

NEN' EL TUU

The CVTC Tribal Response Program Newsletter

Saen (Summer) 2024

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NTS'E BA HNIYAES?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

- **Bede Nt'aennen?** *Who is this?*
A 90-second Interview: *Tanner Johnson*
- **Slick Says**
- **Greener Futures:** The Role of "Safer Choice Products in Brownfields"
- **Tsigha' et Tlagh:** *Hair and Oil*
How to use a renewable resource to keep oil out of our land and water
- **Kayaxkudghit'iitden:** *Trail Marker*
Sutton Community Hall - Update
- **Hnats'et'aen:** *We are playing.*
- **Slaaghe dela dezenda?** *Can you help?*



saghani
raven

Photo Credit: Selena Ortega-Chiolero

BEDE NT'AENEN? WHO IS THIS? (a 90-second interview)

1. What's your name?

Tanner Johnson

Do you know an environmental professional that I could interview?
Lemme know!



2. What's your job?

I am the Environmental Programs Coordinator for the Alaska Forum. I lead the Green Star Communities program as well as the Pollution Prevention work. I help rural/small communities in their efforts to improve their water, wastewater, energy and waste disposal operations and practices, and then recognize all that effort! A branch of that is to raise awareness of, and then usage of, products certified under the EPA's Safer Choice program, which identifies cleaning and other household products made with ingredients that are safer for people, pets and the planet without sacrificing performance.

3. Have you ever been to Alaska?

I moved to Alaska in 2015! I am originally from Los Alamos, in northern New Mexico.

4. How long have you been working in your position/field?

I've been with the Alaska Forum for 1 year. My start in environmental work was during my college years when I was working for the environmental division at Los Alamos National Laboratory, documenting remediation work by the Lab.

5. What's something you wish the general public knew about your job?

It's a landfill, not a dump! Organized landfills are a key element to any community and a well run facility will save the community money, improve public health, and have a much longer lifetime. When you think of the facility as designed for organization and regulated to be efficient and environmentally safe, it leads to more care being taken by residents and attitudes towards their solid waste. Which helps the facility run better!



GREENER FUTURES: THE ROLE OF "SAFER CHOICE" IN BROWNFIELDS

The EPA's Safer Choice program, also called Green Star, helps people and businesses find products that are safer for our health and the environment. This program is important for cleaning up and redeveloping brownfields sites, which are areas of land that were once used for industrial purposes and may be contaminated.

When cleaning up brownfields sites, different chemicals are used. By choosing products with the Safer Choice label, we can make sure that the chemicals are less harmful to workers and the community. This helps protect everyone's health and the environment.

When we rebuild on brownfields sites, we can also use Safer Choice products. For example, we can choose paints and cleaners that are safer and better for the environment. This makes the new buildings healthier for people to live and work in.

Using Safer Choice products in brownfields projects can help build trust with the community. People are more likely to support the redevelopment if they know safer, eco-friendly products are being used. This can contribute to everyone feeling more involved and proud of the project.

A great example of using Safer Choice products in a brownfields project is the Riverside Industrial Park in Newark, New Jersey. During the cleanup, all the solvents and cleaners used were Safer Choice-certified. In the construction phase, they chose safer paints and cleaners. This not only made the project safer for everyone but also gained strong support from the community!

The Safer Choice/Green Star program helps make brownfields projects safer and better for the environment.

By using these safer products, we can protect health, reduce pollution, and build trust with the community, making sure these sites are positive additions to the area for many years.

6. Most routine part of your job?

Lot's of emails! And something new for me, small plane rides!

7. Weirdest/Wildest thing you witnessed while working?

While on a flight down to a Green Star Community recently, the route took us along the coast of the Alaska Peninsula. We were treated to one section which was just filled with belugas. I'd never seen that many, it was a solid 5-10 minutes of group after group. Pretty incredible!

8. Favorite animal?

Redpolls! I've got a feeder outside my window through the winter and get to watch them all season long. So amazed that those little bodies can make it through the cold. I really appreciated walking through the woods with their numbers this late winter!

9. Seasonal Question: Campfire and s'mores OR watermelon and lake?

Campfire and s'mores!

Slick Says:

"Why settle for ordinary when you can go for the superhero of products - the 'Safer Choice' label! These goodies are like the Avengers of cleaning supplies, keeping your loved ones and the planet safe. With ingredients that have aced the EPA's tough exams, these products are a win-win for performance and safety. No need to compromise anymore - these champions meet strict standards for health, the environment, and getting the job done right. Plus, they kick toxic fumes to the curb, making your indoor air quality a breath of fresh air. So, wave goodbye to harsh chemicals and say hello to a cleaner, greener future with the Safer Choice label!"



