

RECYCLING SURVEY

State Name: Alaska

Agency Name: Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Contact Name
and Information: Doug Buteyn, Northern/Southeastern Solid Waste Program
Coordinator,
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
610 University Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99709
Phone: 907-451-2135
Fax: 907-451-2188
doug_buteyn@dec.state.ak.us

1. Please indicate whether recycling of household or residential recyclables is mandatory, voluntary or perhaps both (mandatory for some materials and voluntary for others) in your state.

All recycling in Alaska is voluntary.

2. Is there a State Law(s) that mandates, encourages, or otherwise facilitates the recycling system or programs in your state and what is the reference for that section of your state code?

Alaska State Law (AS 46.06.021) establishes a hierarchy for waste management in which recycling is preferable to disposal. The Solid Waste regulations (18 AAC 60.205) require that waste management strategies must be consistent with that hierarchy.

3. Does your state law (or other directive) mandate, encourage or otherwise specify a state goal for the rate of recycling or diversion (e.g. percentage of overall waste stream, etc.) If so, what's the statutory reference?

Not applicable to Alaska.

4. Please indicate how your state measures recycling rates? (Are there reporting requirements? who reports and how frequently?) What wastes are captured in the measurement of your recycling/diversion rate? (e.g. residential garbage? yard waste? commercial and industrial wastes? waste tires? white goods? automobiles? etc?).

The State of Alaska Solid Waste Program does not measure recycling rates.

5. What association does commercial, institutional, and industrial recycling have with the household or residential recycling in your state? Are recycling activities from these sectors factored into your overall state recycling rate?

The only association is that all recycling in Alaska is voluntary.

6. What is your most recently measured rate of recycling or diversion for your state? (Please indicate the time frame for this measurement. e.g. calendar year, fiscal year, etc.)

The State of Alaska does not measure recycling or diversion rates.

7. What are the most commonly employed systems in your state for collecting residential recyclables. Are different sized communities required or encouraged to meet a certain standard of recycling services?

All recycling is voluntary; self-haul to recycling centers is the most commonly employed collection system.

8. Do you have rural communities in your state that have developed and are maintaining successful residential recycling programs? What type of "system" are these successful communities employing?

Many rural communities have successful programs for recycling aluminum cans through the ALPAR (Alaskans for Litter Prevention and Recycling) program. Information about this program is available at www.alparalaska.com.

9. What incentives (grants, loans, tax incentives, etc.) are offered in your state for recycling and to whom are these incentives available? (state government, local governments, private companies, universities and institutions, etc.) How are these grants or loans funded?

Alaska does not offer any incentives for recycling.

10. Does your agency or state have a "recycling program," In what agency is the program housed and how many full time employees are dedicated to recycling program activities?

Not applicable to Alaska.