

Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Department

December 2016

Program Update

By: Karis Porcincula

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The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Department has started a new fiscal year! They are starting to work on different projects and planning different activities.

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Assistant attended the Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management in October 2016.

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Staff dig clams each month to send out for testing. The December sample was sent out before Christmas, we are hoping to receive the results soon.

The Environmental Coordina-

tor holds Environmental Teen Group almost every Wednesday Night at the Teen Center from 7-8pm.

The Environmental Assistant hold Environmental Youth Group almost every Friday at the Boys and Girls

Club from 3-4pm, with the exception of the boys and girls club being closed during winter break. During this time EYG will be held at the QTT Environmental Office.

Environmental staff are still collecting electronic waste. If you have any waste you'd like to get rid of, drop it off at the QTT Environmental office. If you are an elder or handicapped, call us and we will

come pick up your e-waste.

Both Environmental staff members are Local Environmental Observer (LEO) members. If you notice anything out of the ordinary with the weather, animals, mammals, or climate change, please give us a call and report it so we can take pictures and report it to LEO for some feed back.

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe held the Annual Christmas Potluck on Saturday, December 17, 2016. The turn out was great and we'd like to thank all those who contributed to the success of the potluck with making food and helping set up and clean up.

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe staff members hope you had a wonderful Christmas and have a Happy New Year!



Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning Update

By: Karis Porcincula

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Department digs clams each month and sends them to the Environmental Health Laboratory each month. The latest results we've received are the results for November 2016. These results came back at 228 micrograms which is above the

FDA approved limit of 80 micrograms. The clams are unsafe for consumption. The December clams were dug and sent out and we are hoping to get results soon.

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe neither encourages nor discourages the consumption of the local shellfish, but pro-

vides this information for the community to make an educated decision upon the consumption of the local shellfish.

Number of Months Clams Haven't Been Good:

30 MONTHS



Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management

By: Jasmine Maligaya

In October, the Qagan Tayagungin Tribe's Environmental Assistant attended the Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management. ATCEM helps build healthy and sustainable tribal communities. It was a week-long training which had many different sessions to attend.

This year the Environmental Assistant focused on attending air quality & healthy homes, LEO & climate change, and traditional ecological knowledge & environmental values sessions.



**ALASKA TRIBAL CONFERENCE
ON ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

The air quality & healthy homes session gave information on how to improve indoor air quality to improve respiratory health, discussed about the National Tribal Air Association; and tips for managing road dust to help the community breathe easier.

The LEO (Local Environmental Observations) and climate change session discussed the new LEO app; held a talking circle reflecting all the changes happening in the villages we live in; and reviewed what happen throughout the year in LEO.

The traditional ecological knowledge & environmental values session taught about different culture camp programs; embracing wisdom of our ancestors through living our traditional values and spirituality; and the changing weather.

ATCEM is a valuable conference to attend, to learn new things and meet new people. Information is always brought back to our community in hopes of educating the community about various environmental issues happening around us.

Employment, Training, and Related Services

By: Karis Porcincula

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Employment, Training and Related Services Case Manager has been working diligently with high school graduates and college attendees to make sure they are working hard to get those scholarships in.

Carla Chebetnoy is the Employment, Training and Related Services case manager and she is available from 8-5pm, Monday - Friday at the Qagan Tayagungin Tribe for QT Tribal members.



Carla is currently assisting college students with their tuition. She is always checking up on them to make sure their schooling is going good and making sure they are keeping their GPA up for future scholarships, and checking to see if they need additional support.

She also helps those who want to attend vocational schools obtain funding and applications for school.

Carla has a listing of most available jobs in our community for your information and will help you with job applications.

If you are Qagan Tayagungin Tribal member and would like to attend college or vocational school, apply for jobs, or need any other type of assistance, you can visit the Qagan Tayagungin Tribal office between 8am-5pm Monday through Friday.

Climate Change

By: Jasmine Maligaya

Alaska has warmed twice as fast as the rest of the nation, bringing widespread impacts.

Sea ice is rapidly receding and glaciers are shrinking. Thawing permafrost is leading to more wildfire, and effecting infrastructure and wildlife habitat. Rising ocean temperatures and acidification can alter valuable marine fisheries.

Because of its cold-adapted features and rapid warming, climate change impacts on Alaska are already pronounced, including earlier spring snowmelt, reduced sea ice, widespread glacier retreat, warm-

er permafrost, drier landscapes, and more extensive insect outbreaks and wildfire.

The length of the growing season in interior Alaska has increased 45% over the last century and will continue to lengthen. This could improve conditions for agriculture where moisture is suitable, but will reduce water storage and increase the risks of more extensive wildfire and insect outbreaks across much of Alaska.

