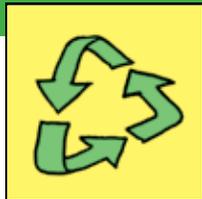


The Big R - Return on Investment!

Anchorage residents make up the primary audience for this A to Z Guide, so why are we dedicating a whole page to businesses? Because businesses are people too! Every

one of our readers probably works somewhere and would like to see the efforts they take at home to reduce environmental impact transferred to the workplace. Many residents also are employees who would like to see the actions they take at home to reduce environmental impact transferred to the workplace.

Recycling



Recycling can save money for a business by avoiding landfill tip fees. In some cases, businesses can even receive payment for larger quantities of clean recyclables such as scrap metal or baled cardboard.

Recycling services are available for businesses in several forms. If you are in an office, which typically generates mixed paper, aluminum cans and plastic bottles, in-office services are available. If your business is very large or if you generate lots of paper, cardboard or scrap metals, you can get dumpster service. Pick-up services also exist for items such as fluorescent lamps and electronics.

Here are businesses offering specific services but check with your waste hauler to see if dumpster or roll-off services are available for recyclables. Haulers are often adding new services.

Alaska Archives563-7014
www.alaskaarchives.com/shredding_service.html
 Offers mixed paper shredding and recycling.

Alaska Metal Recycling www.alaskametalrecycling.com349-4833
 Offers recycling for a large variety of scrap metals from manufacturing processes, scrap autos, building and structure demolition and other sources.

Alaska Waste www.alaskawaste.net563-3717
 Offers in-office recycling service and recycling dumpster service.

Cartridge World www.cartridgeworldusa.com569-4465
 Recycles toner cartridges

Central Environmental Services748-7400
www.centralrecyclingservices.com Offers recycling of construction and demolition debris including asphalt, concrete, clean wood and lumber, stumps, brush, trees, gypsum scrap, bricks, stone, scrap metal and more. Call or visit website for fees.

Girmscheid Enterprises770-1720
 Offers in-office recycling service.

McDonald Waste Industries www.mcdonaldwaste.com278-4285
 Offers commercial recycling pick-up for a variety of container sizes.

Mobile Metals277-7777
 Offers pick-up service for non-ferrous metals.

PSC www.pscnow.com272-9007
 Offers electronics recycling programs for businesses.

Shred Alaska www.shredyourpaper.com929-1154
 Offers mixed paper shredding and recycling.

Total Reclaim www.totalreclaim.com/alaska.html561-0544
 Offers recycling drop-off and pick-up services for electronics, fluorescent lamps, ballasts, refrigerant and other materials.

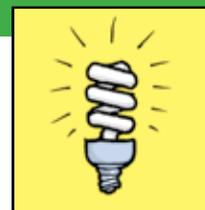
Waste Prevention



Paper is the biggest waste stream in almost all workplaces, so it often is the biggest purchasing expense. By converting invoicing, tracking, and various records and communications to electronic form where ever possible, paper purchasing can be cut significantly. In addition, being sure that all documents that need to be printed or copied are done so double sided. By duplexing documents, an office can cut paper use by up to 30%.

Using more durable and reusable products in the workplace instead of disposables also will reduce both purchasing and disposal costs. This can include breakroom dishware and drinkware, cleaning supplies such as rags and mopheads, batteries, and other commonly purchased items.

Energy Efficiency



Upgrading lighting is one of the quickest and easiest ways to save money in a business. Much of Anchorage's office buildings, warehouses and other workspaces are plagued with outdated lighting. Old lighting can suck up energy and your utility dollars in addition to providing poor lighting for employees. By switching to high-efficiency T-8 and T-5 fluorescent lamps in most cases, light quality can be greatly increased while electricity costs are reduced. The payback period is often less than two years and if fixtures don't need to be replaced it can be much shorter.

Besides new lighting, lighting controls are another practical way to cut costs. By installing sensors in areas that are used infrequently or on and off throughout the day, such as storage closets, restrooms, conference rooms, and break rooms, human error is eliminated and lighting costs drop.

For More Assistance

For technical assistance and recognition for your business' green efforts, contact Green Star at info@greenstarinc.org or 278-7827. Tip sheets, success stories, and numerous resources for Anchorage businesses and organizations can be found at www.greenstarinc.org.