



ALASKA CENTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

SUMMER 2004

Center News

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Center News / Alaska Center
for the Environment
807 G Street, Suite 100
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 274-3621 / FAX: 274-8733

E-mail: ace@akcenter.org
www.akcenter.org



Staff

Randy Virgin, *Executive Director*
Thomas Burek, *Trailside Discovery Camp Director*
Tia Rose Behrens, *Canvass Director*
Andre Camara, *Campaigner, Anchorage Quality of Life*
Dwayne Lee, *Financial Officer*
Seth Little, *Legislative Coordinator*
Theo Saner, *Membership and Communications Director*
Beth Silverberg, *Project Director Campaign for Alaska*
Bobbie Jo Skibo, *Wild Forest Program Coordinator*
Clare Stockert, *Membership and Volunteer Coordinator*

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

TOURISM BOYCOTT MISSES THE MARK

Wolf control in Alaska is always a controversial subject, and the current same-day airborne programs implemented by the Governor are no different. Same-day airborne hunts violate fair chase principles, and Alaska voters have twice rejected same-day airborne as an appropriate method of predator control.

However, the tourism boycott organized by Friends of Animals will only hurt the people of Alaska and the small-to-medium sized tour businesses that share Friends' concerns for Alaska's wildlife. Friends of Animals may have their hearts in the right place, but the current drive to boycott Alaska misses the mark.

In 1993, there was another call for a tourism boycott in response to Alaska's wolf control policy. The only companies negatively affected by the boycott were small to mid-sized businesses (many of whom are represented by the Alaska Wilderness Recreation Tourism Association, or AWRTA). For some of the smaller, family-owned companies, the financial losses resulting from the boycott were devastating, nearly putting them out of business.

The current boycott could likely have the same result. **It will have little, if any, effect on large tour companies and multi-national cruise lines. Instead, the small companies that cater to nature lovers and are active in efforts to protect Alaska's environment would bear the brunt of any economic harm.**

Tourism dependent businesses have already suffered from a slowing economy, lack of state funds for tourism marketing, and decreasing visitation. A successful tourism boycott could result in many wilderness-dependent and conservation-minded businesses closing down. This would surely be a great loss for Alaska and its wildlife.

AWRTA businesses and others like them are demonstrating the economic value of conservation and making a difference not only for wolves, but for all of Alaska's wildlife and ecosystems.

If you really care about Alaska's wildlife, encourage your friends in the lower 48 to ignore the boycott- and support Alaskan organizations and businesses that can make a difference right here.



Thank you to AWRTA for contributing to this article.

TRAILSIDE DISCOVERY CAMP

OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL ED-VENTURES

All of our programs are designed to be both fun and informative. Naturalists lead small groups teaching natural history and the natural sciences, nature craft, social growth, as well as leadership and outdoor skills. Programs emphasize interactive, enjoyable, hands-on outdoor experiences. Participants slog through bogs, explore forests, and tread gently across trails and beaches learning about nature while immersed in it. Join us for a fun-filled summer in the great outdoors!

- **Preschool Programs**
(ages 4-5)

9am to 4pm \$190/week

- **Day Programs**
(ages 6-7, 8-9, 10-13)

9am to 4pm \$170/week
(4 weeks for \$600)

- **Alaskan Quest Programs**
(ages 8-16)

Camping, Backpacking, Kayak/Marine Science, or Mountain Biking/Canoeing
(trips range from \$195 to \$500)



Trailside Discovery Camp
274-KIDS

Online registration:
www.akcenter.org

Outdoor Environmental Ed-ventures
American Camping Association Accredited
A program of Alaska Center for the Environment



TAKE PRIDE IN ANCHORAGE



by Andre Camara, Anchorage Issue Coordinator

In the summer of 2003 ACE launched its “TAKE PRIDE IN ANCHORAGE” campaign, working to keep the real Alaska alive and well in and around Anchorage – before it’s too late. Most Alaskans reside in Anchorage, and we believe that Alaska’s largest urban area should be a model city with a connected network of trails and natural areas, unfilled wetlands, adequate public transportation, curbside recycling, and strong urban design standards.

RECYCLING

Anchorage residents want an easy and convenient way to recycle common household items. We believe the time to act is now! After years of grassroots organizing, recycling one-stop drop-offs, and countless hours of education about “recycling it right,” we have successfully prompted the city to hire a Recycling Coordinator! Nearly four years ago, the Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan was adopted by the Assembly, but they did so without assigning responsibility to a specific position, group or office for implementation.

Soon after taking office, Mayor Begich attended a quarterly recycling meeting hosted by Green Star to discuss what can be done to create better recycling opportunities in Anchorage. That discussion pointed out some of the major hurdles to implementing the plan -- a lack of leadership from past administrations and “ownership” of the plan. Since that meeting, the Mayor has provided leadership at the city level, and recently announced a commitment to create a new Recycling Coordinator position - a critical step we had identified to move the city forward.

Take Action: Contact the Mayor and your Assemblyperson. Thank them for steps that have been implemented and ask them to support implementation of a pay-as-you-throw trash rate system for residential trash. Such a system would financially reward citizens’ efforts to reduce waste and recycle.

PARKS PLAN

The Anchorage Parks Plan rewrite is making progress, and we’re anticipating opportunities for public involvement this summer and fall. Since the beginning of the revision process, ACE staff and members have participated in focus group meetings, public forums, workshops, stakeholder interviews and a formal survey to identify community values and concerns to help shape the city’s future parks plan.

