Increasing use of pharmaceuticals – which include prescription and over-the-counter (OTC) drugs, personal care products, vitamins and veterinary drugs -- has created concern over the effects of these drugs on our environment. Unused and expired drugs are often flushed down the toilet as a means of disposal, where they are permitted to travel freely though our septic systems and municipal waste water treatment plants into our waterways.

Proper disposal of these chemical

compounds is an easy and free way to ensure that drugs do not end up in our drinking water or harm the aquatic ecosystems that we all depend on. For more information about Cook Inlet keeper's Pharmaceutical Disposal program, and plan to participate in the upcoming National Drug Take-Back Day on Saturday, October 26. A list of participating locations in the Cook Inlet watershed are on our website. For More information please follow this web site:

www.inletkeeper.org | keeper@inletkeeper.org



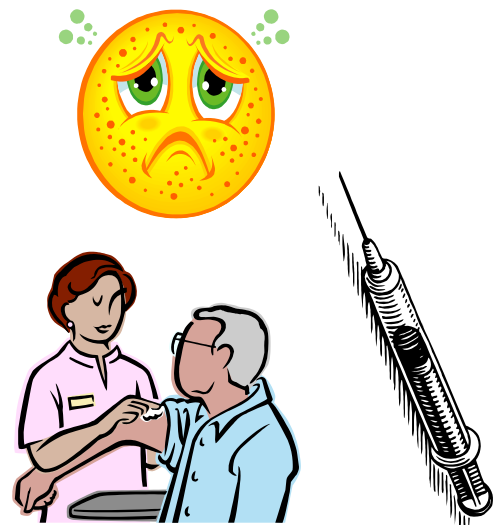
State and Native Health Consortium release top 25 Alaska health concerns

ANCHORAGE — Healthy Alaskans 2020, a joint effort between the state of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, has released its 25 Leading Health Indicators — a list of critical health priorities for Alaska. The indicators provide a science-based framework for identifying public health priorities and are designed to guide efforts in Alaska over the next decade to improve health and ensure health equity for all Alaskans. The selection process was a collaborative effort among a wide spectrum of partners statewide and was both data- and community-driven. A team of experts spent 10 months reviewing Alaska-specific quantitative data related to a broad range of health factors, gathered information from subject matter experts, and considered input from two public surveys in establishing the 25 indicators. The surveys were conducted in the fall of 2012 and spring of 2013 to ascertain Alaskans' top health

concerns and received over 3,000 responses from individuals across the state. The 25 leading health indicators include reducing the rates of cancer, suicide, and interpersonal violence and sexual assault. Alaskans also wanted to see alcohol, tobacco and drug use curtailed, and an increase in disease prevention through vaccines, improved access to in-home water and wastewater services, and lowering Alaska's obesity rate. Target goals for each of the 25 indicators have been established. The next step will be to initiate efforts, or increase existing efforts, to reach those goals. "Success in meeting the leading health indicator targets will require a combined effort on the part of all Alaskans — from individuals to communities to policymakers — working together to promote health and prevent illnesses," said Beverly Wooley, community health systems performance improvement director with ANTHC. All Alaskans are welcome and encouraged to review the 25 leading health indicators on the Healthy Alaskans 2020 website at [\[ha2020.alaska.gov/\]\(http://ha2020.alaska.gov/\). Alaskans are also encouraged to register for the program's Gov. Delivery email distribution list to receive updates and notices of other opportunities to stay involved throughout the process. Healthy Alaskans 2020 is part of the national Healthy People 2020 project to provide science-based, 10-year national objectives for ambitious — yet achievable — goals for improving the health of all Americans.](http://</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Contact: Greg Wilkinson, DHSS, 907-269-7285, Cell 907-382-7032, gregory.wilkinson@alaska.gov
Fiona Brosnan, ANTHC, 907-729-1967, Cell 907-350-8495, fmbrosnan@anthc.org

DHSS is now on Twitter. Follow health updates at www.twitter.com/Alaska_DHSS.





Replace current bulbs for our CFL Bulbs. Why?

Compact Fluorescent Lights

Energy Star qualified CFL, provide the same amount of light as standard incandescent bulbs, but have lower wattage ratings meaning less energy and less pollution.

Port Graham Village Council/ Environmental Program has these Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs in replace of your light bulbs, All you need to do is come by the Environmental Tech. Office Mon-Fri. between 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM and Replace your current light

bulb with the Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL)



Environmental Technician: Rita Meganack

Camai Paluwik

I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer and is settling in for winter. The Environmental Program and Port Graham Village Council has given Community Members a Recycling bin and Reusable handbags, we

would like to see our community members utilizing these Recycling products, in helping to Reduce waste in our Village and landfill. Environmental Technician hours of operation have changed, **Mon. / Fri. 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

Any questions/concerns/comments please stop by my office or give me a call at 284-2227

Thank you!
Rita Meganack



What's the safest and most efficient method to store my wood?

Research confirms that dry wood is cleaner and safer to burn than wet wood. Burning wet wood is less efficient and produces excessive smoke. This leads to many kinds of health problems, including asthma and heart conditions. It also leads to build up of creosote in the chimney, which can result in a chimney fire.

To prepare wood to use in your wood burning device:

- **SPLIT** the wood in half at least once. Your wood should be less than two feet

in length.

- **STACK** in a pile to allow for adequate air flow.
- **STORE** properly by covering the top of the wood pile to protect from rain and snow, leaving sides of the stack open to breath. Store for six months to two years depending on your location, the weather, and type/species of wood.

Store in an area with good exposure to the sun. If wood is prepared after August 1st, store until the following

burn season.

- **SAVE** money and our air. Burning dry wood means your fire burns hotter so you burn less wood



THANK YOU!



VOLUNTEERS



2013

**Fall/Winter
Clean-Up**

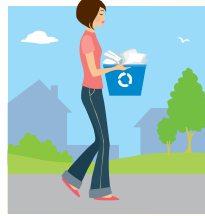


PORT GRAHAM



AWESOME!

VOLUNTEERS



THANK YOU!



2013

Fall/Winter

Clean-Up



AWESOME!

PORT GRAHAM



Port Graham Village Council/
Environmental Program

P.O. BOX 5510
Port Graham, AK 99603

Phone: 907-284-2227
Fax: 907-284-2222
E-mail: vyeaton@yahoo.com
pgenvironmentaltech@gmail.com

We're on the Web!
portgraham.org



KIDS PAGE



Local Box Holder
P.O. BOX 55__
PORT GRAHAM, A.K. 99603

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**Halloween
Word Scramble**



1. fhgreitn _____
2. huatn _____
3. serca _____
4. siehrk _____
5. shcerec _____
6. holw _____
7. sokop _____
8. scmaer _____