SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN RURAL ALASKA

1.0 Landfill Site Control

1.1 Landfill Road Maintenance

Landfill access and on-site roads under the operator's control must be kept passable and safe for vehicles during normal hours of operation. (18 AAC 60.220)

The road or boardwalk to the landfill must be accessible year-round to prevent waste from being stored within the community or illegally dumped. It should be designed to accommodate the anticipated vehicle types and traffic in all seasons.

Roads or boardwalks leading to the landfill and within the landfill itself should be clear and maintained so that they are drivable at all times. In addition to snow removal, waste should also be removed and kept off



Waste free road at landfill entrance

the road, roadside, boardwalk, and boardwalk edges. Post signs along the road to the landfill to direct users to take waste all the way into the facility. Keeping the road or boardwalk free of litter can also help encourage people to take their waste to the landfill instead of dumping it along the landfill road.



Road to the landfill. Photo Credit: Peter Olson, Golovin Public Works Director

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Helpful tips for road maintenance:

Plowing snow in the winter, even if snowmachines are the only traffic, often leaves the road in better condition during spring breakup with fewer potholes in the summer.

Don't forget to include the landfill road during spring cleanup and pick up any windblown trash that has escaped the landfill during the winter.

Roads inside the landfill should be well maintained. If people are afraid of damaging their tires, they will not take their waste inside the landfill.

Routine road maintenance can help prevent problems that occur every year such as washouts, flooding, ruts, etc.

Using a river instead of a road or boardwalk to access the landfill?

The river is the access road for some communities and needs to be maintained and kept litter free. One way to help keep the river free of litter and waste is to have collection bins with lids along the river, especially close to town and at the unloading dock/area at the landfill. Without these bins, waste can pile up on frozen riverbanks and will end up in the river after spring thaw. Keeping the riverbanks and river clean protects the community's drinking water and subsistence resources.



Waste collection bins for a landfill on the river. These bins are emptied by the operator in the winter preventing the buildup of waste on the riverbank from residents disposing of waste from their boats. These bins should be covered to prevent litter and water infiltration.

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Examples:



Litter free, well-maintained landfill road.



Well-maintained road within the landfill.