As Anchorage continues to grow, our parks, greenbelts, trails and natural open spaces will play a more important role in the quality of life we’ve come to enjoy and depend on. Of course, we all want more parks of all types, but specifically ACE is working to make sure the Plan codifies Natural Open Space as a park designation and identifies the need to have community parks of different types in every area of town - you shouldn’t have to drive to enjoy a park! We’re also dedicated to defending Far North Bicentennial Park, supporting the southern extension of the Coastal Trail, and implementing a citywide trails and parks dedication to ensure that these assets are a legacy for future generations. With the revision of the Anchorage Park and Greenbelt Plan underway, your participation is important. The creation of great parks, natural open space and recreation facilities means a collaborative community effort including businesses, neighborhoods, and citizens.

Take Action: Attend one of the upcoming public meetings - Planning & Zoning Public Hearing and recommendations (this schedule will come out in June or July), Assembly Public hearing and adoption (will be scheduled after Planning & Zoning meeting).

PESTICIDE UPDATE

The problem is that the city’s “Pesticide Control” code (Title 15, Chapter 15.75) lacks provisions for requiring least toxic or integrated pest management (IPM) approaches. When targeting unwanted aphids, whiteflies, weeds and fungi, the Municipality of Anchorage and its contracted applicators currently use pesticide products that contain known and possible carcinogens, persistent ingredients and/or products labeled as highly toxic or extremely toxic to birds, fish, bees or wildlife. With some of these applications occurring on routine schedules the code provides only minimal notification of 24 hours to contiguous properties by commercial and municipal applicators.

That’s why ACE and Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT) have been fighting to improve the Municipal Pesticide Ordinance, requiring Least-Toxic Pest Management Policies and improved public notification. When pests appear, mechanical, physical, biological, and

other safe alternative methods will be the preferred method with hazardous pesticides only being used as a last resort.

Anchorage residents have a right to know when and where potentially harmful chemicals are being used in order to make informed choices about individual exposure. That's why the proposed ordinance also requires a 48 hour notice to be posted before and after professional pesticide applications.

Take Action: Contact your Anchorage Assembly Members and ask them to support a stronger "Pesticide Right-to-Know" Ordinance.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Commercial scale renewable energy could soon be available to Alaskan consumers for the first time, if utility companies move forward on a proposal to construct a wind farm on Fire Island off the coast of Anchorage. Perhaps the greatest benefit of producing wind electricity so close to Anchorage is that it will fuel people's interest in renewable energy. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, Alaska has most of the best wind resources in

the country. Fire Island would allow Anchorage to burn less natural gas to generate its electricity.

Take Action: Consumers can help make Fire Island a reality by urging the Chugach Electric board of directors to move forward with the project. Those directors need to know that their customers are behind them in what will be a large capital investment in Alaska's energy future. Visit www.akcenter.org for the Board of Directors contact info.

TRAIL WATCH

Last year a series of attempted assaults and a general concern for the safety of trail users led to the formation of the Trail Watch program. In its first summer, more than 250 volunteers (including myself) signed up for the Trail Watch program. This year the goal is to sign up 1,000 Trail Watchers. Being the largest grassroots organization in the state, it's a perfect fit for ACE's TAKE PRIDE IN ANCHORAGE campaign, to help educate folks about the Trail Watch program, making the city's most popular attraction safer.

Take Action: For more information on the program and to learn how to volunteer visit www.akcenter.org.

SOUTHERN EXTENSION OF THE COASTAL

The Southern Extension of the Coastal Trail has been on city trails plans since the early 80's. The completed trail, from downtown to Potter Weigh Station, and eventually all the way to Girdwood, would be a world-class attraction and a major addition to our quality of life in Alaska's biggest city.

ACE does support a mostly-coastal, mostly-natural route with a minimum of "at-grade" street crossings. We recognize that the all-coastal route simply isn't feasible both because it poses unacceptable risk to the Coastal Refuge, and because it would most certainly be challenged in court.

Take Action: The important thing now is to demonstrate public support for a workable trail. Our elected officials need to get the message, loud and clear, and build a feasible extension before we lose this historic opportunity forever.

LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)

The citizens of Anchorage are moving into their first major debate on transportation in the past 30 years. Many cities have come to the realization that their transportation systems must offer a focus for development rather than respond to development patterns, as has been the pattern here in Anchorage.

Dan Burden, a nationally prominent advocate of pedestrian-friendly city planning, attracted many people in Anchorage with his concepts of pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods and attractive streets that are designed to move traffic with a minimum of



WALKING THE TALK - ACE's own Andre Camera volunteering with the city's Trail Watch program to help keep our urban trails safe.

continued on page 15

KENAI PENINSULA BROWN BEARS



by Bobbie Jo Skibo, Wild Forest Program Coordinator

Guest article by John Schoen

To most people, Alaska symbolizes the very essence of wilderness and the last stronghold for species like wolves and brown bears. Unfortunately, like the rest of the world, Alaska's wilderness is showing signs of stress. Increased development coupled with a steady increase in population within the past decade has placed the Kenai Peninsula brown bears at risk.

The brown bear population on the Kenai Peninsula is estimated at 250-300 bears. This small population is geographically isolated from the rest of Alaska. This "island" population is not unlike that in the Yellowstone Ecosystem, where grizzlies have been listed for decades as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Although the Kenai is about 9,000 square miles in size, brown bears are regularly distributed over less than half the area. The Kenai Peninsula is connected to the Alaska Mainland by a narrow 9-mile wide isthmus between Cook Inlet and Prince William Sound. Human activity in this narrow corridor likely restricts movements of bears between the Kenai and mainland Alaska.

A research model developed for the Chugach National Forest portion of the Kenai Peninsula estimated that habitat effectiveness for brown bears has already been reduced by approximately 70 percent due to the cumulative effects of human activities. Brown bears have the lowest reproductive rate of any land mammal in North America. For example, most females don't breed until they are 5 or 6 years old, their average litter is 2 cubs, the interval between litters is 3 to 4 years, and half the cubs may die during their first year. Consequently, brown bear populations cannot sustain high mortality pressures.

