



Recycling

Recycling Baseline Completed

In January 2006, Rachel Schwarz and Regina Gasco began conducting Recycling Assessments with the ultimate goal of creating a baseline of recycled materials that are collected by the tribe. These assessments were conducted using a full week's collection of recyclable materials which are then sorted and counted. We use these numbers to get a weekly average. These numbers are then converted using standard conversions into a final weight, giving a monthly average. We were able to accurately measure the success of our Recycling Program. Not only does this aid in our future grant funding and reporting; it also helps us to recognize and eliminate discrepancies in our program through Recycling education and awareness. This baseline ended in September 2006 along with our 2 year Solid Waste grant that provided funding for equipment, salaries & wages, materials, and some training.

During this two year grant we have provided all government offices with the option of recycling cardboard, office paper, glass, deposits, aluminum, and plastics. We have also grown to include alkaline batteries, printer cartridges, fluorescent light bulbs, Household Hazardous Waste, and coming soon cooking oil (this will be investigated for the possibility of recycling used cooking oil, generated in the administration area kitchen, and turning it into BioDiesel).

Throughout this last year we have expanded our recycling services to Victories Hotel, Victories Administration, Biindigen, and continue to serve the Administration building, tribal housing, Natural Resources Department, Substance Abuse, Human Services, Mskiki Gumik (Bear River Health Park) and 1345 U.S. 31 (white house). All buildings that participate received stackable recycling bins and the larger facilities received recycling stations. We were able to offer a cardboard dumpster through Waste management at Biindigen, LTBB Administration, and Mskiki Gumik. Most of these facilities generate a lot of shredded paper, so these facilities were also provided rollout carts to help contain the large amount of shredded paper.



All of these services offered through the Environmental Services Department (ESD) are executed with the remarkable help of our facilities departments and without them none of these services would be available.

Chi Miigwetch to all of our Facilities Departments for your commitment to our Recycling Program!!

The ESD will continue to offer Recycling services to the Tribe, and will strive for continued expansion of the Recycling Program.



Regina Gasco
Environmental Assistant/Recycling Coordinator
PH: (231) 242-1574
Fax: (231) 242-1575