

### Lyle's Trip to Beaver Creek, Canada

In my marginally-informed but fully arrogant American perspective, I've always loved Canada like the little brother I never had. The McKenzie Brothers, butter tarts, the Loonie, Mounties, poutine, the smell of rancid frier oil and powdered sugar everywhere... what's not to love? And all the Canadians I've ever known are extremely nice people. Even the ones who somehow chose to become Mechanical Engineers (hi Emily!). But my favorite thing about Canada is the beautiful lands she possesses, especially in Yukon, and the northern parts of BC and Alberta. When my family left our sweet Alaskan home to move to Michigan, we loved the drive through the Yukon for its purity and resemblance of the Alaskan Interior that we love so much. At the time, it was an emotional goodbye to a land that shaped our family.

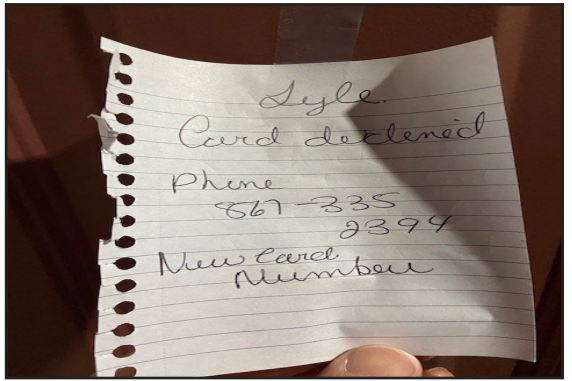
So in early October, when I was asked to drive back to the edges of that region to investigate a ceiling leak at the Alcan Border Housing complex, I was excited to revisit memories and reconnect with a special place. I was also expecting some of the endearing goofiness of my little brother to come into play when Dantasia told me about her interaction when she booked the lodging for me in Beaver Creek, Yukon. When Dantasia asked for an email confirmation of our booking, the Owner of the finest (2-star) lodging establishment in all of Beaver Creek – the world-famous Buckshot Betty's (oh yeah!) – simply said "no." But rest assured, Dantasia told me (tongue in cheek), Ms. Buckshot said she'd leave the key in the door since she may be away on a trip to Whitehorse. What could possibly go wrong?

After pulling up to Cabin #5 a little after 9pm, I noticed that there was not in fact a key in the door. Instead, I was cordially greeted by the note shown on next page. Fortunately, Betty did not leave for Whitehorse and, even though the office and restaurant were closed, she was still on the premises. Once I straightened out the payment with Ms. Buckshot, I gleefully changed into my running gear to shake off the stiffness from the long drive. While it was thrilling running under the northern lights at 30F, wondering if bears are hibernating yet, and passing by all the creepy ghost town décor of Beaver Creek (including an abandoned Westmark resort), it was definitely one of the most city boyish things I've ever done in my life. No bear spray, no witnesses, no cars passing by, and barely any cell reception – what a thrill! After about ½ mile of enjoying my own sheer stupidity, I decided to turn around and make sure I was able to show up to the next day's site visit in one piece. Upon returning to Cabin #5, I realized just how hot Buckshot Betty keeps her cabins. Boy, she cranks the heat up to 11! I immediately turned the thermostat dial down to... middle?... You see, the dial had no labeling and unlike some mechanical engineers, I did not know what the standard temperature range on a BCDimplex thermostat is, so it could be 75 or it could be 55, Celsius?, Fahrenheit?... no clue. I was certain of one thing, however - I'll either wake up in a pool of sweat or in an ice box.

The cabin itself was lovely. While it didn't have the expected crooked floors and Tyvek siding, it did have exposed wiring and a 10-second flush rule (see photo). Together with the surprise time zone change, these treats helped me fill out my Beaver Creek bingo card for the win!

Oddly enough, there's something like 20 miles of Canadian land between the American border station and the Canadian border station which is just outside of Beaver Creek. Some of you degenerates (Mitchell) may want to take note of this in case you need to leave the country and you're not sure if Canada will let you in. But as an upstanding, Canadian-loving older brother, I was able to simply enjoy the peaceful morning drive through western Yukon's pristine lands the next day. I arrived at the American border station for the site visit in one piece, happy to have found Betty (with my room key), having enjoyed a short but sweet visit to Yukon. The site visit itself was filled with some contractor calamity (forgotten tools and surprise asbestos-laden gypsum board), but that's a different story and one not as adorable and quirky as anything related to Canada.