Changes in dates of snowmelt and freeze-up would influence seasonal migration of



birds and other animals. It will increase the likelihood and rate of northerly range expansion of native and non-native species, change the habitats of both ecologically important and endangered species, and affect ocean currents.

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Department will work more on educating our community on climate change and it's impacts.

For more information, visit: <http://nca2014.globalchange.gov/report/regions/alaska#statement-17126?>

QTT Annual Community Christmas Potluck

By: Karis Porcinula

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Annual Community Christmas Potluck was held on Saturday, December 17, 2016 at 5:30pm at the Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Community Center.

The potluck was a success again this year with all the food and fun when the community gathered together.

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribal staff worked hard on getting this potluck put together and discussed what worked or didn't work from the previous year. For the last



two years, there have been food tables both upstairs and downstairs which we've found works better than just having food tables down stairs. There are many other adjustments made each year to improve the potluck for the comfort and enjoyment of the community.

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe would like to thank all the volunteers who helped set up and clean up, everyone who helped cut up the meat, and all those who brought dishes to share, it was greatly appreciated.

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe extends a special thank to the following individuals, organizations, and businesses for helping to make the 2016 Community Potluck a success: Alaska Commercial Company, Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Association, Inc., Pauloff Harbor Tribe, The City of Sand Point, Harbor City Crew, Pastor Morgan, Dick & Edith Jacobsen, The Aleut Corporation, The Unga Tribe, Jack Foster III, Charlie Jackson, Max Chebetnoy, QTT Staff, Shumagin Corporation, Close Up Class, Zach Wright, and Coastal Transportation and everyone who cooked and brought a dish to share.

Environmental Youth Group Update

By: Jasmine Maligaya

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe's Environmental Assistant has been doing Environmental Youth Group almost every Friday at 3pm. EYG is held at the QTT Rec Center during Boys and Girls Club.

EYG is held to provide the youth of Sand Point with an opportunity to participate in environmentally friendly activities in which the youth gain

knowledge they can share with their peers and parents.

During EYG, the youth participate in many activities such as the Earth Day Green Walk, Graveyard Clean Up and End of Summer Clean Up. Environmental Youth Group has also played a board game created by Environmental Teen Group on invasive species.

By the New Year, the Environmental

Assistant plans to talk to the youth about doing different activities and making a goal/plan for each week of EYG.



Environmental Teen Group Update

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Coordinator hold Environmental Teen Group almost every Wednesday Evening at the Teen Center from 7-8pm.

For the first two weeks of December, the Environmental Coordinator was out of the office so there was no Environmental Teen Group.

Since the beginning of October, the Environmental Coordinator has been trying to



do projects and teach about the environmental issues our community is facing today. Environmental Teen Group doesn't usually have too much teen involvement due to the School Gym being open in the evenings. The Environmental Department is

hoping to see more teen involvement soon.

Projects planned for the Environmental Teen Group have been on climate change

and recycling. They have also been playing environmental board games. The Environmental Teen Group will be focusing more on the Environmental Curriculum made by the Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Department. As the seasons are changing, we are hoping to get more into habitat and wet lands information.

We hope to have more participation and we hope to see you there.

Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network

By: Karis Porcincula



The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Department staff are both Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network members.

The Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network is a network of people from all over the Alaska and parts of Canada and Greenland. Each month, they hold a teleconference to talk about posts people have made and talk about how it can affect other communities. They also have someone call in to talk about a topic that seems to be trending throughout

many of the communities.

QTT Environmental staff have just submitted a post to LEO about a dead eagle found beneath a light post right off main street. In the past, Environmental staff have posted about various dead birds, other deceased animals and marine mammals, weather patterns, spiders, march flies, invasive plants and animals, climate change, and other environmental issue they've noticed throughout the community. Some of these reports have been in response to reports from community

members who have informed us of their observations.

If you notice anything out of the ordinary with weather patterns, climate change, deceased animals or mammals, a new species of bug or plant, or any other environmental issues which are concerning to you, please call us at the Qagan Tayagungin Tribe Environmental Department to report it. The Environmental Department number is: (907)383-6968.

Pollution Facts

By: Jasmine Maligaya



When the industrial revolution started the pollution started as well. There are three types of pollution: water, air, and soil. The biggest polluters in the world are: China, USA, Russia, India, Japan, Germany, Canada, United Kingdom, South Korea, and Iran.

Air pollution comes from both natural and human-made sources. The biggest causes of air pollution are motor vehicle emissions, and producing countries

leading in the pollution such as China, United States, Russia, Mexico, and Japan.

Air pollution in major cities is influenced by factories and heavy vehicle traffic which has concentrations of sulfur dioxide and suspended particulate matter. Smog is a type of pollution and is a serious problem in many cities and continues to harm human health.

Released gases or particles are the cause of indoor air problems in homes.