Expanding human activities across the Kenai will increase bear-human contact, inevitably resulting in the direct mortality of bears through legal hunting, kills in defense of life and property, and illegal killing. The Kenai Peninsula is one of Alaska's most developed and fastest growing regions. Connected by road to Anchorage, the Kenai is the focal area for many of the State's outdoor recreationists and an important visitor destination for a growing tourism industry. Logging, mining, oil and gas development, land subdivision, and other developments also are increasing throughout the Kenai Peninsula. All these activities increase opportunities for bear-human encounters, and their cumulative impacts on habitat are of particular concern to wildlife managers in Alaska. A single, isolated development may not be a significant impact, but it is an incremental step toward a declining bear population.

The time to address the Kenai brown bear problem with a proactive, cost-effective conservation strategy is now. If we wait until later, we may be forced into costly, reactive management to restore a healthy population. However, by taking positive actions now, we have reason for optimism. Our ability to bring people together to solve the Kenai brown bear problem will also serve as a positive model for solving other conservation problems elsewhere in Alaska. The old adage "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" is clearly an appropriate model for conserving Alaska's rich biological diversity.

Excerpts taken from Endangered Species Bulletin, March/April 1999, by John Schoen.

Dr. John W. Schoen is a Senior Scientist for Audubon Alaska. He formerly worked for 20 years for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, including 10 years as a brown bear research biologist.



BROWN BEARS on the Kenai Peninsula are a population at risk (photo by Larry Aumiller).

BE BEAR AWARE - FOR YOUR SAKE AND THEIRS

GARBAGE, DOG FOOD, AND BIRD SEED ARE BAD NEWS FOR BEARS

IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO FEED BEARS.

Bears are part of what makes Alaska special - but we all have to work together to keep bears from becoming problem bears around our communities. You can help out locally by working within your neighborhood to encourage others to manage their garbage, dog food, birdseed—anything that might attract a bear. Encourage your neighbors to put garbage out on pickup day, rather than the night before. Create a phone tree to spread the word if there is a bear in the neighborhood. By working together at the local level, we can keep bears and people safe.

To learn more about bears, review the information in the booklet “Living in Harmony with Bears” available at agency visitor centers or at the Audubon Alaska web page: www.aububonalaska.org

For more information or to get involved with Brown Bear conservation efforts, call Bobbie Jo Skibo at 907-240-0539 or bobbiejo@akcenter.org



TREED BEAR CUB on the Kenai Peninsula (photo by Helen Rhodes)

WHAT YOU CAN DO -- BE RESPONSIBLE WITH YOUR:



GARBAGE:

Use bear-proof trash containers. Otherwise, keep your garbage airtight and odor free, and store inside until pick up day or dispose of it immediately.

Visit: www.state.ak.us/adfg to view bear-proof containers.



BIRD SEED:

Don't feed birds during active bear season (Late March to early November). Birds don't need supplemental food at this time.



LIVESTOCK:

Install electric fences to keep bears out of corrals, chicken coops, and rabbit hutches.



PET FOOD:

Store pet food inside or in a bear-proof container. Bring food bowls in as soon as pet is finished eating.

ACE ON THE PENINSULA

This summer, ACE has opened up a seasonal satellite office at the Pioneer Village next to the boat ramp in Cooper Landing to assist in an educational and informational outreach project regarding the Kenai Brown Bear population and associated problems. ACE will be complementing efforts of the resource agencies to ensure that safety, proper garbage and pet food management, and conservation remain paramount on the Kenai Peninsula. Volunteers are needed and greatly appreciated!

For more information, or to get involved with the Citizens Brown Bear Bulletin, which will be an ongoing project to inform and educate people on brown bear activity and safety on the Peninsula, call Bobbie Jo Skibo at 907-240-0539 or

“5 AAC 92.230. A person may not intentionally feed a moose (except under terms of a permit issued by the department), bear, wolf, coyote, fox, or wolverine, or negligently leave human food, pet food, or garbage in a manner that attracts these animals. However, this prohibition does not apply to use of bait for trapping furbearers or hunting black bears under 5 AAC 84 - 5 AAC 92.”

RECYCLING road map

Recycling is something that we all can do to conserve our landfill space and help the environment. But, recycling can be more than taking your newspaper to the supermarket. Many household items can be recycled locally. Here's a guide to recycling in Anchorage. Thanks for doing your part to keep Alaska beautiful.



ALUMINUM CANS

Smurfit-Stone Recycling Company
562-2267
6161 Rosewood Street

Some Carrs stores and some elementary schools
(see map)



BATTERIES

Alaska Battery Manufacturing
562-4949
166 E. Potter Drive
Will pick up or you can drop off.
Leaking batteries cost six cents/lb.



CELL PHONES

The Body Shop
Donate your used wireless phones with battery
and charger at the 5th Avenue Mall.



CONSUMER ELECTRONICS

Alaska Metal Recycling
9705 King Street in Anchorage
349-4833
alaskametal@alaska.net, or visit
<http://www.alaskametalrecycling.com>.



COMPUTERS

Call GreenStar 278-7827 for information.



CORRUGATED CARDBOARD

Anchorage Regional Landfill
Glenn Highway and Hiland Ave.

Smurfit-Stone Recycling Company
562-2267
6161 Rosewood Street



GLASS

Anchorage Regional Composting Facility
243-8577
7985 West End Road (Point Woronzof)

Anchorage Regional Landfill
Glenn Highway and Hiland Ave.