# Lyle's Trip to Beaver Creek, continued...



**Surprise Visitor at Design Alaska!**



# Design Alaska Holiday Concert



The Design Alaska Holiday Concert was held on Saturday, December 9 and Sunday, December 10.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped hand out ornaments at the end of the concerts.



## Welcome New Employees Darwin and Shelby



Darwin Cameron is a true local, born and raised in our community. When he's not busy with surveying projects, you might find him at Ester Park, enjoying quality time with his daughter. But that's not all – he's a man of many talents. Whether he's drumming for the Red Hackle Bagpipe Band during parades or jamming out to heavy metal with his Garage Bands, Darwin brings an eclectic blend of interests to our team.

One of Darwin's standout projects was designing his two-story house with his father. What started as a Pentagon-shaped design evolved into an unconventional masterpiece with two gently curved walls. The math during framing, especially for the curved walls, was both a puzzle and a thrill. Dreaming big, Darwin envisions constructing a "Dark Tower." His fascination with European castles fuels this dream. As for the location? He trusts he'll recognize the perfect spot when he sees it.

What drives Darwin in surveying? His love for landscaping, gardening, and designing footpaths. Raised in a family where creativity met craftsmanship—his mother, an artist and gallery owner, and father, in construction—he's honed his appreciation for recognizing appealing environments. He admires how different cultures throughout history have measured their land and enjoys the process of measuring and exploring. His Pro Tip: stretching is key, fostering a fresh start each day, free from the tensions of the past.

Welcome to the Team, Darwin!



Shelby Devon joined the Administration team at the beginning of the new year. She decided to become a part of Design Alaska through the draw of our stellar reputation and previous professional collaborations with the company.

Family plays a central role in Shelby's life, being one of four sisters and a proud member of a third generation of life-long Alaskans. She spends her respective seasons hunting, fishing, and camping any chance she gets, the more time spent outdoors the better.

Inheriting the mantra "I could make that..." from her parents and grandparents, Shelby has become a versatile crafter, from making fur earrings to woodworking to pottery. She even acquired her mother's "I could cook that..." mentality and spends evenings exploring and experimenting with the world's recipes.

Shelby always has music playing and is an avid believer that there's a right playlist for every occasion. According to her Spotify Wrapped, her 2023 music taste consisted mostly of *Instrumental Math Rock* and honored her favorite bands like Chon, Clams Casino, and Future Islands. A little known fact about Shelby is that she studied Japanese for 13 years, from age 5 to 18. Despite some rustiness following a 10-year hiatus, she's reigniting her fluency in both Japanese and Spanish, as she dedicates her vacations to sailing the Sea of Cortez with her father.

Welcome to the Team, Shelby!

## Congratulations, Elizabeth Johnston!



Elizabeth Johnston has obtained a new certification: Registered Communications Distribution Designer (RCDD) from BICSI.

Way to go, Elizabeth!

# Employee Question of the Month

What is your favorite or most obscure movie quote that you use most often in conversation?	
Isaac Ladines	Benny: O'Connell! it looks to me that I have all the horshhhes! Colonel: Hey Bennyyyyy! looks to me that you're on the wrong side of the rivvvvvverrrr!
Marina Jones	"Chosen one! Weeoo weeoo weeoo wee" – <i>Kung Pow: Enter the Fist</i> "Comb the desert!" – <i>Spaceballs</i>
Eliza Cink	"There was more than one lobster present at the birth of Jesus?"
Blake Burley	"Tis but a flesh wound!" -The black Knight, <i>Monty Python and the Holy Grail</i>
Pete Jacobsen	"Did you not hear me? We can't give out no information!"- hotel clerk in <i>No Country for Old Men</i> , 2007
Cutter Degerlund	"Hello John" <i>Jurassic Park</i> , 1993 (I try to get the intonation just right every time I answer a call from John)
Dantasia Baum	"Good luck." - <i>Taken</i> , 2008
Shelby Devon	"You rush a miracle man, you get rotten miracles" - <i>The Princess Bride</i> , 1987
Marilyn Fye	I'm right on top of that Rose!
Jack Wilbur	"God is the Land" - Elsa in <i>1883</i> & Beth in <i>Yellowstone</i>
Cat Petersen	"The sun is shining and the snow is gone! (Yaaaay the snow is gone!) And it's a beautiful day! (Yeaaaah, beautiful, beautiful!)" "You should write a book. How to Offend Women in Five Syllables or Less"
Sabrina Davis	"Just keep swimming" - <i>Finding Nemo</i>



# Recycling in Fairbanks: Take Care of Our Environment!

By Josiah Alverts



Greetings,

This is your friendly reminder to use your recycling facility in Fairbanks (and elsewhere), it's free!

