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Telephone Survey to Determine Home Heating Habits in Fairbanks North Star Borough

(Fairbanks, AK) – The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) will be conducting a telephone survey to collect information on residential heating practices in Fairbanks. The survey will gather results from residents on the type of fuel they use and how often, as well as other questions. Similar surveys were conducted in Fairbanks during the 2005-2006, 2006-2007 and 2009-2010 winter seasons.

Previous surveys have shown an increase in wood burning. The new survey will help determine whether this trend has continued and will gain information about other heating types and fuels, such as outdoor wood boilers and coal. Results from the survey will be used to prepare a plan to improve air quality in the Fairbanks area.

“This survey is another step to ensure clean air for future generations,” said Fairbanks North Star Borough Mayor Luke Hopkins. “The results will be compared to those from previous years and will help in establishing a plan to combat poor air quality while respecting residents’ need to heat their home.”

The survey will be conducted by Alaska-based firm, Hayes Research. Residents will be called randomly throughout the area. The survey is confidential and will take about eight minutes to complete.

For more information on air quality in Alaska visit the DEC Air Quality division website at <http://dec.alaska.gov/air>