Here's a photo of a Safer Choice product in the wild (=my laundry room)! Note the logo in the yellow circle.

TSIGHA' EŁ TLACH: HAIR AND OIL

HOW TO USE A RENEWABLE SOURCE

TO KEEP OIL OUT OF OUR LAND AND WATER

Pollution is a major problem that affects our water, soil, and air. But there's good news! Matter of Trust, a non-profit organization, is tackling this issue in a creative and practical way. They take donations of hair, fur, wool, and fleece from people and businesses and turn these materials into special mats that help clean up oil spills and other pollutants. Plus, it keeps animal fur and human hair out of landfills!

So... Hair Mats?

1. What even are they?

-Hair mats are amazing tools made from recycled hair and other fibers. These mats can soak up harmful chemicals like oil from water and soil. They're used in storm drains, wells, rivers, and even oceans to prevent pollution from spreading. By using these mats, we can keep our environment cleaner and safer.

2. How do they work?

-Here's how it works: When oil or other pollutants spill, they can be harmful to wildlife and the environment. Placing a hair mat in a storm drain or under a car can catch these spills before they reach our water sources. The hair mats soak up the oil and can be safely disposed of or even burned in a special way that breaks down the contaminants. This method helps turn what could be a problem into a solution!

Getting Involved

3. Why support this effort?

-Supporting Matter of Trust means helping to keep our planet clean and making good use of materials that might otherwise be thrown away. It's a simple, practical way to make a big difference in the fight against pollution while also reducing waste in landfills. Plus, it creates green jobs and promotes recycling.

4. I want to help!

-If you're interested in learning more or contributing, check out Matter of Trust's website. They're always looking for donations of hair and other fibers, and they welcome volunteers who want to help make a positive impact.

Let's work together to keep our environment clean and healthy with these innovative hair mats from Matter of Trust!

(<https://matteroftrust.org/donate-hair-fur-and-fiber>)

Did you ever stop to think that our hair is such a natural oil magnet that we need shampoo to rescue it? Hair is the superhero of oil absorption!



Photo Credit: Kali Metlicka
The Tribal Response Program (TRP) Coordinator shows off one of Matter of Trust's oil spill hair mats ("Harold").

KAYAXKUDGHIŁ'IITDEN: TRAIL MARKER

SUTTON COMMUNITY HALL - UPDATE

Tege yil'aen! (*He feels sorry!*) I apologize that I haven't given an update on the Sutton Community Hall for awhile: I've been tied up in an EPA cooperative agreement process called a "Supplemental Amendment" since March. (So. Much. Paperwork.) So now let me tell you what we're looking at moving forward!

Soon we will be putting out three (3) Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for contractors to accomplish the following at the Sutton Community Hall site:

1. Further soil sampling and site evaluation (to find out where the contamination is still lurking, and how much has to be cleaned up)
2. A structural engineering assessment
3. An Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA)

Starting brownfields site work for the Sutton Community Hall project involves navigating the EPA's Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA), which is crucial for assessing and selecting the most suitable cleanup methods.

What does the term "ABCA" refer to in the context of the Sutton Community Hall project?

The Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) at Sutton Community Hall involves evaluating various methods for addressing contamination on the site. This includes assessing different cleanup techniques such as active remediation (e.g., excavation and soil vapor extraction), monitored natural attenuation, and considering no-action scenarios. Each alternative is evaluated based on effectiveness, feasibility, and cost to determine the optimal approach for remediation.

How does the ABCA process fit into the cleanup and reuse of Sutton Community Hall?

The ABCA process is a critical step conducted before initiating cleanup and reuse activities. It begins after site assessments, such as soil sampling and testing, to understand the extent and types of contamination present. The findings from these assessments provide essential data that inform the selection of appropriate cleanup methods during the ABCA process.

What role do contractors performing the ABCA at Sutton Community Hall play in accessing and using other assessment reports?

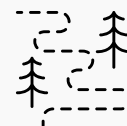
Contractors responsible for conducting the ABCA will rely heavily on reports from previous assessments, such as the site assessment and structural engineering assessments. These reports provide crucial information on contamination levels, site conditions, and the structural integrity of existing buildings. Access to these reports allows the ABCA contractor to accurately evaluate cleanup alternatives and recommend the most effective and feasible approach for remediation.

How is the community involved in the ABCA process at Sutton Community Hall?

Community involvement is integral to the ABCA process. It ensures that local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and community organizations, are informed about the cleanup plans and have opportunities to provide input. Public meetings, informational sessions, and comment periods will be organized to gather community feedback and address concerns throughout the decision-making process. Engaging the community helps build trust, transparency, and a great cleanup plan.