And no, it doesn't all just end up in a landfill.

Accepted recycling in Fairbanks is hauled to Anchorage in bales, where it is put on barges returning to WA that would otherwise be empty after bringing cargo to AK. See the FNSB FAQ for more information about the FNSB Central Recycling Facility.

Also, don't forget to properly dispose of your hazardous waste! Transfer sites with Haz-Mat collection totes are located across town (also for free!), which is where your hazardous waste belongs.

This includes motor oil, antifreeze, batteries, paint, solvents, and more. See FNSB.gov for more information.

Please label your containers when you drop them off.

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

NEWS & UPDATES from the FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH  
Updated December 4, 2023

The FNSB Central Recycling Facility (CRF) is located at 1855 Marika Road, in Fairbanks, in the Aurora Subdivision.

Here are the CRF's hours of operation:  
Tuesday - Friday, 10 am to 5:30 pm  
Saturday: 9 am to 5 pm  
CLOSED on Sunday & Monday

Types of items that can be accepted:  
Cardboard, mixed paper, newspaper, office paper,  
#1 and #2 plastic bottles & jugs,  
aluminum cans, & household electronics.

For large businesses, kindly call 907-374-6616 to schedule a drop-off time. Please remember to pre-sort materials before arrival.



Newspaper-Plastic-Electronics-Aluminum Cans

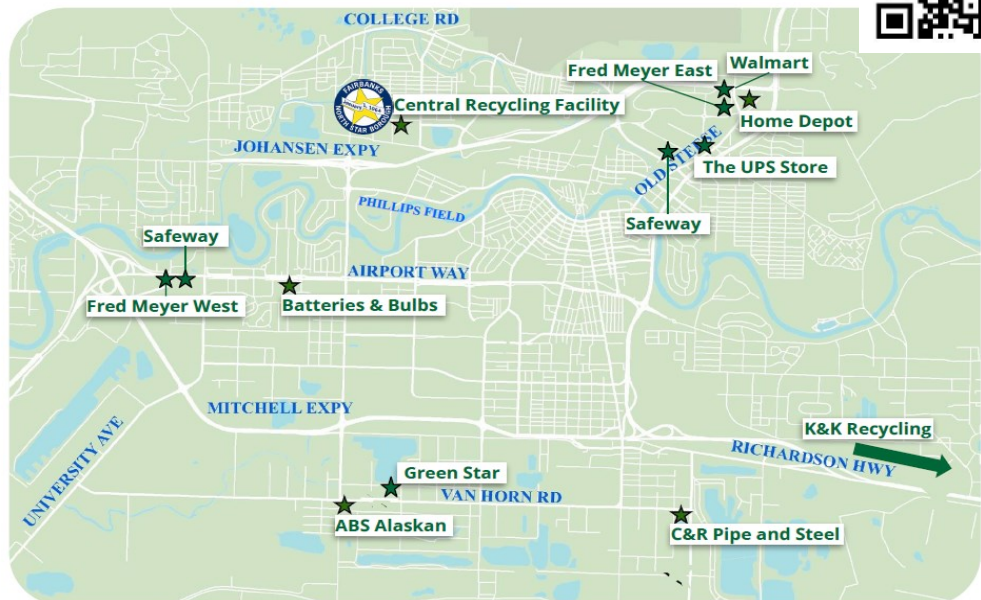


Fairbanks North Star Borough  
Central Recycling Facility  
1855 Marika Road  
(907) 374-6616



## Green Star Fairbanks Recycling Guide 2023

- aluminum cans
- batteries - household
- batteries - vehicle
- cardboard
- CFL bulbs
- electronics
- fluorescent tubes
- packaging material
- paper
- plastic #1 & #2
- plastic bags
- steel cans
- scrap metal



See full Guide and more information using the QR code above or visit [iagreenstar.org](http://iagreenstar.org)



**FNSB  
Central Recycling  
Facility (CRF)**  
1855 Marika Rd  
907-374-6616  
Tues-Fri noon-5:30pm  
Sat 9am-5pm  
<http://www.co.fairbanks.ak.us/pw/Pages/CentralRecyclingFacility.aspx>