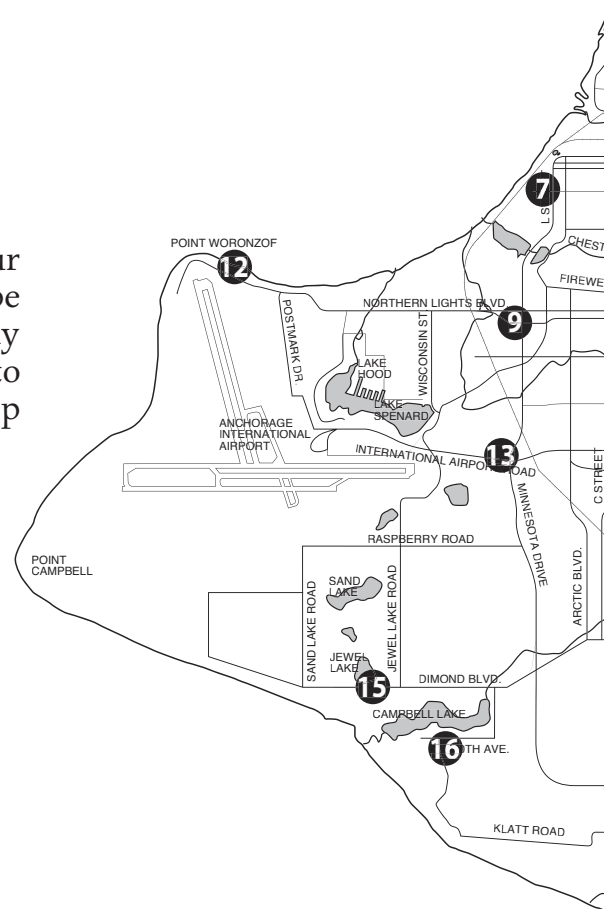
Brown Jug Warehouse
563-3008
4140 Old Seward Hwy. & Tudor Road

Smurfit-Stone Recycling Company
562-2267
6161 Rosewood Street



MIXED PAPER/PAPERBOARD

Smurfit-Stone Recycling Company
562-2267
6161 Rosewood Street



NEWSPAPERS

Smurfit-Stone Recycling Company
562-2267
6161 Rosewood Street

Some Carrs stores and some elementary
schools (see map)



SORTED PLASTICS

PLASTIC BOTTLES

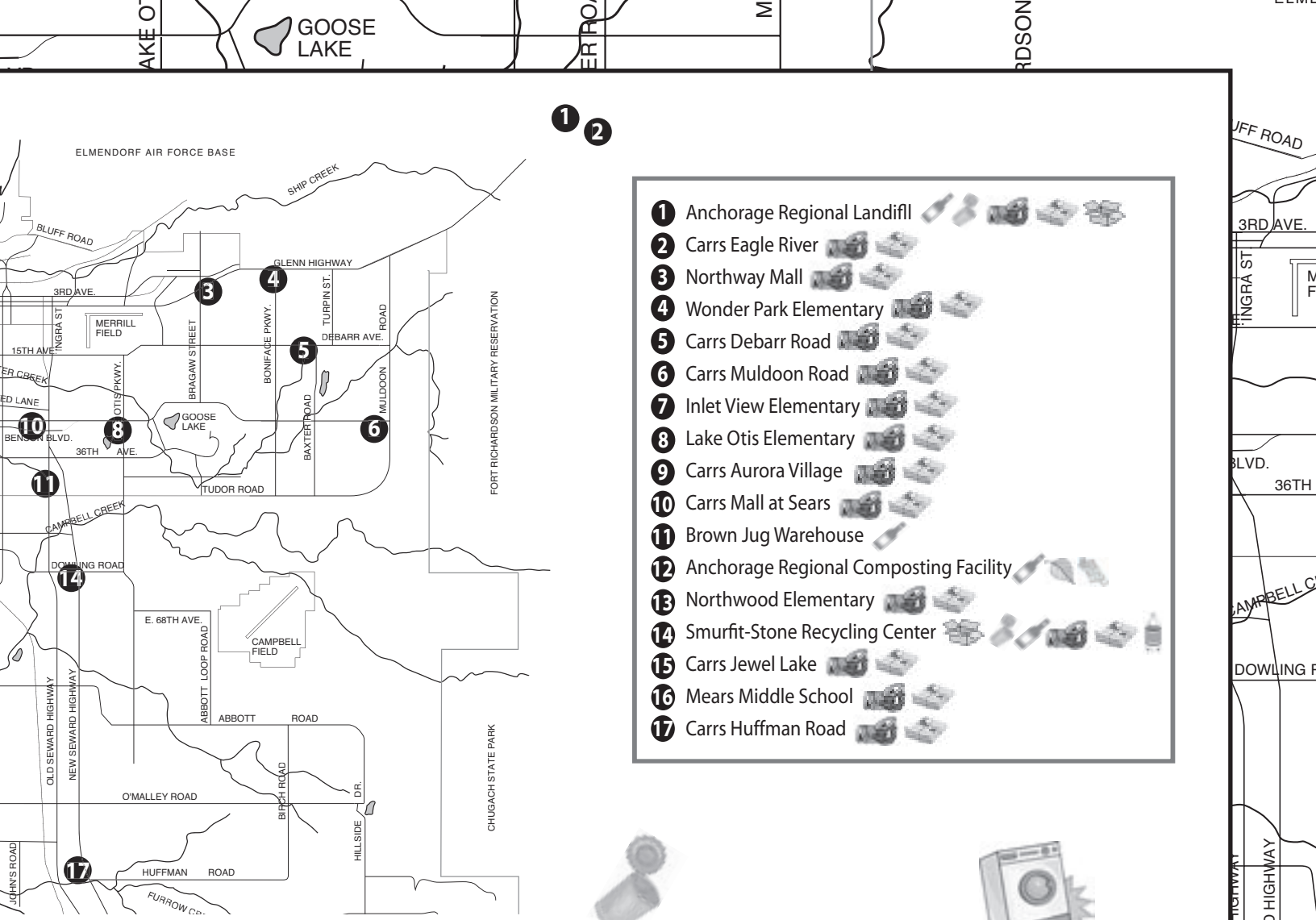
#1 PETE soda and water bottles - no caps!

