

Lessons Learned

- A project can become delayed if there's no staff to work on it. Our project ended up being several months behind schedule due to staff turn-over. The tribe had a hard time finding someone to work on it. Despite the delay, the project ended up being a huge success and was completed on schedule.
- It takes time to change people's behaviors. Be patient, make your educational efforts fun and continuous. It will take many educational events in the community and a variety of outreach efforts to begin seeing a shift in behavior.
- Getting activity supplies to the village can be a challenge. Many ingredients for our green cleaning demonstrations would not ship to Diomedes. We contacted someone in Anchorage who shopped for the supplies we needed and mailed them to us. Bad weather also delayed shipments, so plan ahead.
- Getting adults involved can be challenging. Start with the kids. They will help educate their parents and get them more engaged.



Native Village of Diomedes

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Native Village of Diomedes

Inaliq Hazardous Waste Management and Education Project



Learning from our past to protect our future

Project Overview:

The Native Village of Diomedes recognized that **current management practices and disposal of hazardous waste in the community posed a significant health risk to our people and environment. Through this project we wanted to find new ways to educate our community about hazardous wastes, including youth and introduce methods for minimizing the amount of these materials used in the community.**

Timeline

September 2014—Applied for grant
November 2014—Project Start
December 2015—Project End

This is not part of our culture...



Our ancestors kept the environment clean the way they wanted it, but they didn't have the harmful materials we use today.

What is Hazardous Waste?

Chemical substances or materials that are THROWN AWAY become HAZARDOUS WASTE.

HAZARDOUS WASTE are by-products of Man-made materials.

HAZARDOUS WASTE come from our homes and workplaces and end up in the trash can.

HAZARDOUS WASTE can be found any where outside in the community.

They can include household cleaning supplies, used motor fluids such as oil, lead acid batteries, lights that contain mercury, paints, and more.

When disposed of improperly, they can pollute our air, water and land, harming our health and the foods we depend on for survival.



Our Project

Step 1 - Conduct Research and a Community Waste Assessment

A lot of research was conducted on the internet to learn more about the harmful effects of hazardous waste. We also contacted solid waste experts to help with our educational efforts. We also created a commercial and residential waste assessment that we used to learn more about the types of materials being used in the community and how they were being disposed of.

Step 2 - Engage the Community

We created a list of events to engage residents in the project. We created presentations and fliers to share information with community members. With the help of the ADEC solid waste program, we held a community meeting. We wanted a variety of educational events that would help inform residents and provide them with information on minimizing use of hazardous waste and instructions for proper disposal. Alternatives were also shared through events such as our Green Cleaning demonstrations.

Inaliq Hazardous Waste Management Program

Schedule of Events

The overall objective is to increase local knowledge on harmful hazardous waste and chemical exposure incidents. The Environmental Coordinator will collaborate with the Diomedea IRA, City of Diomedea, Diomedea School, Inalik Native Corporation, and residential homes with community education, outreach activities, and conduct assessments to identify sources of pollution problems.

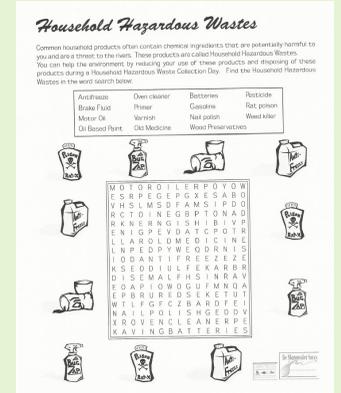
Date/Time	Event	Other information
August 20, 2015 8:00-11:00AM	Waste Event: Community members and Crew Workers of R/V Shikiluaq move electronic waste, lead-acid batteries, fluorescent lights, household batteries, and ALPAR Cans to the vessel.	Community members and Crew Workers of R/V Shikiluaq move appliances of fans, fluorescent lights, Household Batteries, Lead-Acid Batteries, and ALPAR Cans to the vessel. It would be a major health issue if these items were burned in the Burn Box Incinerator.
August 24, 2015 10:00-3:30PM	Household Hazardous Waste Residential Questionnaire	Complete an assessment on "How Much Do You Know About Hazardous Household Materials?"
August 28 2015	COMMUNITY AWARENESS FLYERS and Handouts for your home. Tips on how to make your own household cleaners to making homemade mayonnaise!	Tips from "VIM & VINEGAR". Flyers created from this book are posted around the community. Paper handouts/brochures will also be available at the Washeteria and IRA Office.
August 31, 2015	Residential Surveys: Household Hazardous Solid Waste Accumulation	Coordinator will meet with head of the household members to conduct a Household Waste Generation Survey.
September 9th to September 17th	Commercial Surveys: Hazardous Waste Accumulation	Coordinator will conduct a Commercial assessment with City, School, Inalik Corp., Native Store, and Native Village of Diomedea.
September 15 2:00-3:00PM	Kid's Activities: How We Can HELP to Reduce Household Hazardous Waste	Puzzles, Coloring pages, Picture Drawing, Community Poster making contest. Community posters will be posted in public workplaces.
September 26th	Community Pot Luck: Celebrating a Healthier Environment	People will bring their own dishes to share with the community. Children will share their community poster and Homemade Cleaning Solutions.

SEE OPIK

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Step 3 - Work with the School

We worked with the school administration to ensure they were using non-toxic cleaning products and worked closely with the school children to educate them about the importance of keeping our environment clean. We worked to make it fun for the kids.



Step 4 - Find Volunteers to Implement Solutions

We found volunteers in the community to help clean-up and to prepare solutions for the community.



Community clean-up and making battery recycling containers to place around the community.