**C&R Pipe and Steel Inc.**  
401 E Van Horn Rd  
907-456-8386  
summer:  
Mon-Fri 7am-5:30pm  
winter:  
Mon-Fri 7:30am-5pm



**K&K Recycling**  
1262 Old Richardson Hwy  
907-488-1819  
Mon-Sat 8am-5pm  
<https://kandkrecycling.net>



**Home Depot**  
1301 Old Steese Hwy  
907-451-9003  
Mon-Sat 6am-9pm



**Green Star  
of Interior Alaska**  
1101 Well St.  
907-452-4152  
Mon-Sat 10am-4pm  
<https://iagreenstar.org>



**Fred Meyer East & West**  
930 Old Steese Hwy &  
3755 Airport Way  
Mon-Sun 6am-11pm

**Safeway**  
30 College Road &  
3627 Airport Way  
Mon-Sun 5am-1am

**Walmart**  
537 Johansen Expy  
Mon-Sun 7am-8:30pm



**The UPS Store**  
607 Old Steese Hwy  
907-452-2221  
Mon-Fri 8:30am-6:30pm  
Sat 9am-5pm



**Batteries + Bulbs**  
3027 Airport Way  
907-328-4040  
Mon-Sat 8am-8pm  
**ABS Alaskan Inc.**  
2130 Van Horn Rd  
907-452-2002  
Outdoor bin drop 24/7

### How to Use this Guide

The icons represent different materials that are recyclable in Fairbanks. Locations where items can be recycled are listed below each icon. Guidelines about what can be included and what should be left out are listed on the other side of this guide.

## Fairbanks North Star Borough Central Recycling Facility FAQs



**How much garbage does each resident produce?**  
The national average is 4.4 lbs. per person/day. The Fairbanks North Star Borough average is higher at 5.8 lbs. per person/day.



**Why won't you accept glass bottles?**  
Fairbanks Alaska doesn't have a glass processor. FNSB solicited proposals for glass recycling; however, no proposals were received.



**Why do I need to rinse out containers and what is contamination?** Containers need to be rinsed to meet the industry standard of 0.5% or less contamination. Contamination is food, oils, residue not rinsed from containers. Contamination also occurs when recycled items are not presorted into appropriate categories.



**Where can I take my tin cans?**  
Check with local scrap metal recyclers.  
**How can I dispose of my light bulbs?**  
Please refer to the "Fairbanks Recycling Guide."



**Why do I need to sort my materials before I drop them off?**  
Sorting your recycling is an important step to help ensure that materials collected are recycled properly. Presorting helps reduce drop-off time and allows for faster processing / baling.



**Is recycling at the CRF free?**  
Residents bringing residential materials can recycle for free, please see the CRF fee schedule for other entities.



**What happens to materials after they are dropped off?** Materials are inspected for quality and compacted into bales which are transported to Anchorage; then barged to Washington. Some cardboard & newspaper remain in Alaska. Items are transported to mills for processing into new products.



**Why can't you accept my materials if I live in Delta Junction or elsewhere outside the borough?**  
The Central Recycling Facility is paid for by the residents of Fairbanks North Star Borough.



**Why aren't aluminum pet food cans accepted?**  
Aluminum pet food cans pose a risk of contamination because of the waxy liner on the inside of the can.



**Why aren't plastic to-go containers with #1 PETE accepted?**  
Our current contractor is unable to recycle this type of plastic.



**Where can I take my plastic grocery bags?**  
Check your local grocery store; many local businesses have bins in their entry way to recycle these items.




**What do the symbols 1-7 on plastics mean?**  
1. Polyethylene Terephthalate (PETE) 5. Polypropylene (PP)  
2. High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) 6. Polystyrene (PS)  
3. Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) 7. Other (mixed resins)  
4. Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE)

# February 2024 ~ Upcoming Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Table Massages	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Birthday Cake	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Table Massages	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Manager's Meeting		

## February Birthdays & Design Alaska Anniversaries

<p>Emory Mildon Jennifer Centers Josiah Alverts</p> <p>Eliza Cink</p>	<p><b>Birthdays:</b> February 06 February 17 February 18</p> <p><b>Anniversaries:</b> February 24, 2014 10th</p>	
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## Local Events in February

<p>World Ice Art Championships 2024 50th Festival of Native Arts UAF Winter Carnival</p>	<p>February 17th - March 31st February 22nd - 24th February 24—26</p>	<p>Tanana Valley State Fairgrounds UAF Troth Yeddha' Campus UAF</p>
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