PLASTIC JUGS

#2 HDPE plastic milk & detergent jugs - no caps!
Drop-off at Smurfit-Stone Recycling Center,
accepted 9am-noon & 12:30pm -4pm M-F only.

PLASTIC BAGS

grocery bags, newspaper sleeves, and shrink
wrap.
Drop-off at Smurfit-Stone Recycling Center,
accepted 9am-noon & 12:30pm -4pm M-F only.
Bins also are located inside Carrs, Fred Meyer,
and Wal-Mart stores.



- 1 Anchorage Regional Landfill
- 2 Carrs Eagle River
- 3 Northway Mall
- 4 Wonder Park Elementary
- 5 Carrs Debarr Road
- 6 Carrs Muldoon Road
- 7 Inlet View Elementary
- 8 Lake Otis Elementary
- 9 Carrs Aurora Village
- 10 Carrs Mall at Sears
- 11 Brown Jug Warehouse
- 12 Anchorage Regional Composting Facility
- 13 Northwood Elementary
- 14 Smurfit-Stone Recycling Center
- 15 Carrs Jewel Lake
- 16 Mears Middle School
- 17 Carrs Huffman Road



SCRAP METAL

- Alaska Metal Recycling
349-4833
9705 King Street
- Hilltop Recycling
Mile 4.5 Old Glenn Highway, Chugiak
- Mobile Metals, Inc.
277-7777
- Smurfit-Stone Recycling Company
562-2267
6161 Rosewood Street



TIRES AND INNER TUBES

Alaska Tire Recycling, Inc.,
(907) 357-8473
Wasilla



STEEL CANS

- Anchorage Regional Landfill
Glenn Highway and Hiland Ave.
- Smurfit-Stone Recycling Company
562-2267
6161 Rosewood Street



WOOD WASTE

- Alaska Pallet Company
243-2432
8100 Petersburg
- Anchorage Regional Composting Facility
243-8577
7985 West End Road (Point Woronzof)
- Pallet Services of Alaska
688-9707



YARD WASTE

Anchorage Regional Composting Facility
243-8577
7985 West End Road (Point Woronzof)



APPLIANCES

- Alaska Metal Recycling
349-4833
9705 King Street, Anchorage
- Alaska Refrigeration, Inc.
800-619-8260 or 562-3521
4205 Cope Street, Anchorage
Refrigerant recovery services
- Polar Refrigeration & Restaurant Equipment
349-3500
6446 Homer Drive, Anchorage
Refrigerant recovery services



TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES

- Carrs stores where you usually take your newspapers and aluminum cans.
- Smurfit-Stone Recycling Company
6161 Rosewood Street
- The old PX on base at Fort Richardson,
- ACS offices
600 Telephone Avenue.

JUNEAU WATCHDOG



by Seth Little, Legislative Coordinator

2004 END OF SESSION WRAP-UP

Overall, we're happy to report that few environmental attacks became law this legislative session. After the intense battles from last year (including the transfer of the Habitat Division from Fish and Game), we were expecting the worst this year. And while a handful of bills we opposed did pass, many more failed- and the worst threats did not become law.

We've heard repeatedly from state leaders that 'the stars are aligned', and Alaska has very little to show for it. Rather than moving a coherent agenda this year, lawmakers ended up squabbling over specific bills from individuals- and failed to make good on promises for a long-term fiscal fix, a long-term education funding plan, or much else in the way of long-term thinking.

Additionally, ACE participated in a statewide conservation effort to better represent the environment in this year's session- we added staff, trained members, sent volunteers to Juneau to speak with their representatives, organized hundreds of calls to lawmakers, and more- and we've heard from legislative staff that these efforts clearly made a difference.

For a complete list of the bills we were tracking and their fate, visit www.akcenter.org/2004billtrack.html

LEGISLATION UPDATE

Of the fourteen conservation-related bills we were tracking, six passed before the end of the session. The bills that passed include the state gaining a hand in the local transportation decisions of Anchorage (SB 260) and the state taking on the oversight and financial responsibility of federal waste permits for timber related activities (HB 546) (we opposed both), and a requirement that restaurants disclose whether the salmon they serve is farmed or wild (SB 282), which we supported.

During the session some bills moved so fast they received little debate or discussion, and combined with closed-door caucus meetings the public was essentially shut out of the process. In the final hours of work many controversial bills did not have enough support to pass. Bills we opposed that died during the home stretch include an intensive bear control bill (SB 297), a land disposal measure (HB 319), plus an attempt to cap the state's ownership of land (HB 498). The legislature tried and failed to pass a bill affecting how Anchorage elects its mayor (SB 227), as well as a bill that would have exempted the

Alaska Railroad from local municipal regulations (SB 395).

COAL BED METHANE UPDATE

Alaskans that are currently impacted by coal bed methane leases in the Mat-Su Valley and Homer area did not get the protections they had asked their legislators for. Of the eight bills that were introduced dealing with CBM, only one passed, HB 531. HB 351

is a mixed bag for new leases, and does nothing for the areas already leased in the Mat-Su and around Homer. HB 531 failed to ban toxic fracturing fluids from the development process and provided no opportunity for property owners to say "no" to development on their land. The bill does eliminate the flawed shallow gas program, ensuring that future leases include better public notice, a comment period and competitive bidding; a package that current leases missed out on. The



ATTENDANTS AT A VOLUNTEER TRAINING during the legislative session

Department of Natural Resources is currently involved in a process to develop "Enforceable Standards" to provide some relief for those impacted by current leases in the Mat-Su Valley.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

ACE worked to promote good legislation, and in some cases pushed to make legislation better by being involved in the daily process. We voiced our opinions on proposals before the legislature, and with your help, we were able to hold legislators accountable for their actions. We asked you to call your legislators and write letters. We sent staff and members down to Juneau to follow bills, meet with legislators, and roam the halls. We held trainings at our office to introduce members to the legislative process, talk about legislative issues, and discuss how ordinary citizens can become involved to change policy. This session we were your eyes and ears in Juneau, but you were the voice that was heard. Our strength as a grassroots organization comes from our membership; only through people power are we able to do the work that we do. Thank you for your support!