If you have any questions, I'd like to hear from you!
My contact information is on the last page under "Slaaghe dela dezenda? - Can you help?"





HAIR MATS FOR OIL SPILLS

RECYCLED, FELTED NATURAL FIBER MATS & BOOMS
MADE FROM HAIR, FUR, WOOL, & FLEECE CLIPPINGS

REQUEST A QUOTE!

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HAIR BOOMS

- ✓ 100% recycled natural fibers including hair, pet fur, waste wool & fleece clippings collected from salons, barbers, groomers, and ranches
- ✓ Tough, durable and planet-friendly
- ✓ Multipurpose: ideal for oil, grease, diesel, gasoline, jet fuel

HAIR MATS

- ✓ High adsorption rate (oil adheres to the hair's surface area)
- ✓ Mats are needle-punch felted with low-carbon footprint
- ✓ Safe for the environment, see peer-reviewed research here: <https://matteroftrust.org/research-resources/>

Description	Hair Mat for Oil Spills (SMALL)	Hair Mat for Oil Spills (LARGE)
Dimensions	60 x 60 x 2 cm	120 x 30 x 2 cm
UPC Number	00196852683123	00196852935536
Materials	Human hair, pet fur, alpaca, llama, bison, sheeps' wool waste fibers	
Brand Name	Matter of Trust Inc.	
Item Weight	1 Kilo (2.2 lbs)	
Absorption ratio	5.5+ liters of oil	
Absorption	Hydrocarbons derived from petroleum, oily fatty compound substances of mineral, vegetable or liquid animal origin	



Matter of Trust.org
Join Eco-Enthusiasts
for Renewable Resources



SAFER CHOICE

Communities & Municipalities

What is the Safer Choice label?

Helping residents, businesses, and our communities find products with safer ingredients is the reason EPA created the Safer Choice label. When you see a product with the Safer Choice label, it means that every ingredient in the product has been evaluated by EPA scientists.

Safer Choice for Municipalities

Municipalities use chemical products for many activities (such as road, vehicle, and building maintenance) that can impact our waterways and water quality. The use of Safer Choice-labeled products can reduce the volume and toxicity of chemicals that are discharged into sewer systems and local waterways, helping to protect your community. Municipalities can also make a difference and serve as role models and partners to residents, schools, businesses and other organizations by using products with safer chemicals.

Safer Choice-labeled Products

Safer Choice labels a wide range of products, including:

- All-purpose cleaners
- Athletic field paints
- Bathroom cleaners
- Car care products
- Degreasers
- Deicers
- Graffiti removers
- Glass cleaners
- Granite/stone cleaners
- Tire additives
- Wood cleaners

For the full list of products, visit epa.gov/saferchoice/products

saferchoice@epa.gov

THE SAFER CHOICE DIFFERENCE

Our product review process is grounded in more than 40 years of EPA experience evaluating human health and environmental characteristics of chemicals. Products that carry the Safer Choice label must meet requirements for: safer chemical ingredients, performance, packaging, ingredient disclosure, pH and volatile organic compounds. The Safer Choice Standard is available at: www.epa.gov/saferchoice/standard

The Safer Chemical Ingredients List (SCIL) is a list of chemical ingredients, arranged by functional-use class, that the Safer Choice program has evaluated and determined to be safer than traditional chemical ingredients. This list is designed to help manufacturers and others find safer chemical alternatives that meet the criteria of the Safer Choice program. More information on the SCIL is available at: www.epa.gov/saferchoice/safer-ingredients

PRODUCT PROCUREMENT

Choosing products with safer chemicals whenever possible, or during contract renewals, is one way municipalities can help protect the environment. Green procurement opportunities exist in every part of your organization, including transportation, energy and waste management, office supplies, water use, and packaging. Safer Choice-labeled products can be an important element of your environmentally preferable procurement strategy and integral to a community's pollution prevention and good housekeeping program.

For more information on Safer Choice-labeled products for your community: www.epa.gov/saferchoice/find-safer-choices-use-your-community. For information on Greener Products and EPA Purchasing Tools and Tips visit: www.epa.gov/greenerproducts/

HNATS'ET'AEN: WE ARE PLAYING

These little ggax (rabbits) are having a great time eating watermelon! There are alts'eni (five) slices that don't have any c'ents'ese' (seeds).

Can you find them?

“

This is the answer to the hidden poem in the last TRP newsletter (Winter 2023/24) crossword.. Were you able to find it?

