

Anchorage to Zero Waste:

Your Guide to Zero Waste in Anchorage

Municipality of Anchorage Solid Waste Services
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SUMMER TIPS



Going North? In Denali, recycle at the Wilderness Access Center. They also will recycle your mixed paper and cardboard if you ask. Also at the park entrance, there are bins at the Riley Creek Mercantile, Morino Grill and Visitor Center area. Down the road, you'll find recycling bins at McKinley Chalet and McKinley Village.

In Fairbanks, the Fairbanks Rescue Mission at 723 27th Avenue is operating a recycling collection point. It is open to the public on Saturdays, 11am to 5pm. Visit <http://fairbanksrescuemission.org/frmrecyclecenter.htm> to see what the site accepts.

Going South? In Homer, stop by the Alaska Islands and Ocean Visitor Center on your way into town. The facility has numerous recycling stations inside and out for bottles, cans, paper and even compostables! For more recycling drop-off locations on the Kenai Peninsula, visit www.borough.kenai.ak.us/SolidWaste/default.htm.

Keep an extra trash bag or two in your car or truck to collect recyclables on the road. Whether it's a day trip with summer visitors, weekend camping on the spit, or an overnigher in a state cabin, be sure to collect up your recyclables separately so you can recycle once you get back into town. Some destinations even have bins for recyclables so you don't have to carry them the whole way home. Ask around when you hit pockets of civilization.

Pack your own food for trips to avoid waste. When you stop to buy food along the way, chances are, you are buying a lot of packaging. Planning ahead and packing your own food can greatly reduce trash generation at home and on the road. Store and transport food in reusable, durable containers, preferably bear-proof totes if you will be in bear areas.

Bring water. How often do you stop to buy drinks when you travel? Pack a large thermos or jugs of water and bring travel mugs or water bottles.

Be Bear Aware. Just like at home, always be sure your trash and recyclables are secured so that you do not attract bears. Never leave trash or recyclables next to a receptacle or dumpster if it is full. Find another container!