SELECTED BILLS AND THEIR FATE

For a complete list of the bills we tracked, and their status, visit the 2004 Legislative Bill Track of the Juneau Watchdog program on our website (www.akcenter.org).

BILLS WE SUPPORTED

SB 282 - Wild Salmon Labeling - Passed
requires restaurants to disclose whether the salmon they serve is farmed or wild

SB 27 - Pesticide Right to Know - Did not pass
would create a pesticide tracking program including a fee structure for registration

BILLS WE OPPOSED

SB 260 - State Influence of Anchorage Transportation Decisions - Passed
increases state representation on the local transportation decision making board

HB 319 - Remote Recreational Cabins - Did not pass
would have allowed individuals to nominate their favorite piece of state land for disposal

SB 297 - Bear Control - Did not pass
would have instituted an aggressive predator control program to include bears

SUMMER CALENDAR

JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

June 5: National Trails Day

June 8: World Oceans Day (www.gdrc.org/oceans/oceans-day)

June 19: Solstice Festival, Moose Pass

June 26: Cooper Landing ACE satellite office open house potluck

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

July 4: Look for ACE in Seward

July 17: Alaska Oceans Festival - Park Strip, Anchorage

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

State Fair Volunteers Needed

Aug 7-14: Wild Chugach for Wild Salmon Week - see ad on page 13 for more information

Aug 13: Chugach Day kickoff party

Aug 14: Festival of the Forest, Cooper Landing - see ad on page 13 for more information

Aug 6- Sept 6: Alaska State Fair at the Palmer Fairgrounds.

Visit the ACE fair booth, or call Clare to volunteer, 274-3626

Volunteer for four-hour shifts to help recycle at the Fair

(contact Green Star at 278-7839 or jeanne@greenstarinc.org)

THE VOLUNTEER CORNER



by Clare Stockert, Membership and Volunteer Coordinator

At ACE, membership isn't just a check-writing exercise. As a grassroots organization, our strength comes from our members. ACE owes our success to the many volunteers who support the staff by working tirelessly to protect the wild places we cherish and improve our quality of life in Alaska.

This year has been a record year in terms of volunteer support. As ACE continues to grow and expand, we have called on our volunteers to help us take on the extra work, and they have risen to the challenge!

ACE volunteers have helped out with our legislative work by making phone calls, writing letters and giving testimony on issues such as aerial spraying of pesticides and coal bed methane development. They also pitched in with special events such as the Spring Auction and the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Anniversary Event. And they have put their muscle into projects like the Greenstar Electronics Recycling Fair, "Scoop the Poop" Day and our Adopt-a-Highway and Bike Path Clean Ups.

Perhaps our biggest accomplishment was turning out the largest team at this year's Anchorage Waterways Council's Annual Creek Cleanup. With 34 volunteers, we more than doubled our size from last year and took home the "Colossal Creek Cleaners Award" for the second year in a row.

These are just a few of the ways volunteers have gotten involved with ACE this year. This summer we will continue to clean our adopted bike path and highway, assist with trail repairs around the Chugach and work in a coalition to put on the 2nd Annual "Chugach Day- Festival of the Forest."

If you are interested in getting more involved with ACE and helping out in your community, please feel free to contact me at any time. Also, if you would like to sign-up for our "ACE Volunteer List Serve" to get monthly email alerts on volunteer opportunities, you can send me an email at clare@akcenter.org or give me a call at 274-3626. Thanks!



EARTH DAY - ACE volunteers staffing the booth at APU on April 18.



TRAIL CLEANUP - cleaning up the Eagle River bike trail from Eagle River bridge to Peter's Creek.



CREEK CLEANUP - ACE volunteers cleaned up Chester Creek near Woodside Park on May 15. ACE's group was awarded the Colossal Creek Cleaners Award for the second year in a row.

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS FOR THEIR HELP THIS SPRING...

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| Alan Smith | Dirk Sisson | Laura Silliphant |
| Alex Gramere | Durelle Smith | Lena McGinnis |
| Amalie Couvillion | Emily Creely | Maddie, Morgan, Kayla and
Christie Stepanik |
| Andrew Koster | Gabe Virgin | Margaret Hazeltine |
| Angela Gonzalez | Ginna Purrington | Mary Banaszak |
| Anna Barnwell | Iris Prophet | Mary DeLozier-Buckingham |
| Arturo Duene | James Creely | Mary Lou Teel |
| Alaska Youth for
Environmental Action | Jane Martinez | Matt Rafferty |
| Barbara Bennett | Janeen Herr | McLaughlin Youth Center
Volunteers |
| Beth Silverberg | Jari Burns | Melissa Heuer |
| Beth Verrelli | Jason Geck | Mick Mains |
| Beverly Churchill | Jenn Sundquist | Mimi Hogan |
| Brandie Theisen | Jess Young | Pamela A Miller |
| Brooke Kents | Jessica Marcy | Patti Saunders |
| Cara Fox | Jill Bjorholm | Paul Malin |
| Carol Hazeltine | Jillian and Tim Morrissey | Rachel Amann |
| Cathleen Tierney | Jim Maconachie | Rhiannon Hill |
| Charles Couvillion | Jim Stratton | Rita Goodrich |
| Cindy Lee | Jimmy Jackson | Sarah Wallner |
| Colleen O'Brien | Jodie Ross | Shari Showalter |
| Currey Cook | Josh Eash | Shelley Johnson |
| Dan Cheyette | Josie Breeding | Shelly Morgan |
| Dan Frank | Julie Obermeyer | Steve Cleary |
| Dan McClean | Karen Larsen | Steve Landry |
| Dan Stellar | Karla Kolash | Stray Dogma |
| Deb and Ben Greene | Kat Bang | Tia Behrens |
| DeeAnn Apgar | Kate Sangster | Tim Seaver |
| Devron and Connor | Kay Marcy | Vera Pashke |
| Hellings | Kristiann Retzler | Victoria Walsh |
| Diana Redwood | Kurt Marcy | |
| Diane Frank | LA Piper | |
| | Laura Schue | |

Celebrate Chugach Days

"Wild Chugach for Wild Salmon Week"

August 7th-14th, 2004

Festival of the Forest,

August 14th, 2004

Celebrate the 97th Birthday of the Chugach
during a week of "Wild" proportions!