"Dust of Snow" by, Robert Frost
The way a crow
Shook down on me
The dust of snow

From a hemlock tree
Has given my heart
A change of mood
And save some part
Of a day I had rued



”



tsehc'utsaey-
dragonfly



@brownfieldbear

HELL
Summer

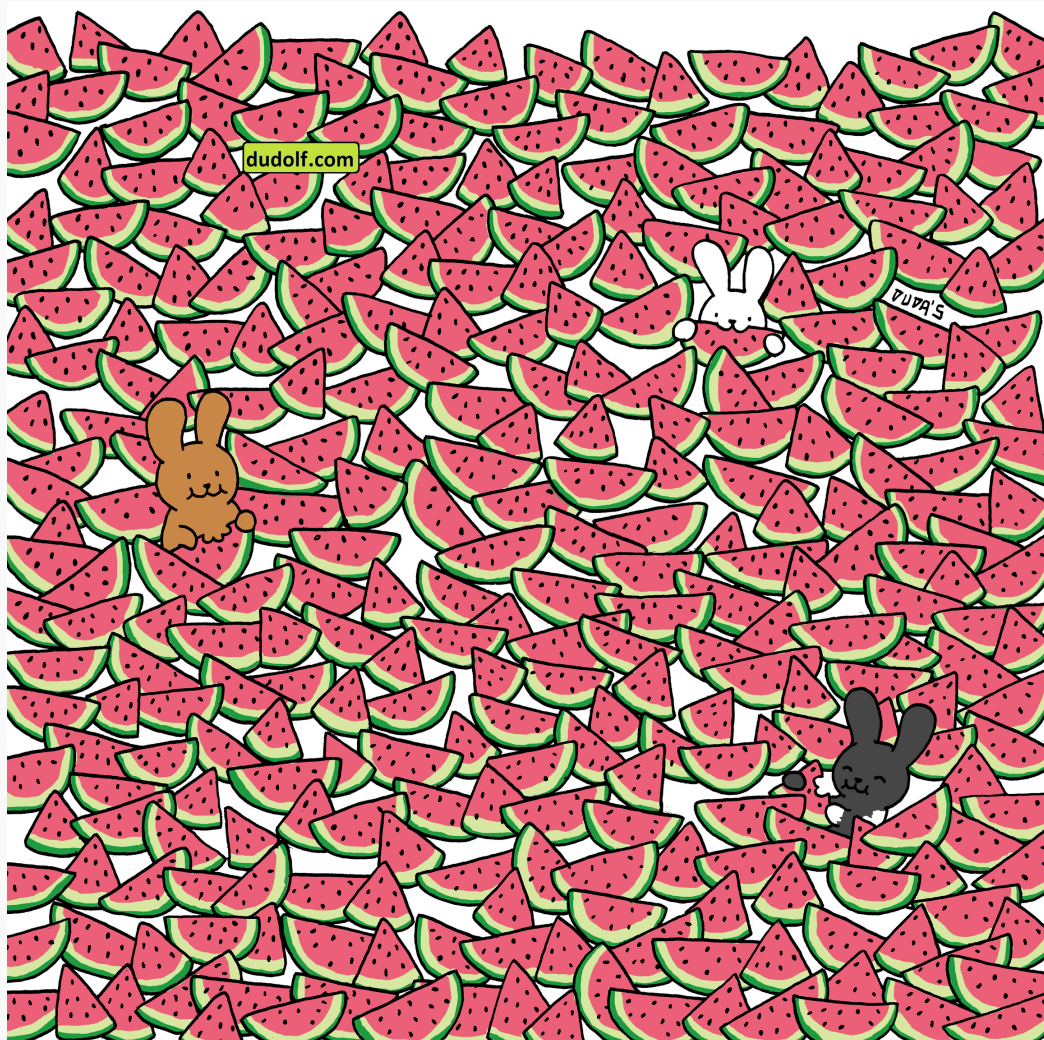
**SLAAGHE DELA DEZENDA?
CAN YOU HELP?**



telt'uusi - grasshopper

Curious about the Tribal Response Program?
Wanna talk about brownfields or have me do a presentation?
Got an idea for an article you'd like to see? I'd love to hear from you!

Richard Chiolero
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email: rechiolero@chickaloon-nsn.gov
website: <https://www.chickaloon-nsn.gov/tribal-response-program/>



Gergely Dudolf; thedudolf.blogspot.com

I'm always on the lookout for potential brownfields in our community. If you think you found one, please scan the code and let me know *anonymously*!

(<https://www.chickaloon-nsn.gov/trp-contact/>)

SCAN ME



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