

Community Service Programs

- **Rotaract**

Anchorage: Aseem Telang, President
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Project description: Rotaract is a Rotary-sponsored service club for young men and women ages 18 to 30. If you want to serve your community, enhance your leadership skills; build relationships within the community, all while promoting international understanding and peace through a framework of friendship and service, contact Rotaract. There are also Rotaract chapters in Fairbanks, Juneau and the Mat-Su.

- **21st Annual Global Youth Service Day**

Debbie Bogart
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Project description: Millions of youth will participate in the 21st Annual Global Youth Service Day April 24 - 26. It is the largest service event in the world. Over 45,000 youth participated in Alaska during 2008. GYS provides an opportunity for youth ages 5 – 25 to join with millions of their peers around the world to improve communities and to raise awareness of service and the role of youth as community leaders. GYS is a program for Youth Service America. There are 75 lead agencies for the U.S. GYS. Lead agencies engage volunteers, provide outreach to media and encourage hands-on participation by elected officials. This year, Anchorage's Promise is the lead agency for Alaska providing planning materials, curriculum guides, tip sheets on project planning and technical assistance. GYSD Project Planning Tool Kit:
<http://tools.ysa.org/downloads/gysd/toolkits/2009GYSDToolkit.pdf>

- **Recycling and Composting at Begich Middle School**

907-742-0500
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Program description: Nicholas Joseph Begich Middle School in Anchorage, Alaska, is recycling office paper, newspaper, cans and glass. This effort is currently spearheaded by Student Government. These students coordinate the dissemination of receptacles and the collection and delivery to the recycling dumpsters on the premises. In an effort to further our recycling program in the school, we are pioneering a school cafeteria composting program.

School cafeteria composting has many far-reaching benefits for our students, our school and our community. Within the classroom, science concepts related to composting are easily integrated into the science, math, social studies and language arts curricula. Taking responsibility for the stream of solid waste at school empowers students by giving them a specific action to help their community and the earth. Students develop a sense of

school pride by taking steps toward becoming a “green school”. Students may spread the compost message and be instrumental in starting composting at home or in their community.

● **EcoLogical (Landfill waste reduction)**

EcoLogical Girl Scout Team

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Homer, Alaska, 99603

Brenda Dolma

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Project Website: 1ecological.blogspot.com

Project Description.

EcoLogical Team is on a mission to reduce the waste in the Homer Landfill. Our team in three weeks accomplished eliminating Styrofoam trays at our local Middle School, at lunch 6-8 bags of trash were used daily at lunch with the elimination of Styrofoam trays, that number was down to 3-4 trash bags. Another waste reduction to the landfill...we also added tin to our local waste management recycle site. To encourage creative ways of recycling, we hosted a recycling fashion show on International Day of Climate Action. We also helped local businesses, such as our local hospital, to set up public recycling. We were also instrumental in passing an ordinance which increases the funds through the borough assembly for Homer recycling.

● **Pebble Rebels**

Dillingham Middle High School

P.O. Box 170

Dillingham, AK 99576

Kathy McLinn

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Project Website: www.rebelpebble.com

Project description: Our project is to create a sustainable social and environmental action group that seeks to stop the Pebble Mine. Our motto is “making things happen.” Our umbrella grassroots group is LAYC, the leadership and assets youth coalition. Within that group, we seek to create social change for youth by using the 40 assets and the Yupik culture as our focus for strength building. And we use problems facing our community, environment, and youth as our other focus.

Our project has many aspects including marches, parades, protests, and petitions. We have begun to work on a website and a documentary. In December, we are hosting our second Pebble Mine Panel Discussion in Dillingham. We have invited the Miner’s Association and Anglo American, as well as Trout Unlimited and the Renewable Resource Coalition. We are also traveling to the villages and giving leadership trainings

to other youth on how they can organize and make a difference in their communities about the issues they care about.