

Green Star Communities at the 2023 Alaska Forum on the Environment

Alaska Forum on the Environment Celebrates 25 Years by Showcasing Green Star® Community Awardees

In February 2023, the Alaska Forum on the Environment (AFE) conference celebrated its 25th year by hosting the first in-person event since 2020 and the Covid-19 pandemic. AFE 2023 offered both in-person and virtual attendance options, making it one of the highest attended AFE conferences yet. Out of the more than 1200 attendees registered, 80% of attendees opted to attend in-person, reinforcing the importance of in-person events.

AFE 2023 live-streamed and record all in-person technical session, making all 65+ sessions and keynote events available in AFE's Virtual Attendee Hub for all attendees to watch live or post-event. AFE will continue with the year-round training model that was developed in 2021 by hosting bi-weekly virtual technical sessions throughout the remainder of the 2023, available to all registered attendees.

To commemorate 25 years of conducting important environmental training and facilitating essential environmental conversations, AFE showcased Green Star® Community and Business work and the 32 communities who've been certified through the Alaska Forum's Green Star Communities Program. Further, a session dedicated to the Green Star Communities Program was presented, inclusive of detailed case studies from the 2022 Awardees.



Julia Hnilicka (third from the right), USDA Alaska State Director, is pictured with the Native Village of Kipnuk, who received their Green Star Communities Award at the Alaska Forum on the Environment 2023



Green Star Community Awardee, Gulkana, receiving their award at the Alaska Forum on the Environment 2023



ALASKA FORUM
ON THE ENVIRONMENT



The Green Star® Communities Program is generously supported with grant funding provided by USDA.

About Green Star[®] Communities Program

The Alaska Forum Green Star[®] Communities Program promotes community-based conservation and planning efforts to improve landfill operations, waste reduction, energy conservation, wastewater, and clean drinking water by providing free education and technical assistance to achieve the Green Star Community Standards.



Green Star Community Awardee, Gakona, receiving their award at the Alaska Forum on the Environment 2023

Recognition for Green Star Community awardees at the annual Alaska Forum on the Environment conference shows other communities that they too can become a Green Star Community, as well as working within the objectives of their EPA Tribal Environmental Plans (ETEPs) and receiving non-regulatory assistance from experts in the field.



Green Star[®] Community Awardees

Community	Year Awarded
1. Aniak	2017
2. Chuathbaluk	2017
3. Tyonek	2018
4. Crooked Creek	2018
4. Yakutat	2018
5. Akiak	2018
6. Akiachak	2018
7. Napaimute	2018
8. Lower Kalskag	2018
9. Upper Kalskag	2018
10. Akutan	2019
11. Chignik Lake	2019
12. Eku	2019
13. King Cove	2019
14. Ugashik	2019
15. Atka	2020
16. Kokhanok	2020
17. Napakiak	2020
18. Port Alsworth	2020
19. Sand Point	2020
20. Togiak	2020
21. Kongiganak	2021
22. Koyukuk	2021
23. Kwigillingok	2021
24. Minto	2021
25. Nulato	2021
26. Tanacross	2021
27. Chitina	2022
28. Gakona	2022
29. Gulkana	2022
30. Kivalina	2022
31. Tazlina	2022
32. Kipnuk	2022