"Wild Chugach for Wild Salmon Week"

August 7th-14th, 2004

Over 50 businesses around Anchorage and the Chugach National Forest participated in the celebration last year by offering discounts and specials on our world-renowned Alaskan Wild Salmon. All promotional materials celebrate the wild salmon of the Chugach, including the famous Copper River Reds, in support of Alaska wild salmon that serve as the lifeblood of our economy and our culture.

If your business would like to participate, please call Betsy Goll, Sierra Club at 276-4044, email: betsy@sierraclubalaska.org

Festival of the Forest"

August 14th, 2004, Cooper Landing

This years festival will include: "The Chugach Challenge"--Raft, Fish and Kayak Trips--Live Music--Cultural Dancing and Drumming--Kid's Corner--Seminars--Art Gallery--Diverse Booths--Wild Fish Fry--FREE CAMPING, MORE FREE PARKING than last year, and tons of fun for all ages! Booth Space Available, Vendors, Artists, Performers, and Volunteers Needed.

For more information please call Bobbie Jo, Alaska Center for the Environment at 274-3662, email: bobbiejo@akcenter.org



THANK YOU!

Alaska Center for the Environment would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for donating items to our Spring Champagne Auction:

Across the Bay Tent & Breakfast Adventure Company • ADF&G Watchable Wildlife • Aladdin's Fine Mediterranean & American Cuisine • Alan Colter • Alaska Alpine Adventures • Alaska Club • Alaska Geographic Alliance • Alaska Humanities Forum • Alaska Mountaineering & Hiking • Alaska Native Heritage Center • Alaska Rock Gym • Alaska Sea Kayak Rental (Cycles North) • Alaska Sea Life Center • Alaska Serigraphics • Alaska Wilderness Images • Alaska Wildland Adventures • Alison Arians • Alpenglow Ski Resort • Amy Loyd • Anadyr Sea Kayaking and Adventures • Anchorage Concert Association • Anchorage Publishing • Anchorage Symphony • Anchorage Waterways Council • Ann Hinckley • Anne Wilkes • APRN • Arctic Institute of T'ai Chi Ch'uan • Art of Carpentry • Artique • Bear Tooth • Bill Gossweiler • Bill Sherwonit • Bob Childers • Bradford Washburn • Brandie Theisen • C. West Unlimited Designs • Carl Johnson Photography • Carla Hollingsworth • Cassel Rock • Chancy Croft • Chez Ritz • Classy Canine • Cliff Eames • Club Paris • Dan Greenwood and Colleen Ashman • Dana Lyons • Dana Tindall • Dark Horse Coffee • David Finkelstein • Dee Dee Van Vliet/Wilderness Alaska • DeeAnn Apgar • Denali Institute • Diane Frank • Diane Mucha • Dianne's Restaurant & Catering • Dog Wash, Inc • Donna McCready • Duffy Allen • Dulce Havill • Eagle River Nature Center • Eberhard Brunner • Echo Art Studio/Kathy Sarns • Ed Branson • Egan & Associates LLC • Elegant Enterprises • Ellen Campfield • Emily Kurn • Esthetics by Hanni • Fairweather Prints • Flor de la Luna Jewelry • Fly By Night Club • Fly Denali, Inc • Frame Gallery and Workshop • Francine Bennis • George Matz • Girdwood Good Night Bed & Breakfast • Gossamer Bead Works • Great Harvest Bread Co • Half Moon Creek Gallery • Helen Nienhueser • Hillside Pet Clinic • Homer Bookstore • Horse Drawn Carriage Co • Imaginarium • In the Garden • Jane Martinez • Janine Schoelhorn • Jared Woods • Jennifer Joliff/Gimme Dat Hat Company • Jennifer Sundquist • Jim Stratton & Colleen Burgh • Joe Skhra "Skerra" • John Bernitz • Junior Towne • Kaladi Brothers • Kara Kirkpatrick • Karla Kolash • Kate Sangster • Kathy Sarns • Kenai Fjords Tours/Ciri • Killer Designs • KNBA radio station • Kris Cassity • Laura Schue • Lexi Hill • Libby Hatton • Lisa McCormick Jewelry • Liz Scribner • Lorna Saner • Lorri Abel • Lynn Minton/ The Inner Dance Studio • Mako's Water Taxi • Malcolm Ford • Marlo Shedlock and Nate York • Martha Levensaler • Mary Banaszak • Mary DeLozier Buckingham • Mary Hacker • Matt Claman • Mayflower Catering • Mellen Shea • Mexico in Alaska • Mike Conti • Mike Coumbe • Mike Frank • Mirow • Monica Lyle • Moon Dog Pottery • Moonstone Acupuncture • Moose's Tooth Pub and Pizzeria • MUSE Musicians United to Sustain the Environment • Mushing Magazine • Music Man • Mythos Expeditions Kodiak • Nate York, Afghanistan Girl's School Program • Nick Fucci, Outdoor & Nature Photography • Nova River Runers • One People • One Woman Design • P.J. Hill • Pam Saunders • Pangaea Adventures • Paramount Cycles • Patti Saunders • Paul Twardock • Paula Saylor • Peg & Jules Tileston • Phyllis Seeba • Picture This, Inc. • Pixie Siebe • Prince William Sound Cruises & Tours • Puffin Fishing Charters - Leslie Pemberton • Randy Virgin • Ray's Waterfront Restaurant • REI • Riki Ott • Romney Dodd Ortland • Rosa Meehan • Ruth Ann Dickie • Sack's Cafe • Sadie Cove Boatworks • Scott Anaya • Sean Halloran • Seth Kantner • Seth Little • Shari & Thomas Showalter • Sheri Tingeg- Alpaca Raft • Side Street Espresso • Simon Paneak Memorial Museum • Skinny Raven Sports, Patagonia, Inc. • Smiley Shields • Snow City Cafe • Steve Godfrey • Summit Spice • Tamara deLucia • Tanadgusix Corporation (TDX)/St. Paul Island Tours • Tasha Moreno • Teresa Blume • The Arc of Anchorage • The Bicycle Shop • The Dog Wash Pet Xpress • The Event Company • The Frame Cache • The Sport Shop • Theo Saner • Tom Copeland • Tom Meachum • Tracy and Tom Lohman • Trailside Discovery Camp • Tres Chic Salon & Day Spa • Turnagain House • Turtle Island Records • Tutka Bay Taxi • Two Sisters Bakery • Vagabond Blues Cafe • Vandalay Industries • Vilma Anderson • Whistling Swan Productions • Wild Wind Records • Women's Flyfishing • Woolykids • Zephyr Communications