Water pollution causes approximately 14,000 deaths per day, mostly due to contamination of drinking water by untreated sewage in developing countries.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.pattfoundation.org/10-interesting-pollution-facts/>

Mold

By: Jasmine Maligaya

Mold can grow anywhere as long as moisture and oxygen are present. There are many different types of mold. Mold can grow on wood, carpet, insulation, windows and food.

Mold appears when excessive moisture is present and isn't discovered. It is impossible to remove all molds and mold spores in our environment. Mold can be controlled by controlling the moisture indoors and fixing the source of the water problem or leak.

Another way to reduce indoor humidity

and decrease mold growth is venting bathrooms and using exhaust fans while cooking. De-humidifiers also are good to use; if nothing is available, an open window works. Alaskans spend 90% of their time indoors during the winter months.

Uncontrolled mold can cause health problems like allergic reactions, asthma and other respiratory complaints.

If you have mold in your home, the



first thing to do is clean it with detergent and water. Then dry the area completely with a towel. Clean the mold with dish-washing detergent or a general purpose cleaner (non-ammonia soap). Absorbent or porous materials such as ceiling tiles or carpet may have to be replaced.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/mold/basic-information>

Electronic Waste Recycling Update

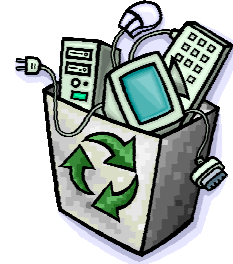
By: Jasmine Maligaya

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe's Environmental Department has been collecting electronic waste throughout the community. We send out the e-waste materials through Coastal to Total Reclaim in Seattle. We are still collecting e-waste materials. If you have any e-waste materials no longer in use please bring them to



the QTT Office located at the City Building or call of a pickup arrangement at (907) 383-6968. We plan to get them out as soon as we have enough. The materials we collect include; ink cartridges, printers, computers, keyboards, etc. Please bring your e-waste to us, so we can properly get rid of them instead of e-waste getting put

into the landfill where it becomes harmful to our wildlife. Recycling is best!



QTT Council & Staff

Tribal Council

David O. Osterback
President, Seat E

Dennis Gundersen
Vice President, Seat B

Glen Gardner Jr.
Secretary/Treasurer, Seat D

Alvin Osterback Jr.
Council Member, Seat C

Dick Jacobsen
Council Member, Seat G

Peter Devine Jr.
Council Member, Seat A

Jason Bjornstad
Council Member, Seat F



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Wendy Gardner
Administrative Assistant

Carla Chebetnoy
ETR Case Manager

Karis Porcincula
Environmental Coordinator

Jasmine Maligaya
Environmental Assistant

Dylan Jacobsen
Gaming Manager

Tabitha Johansen
Temporary Gaming Assistant

Judith Morgan
Janitor

Federal Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe has had the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) food program for the last few years. This program has been growing steadily ever since and Sand Point now has the largest program in the state. The Qagan Tayagungin Tribe serves 19 household and keeps growing.

The FDPIR food program is a program which provides eligible households with nutritional foods. A person from the household fills out a shopping list with nutritional foods in which they'd like to receive. Some of the food included in the program, but not limited to are: fresh produce; canned fruits and vegetables; canned and frozen meats, poultry, and fish; canned soups and spaghetti sauce; macaroni and cheese, pastas, cereals, rice, and other grains; cheese, egg mix, 1%



milk and evaporated milk; flour, cornmeal, bakery mix, and reduced sodium crackers; low-fat refried beans, dried beans, and dehydrated potatoes; canned juices and dried fruits; peanuts and peanut butter; and butter and vegetable oil.

FDPIR also provides some recipes and preparation tips to help assist you in use of the food from the program.

Household members are NOT permitted to participate in both the Food Stamp Program and the Food Distribution Program at the same time. Income limits for FDPIR are slightly higher than those for SNAP, so households which don't qualify for food stamps may qualify for FDPIR.

Once on the program, household are required to report any changes within 10 days of those changes, whether its change in income, a new household member, or

household member who has moved out.

To apply for this food program, stop by the Qagan Tayagungin Tribal office and ask for an application or pick one up outside the QTT office. This program is NOT limited to Tribal Members or Alaska Natives. Anyone living in the community of Sand Point can apply for this food program.

There are income deductibles which include, but are not limited to: standard 20% earned income deduction; shelter/utility deduction (\$350 worth), medical deduction for anyone disabled or for seniors 60 ears of age and older, and/or child support or home care.

Wendy Gardner, Administrative Assistant, is available to assist you in filling out an application.

If you would like more information, please visit: www.anthctoday.org/community/fdpir.html or www.qttribe.org

Qagan Tayagungin Tribe

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