CONGRATULATIONS to Curtis Cherrier and his family, winners of the Trailside Discovery Camp raffle, shown here with Trailside director Thomas Burek and their new Old Town canoe. Raffle proceeds went toward the purchase of several new canoes for Trailside Discovery Camp.

TAKE PRIDE IN ANCHORAGE

continued from page 5

community disruption. His concept of urban transportation planning is but one of many that have been brought to Anchorage in recent years and generally ignored by the state-municipal planning process, AMATS. Too often, the AMATS answer to transportation planning is more roads and more lanes to move more traffic faster. Citizens and pedestrian advocates have had a hard time convincing AMATS to include sidewalks or trails in all road projects and steer more money into transit improvements. When AMATS funds a project and seeks public comment, often the question is how a road should be built or widened, not whether there's a better alternative. ACE believes when AMATS funds a road project, sidewalks or trails should be part of the package, not optional items.

Take Action: Contact your Assembly member and let them know

we need to dramatically expand our horizons on what is possible in linking the goals of the comprehensive plan to the goals of long-range transportation planning.

TITLE 21

Anchorage's Title 21 Land Use Code is being re-written for the first time in over 30 years. It is the most critical municipal document affecting the future design and development of our city. ACE has been and will continue to be a voice for long-term planning, transportation improvements, and quality urban design that will enhance livability and economic development throughout the revision. ACE is working to incorporate strong urban design standards that will develop a more attractive city with clean and safe neighborhoods we can all be proud to

call home.

Take Action: Participate in the upcoming Public Hearings. Once complete, the draft Title 21 will be submitted to the Planning & Zoning Commission and then on to the Municipal Assembly, each with its own public hearing process. A schedule of the public hearings by the Planning & Zoning Commission and Municipal Assembly has not yet been set.

For more information on these and the rest of the Take Pride in Anchorage campaign issues visit www.akcenter.org and sign up to receive updates on the campaign through the Take Pride in Anchorage list serve. To join send an email to Andre Camara, andre@akcenter.org, with subscribe to Take Pride in Anchorage in the subject line.

Member Application/Renewal Form

Now you can donate online at www.akcenter.org.

Crane \$15 Mountain Goat \$35 Beluga \$50 Musk Ox \$75 Brown Bear \$150 Bald Eagle \$500

ACE is Alaska's oldest and largest homegrown conservation group. We have grown from a few volunteers in 1971 to thousands of dues paying members all over Alaska and in the Lower 48. We want to ensure that your voice is heard, whether it's promoting neighborhood recycling or protecting the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, ACE is your springboard for citizen action. The way we win is through membership (that's you). The more members we have, the louder our voice is to promote conservation in Alaska.

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Give monthly or quarterly gifts by joining the Puffin Club

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I have enclosed a check for my first gift or have provided my credit card number above. Please transfer future scheduled gifts in the above amount directly from my checking account/credit card. I understand that future tax deductible gifts will be transferred directly from this account each month or quarterly as indicated above, and that a record of my contributions will appear on my monthly bank/credit card statements. If at any time you wish to increase, decrease, or suspend your giving, simply call ACE at (907)274-3639 and we will gladly accommodate your request.

REQUIRED FOR PUFFIN CLUB: Signature _____ Date _____

Return to: Alaska Center for the Environment • 807 G Street, Suite 100 • Anchorage, AK 99501

2004 ACE CANVASS OUTREACH - COMING TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Cathleen Teirney, ACE Canvasser since 1999

Just about anyone can send you mail or hang a flyer on your door, but it takes a certain dedication and gusto to show up in person and talk one-on-one about the important issues discussed in this newsletter. And every summer, the ACE canvass does just that!

Celebrating our ninth summer of door-to-door outreach, I'm proud to boast that personal communication is our most effective tool for organizing citizens into a collective voice for conservation. So when you hear that knock at your door, be prepared for an informative discussion and opportunities to take action. Be sure to thank the organizer for their hard work and dedication, and refreshments are always appreciated!



COMING TO A NEIGHBORHOOD NEAR YOU! The 2004 canvass team is wearing out the shoe leather to bring conservation issues - and ways to get involved - to your doorstep.



Alaska Center for the Environment

807 G Street, Suite 100
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