

Join us in making Juneau the most sustainable city in Alaska!

Take action at home with these five top tips from local experts. Choose one or more of them and share on social media to show how you're making our city more sustainable.

***What?* Prioritize cardboard and paper recycling**

Why? More paper and cardboard is thrown away in Juneau than all other recyclable materials combined. These materials have value so recycling them helps keep the costs of Juneau's recycling program down.

How? Sign up for curbside pickup or bring your materials to Juneau Recycling Center, open Tuesday-Saturday: <https://juneau.org/engineering-public-works/recycleworks-2/recycling>

***What?* Go electric!**

Why? Juneau's electricity comes from sustainable hydropower, making it a great choice to power your vehicle or your home. Just ask your neighbors: Juneau has the second highest rate of electric vehicle ownership in the country! And a heat pump or electric boiler can save you money on gas bills.

How? Contact the Juneau Electric Vehicle Association for more info (<https://juneau-ev.org/>) and Alaska Heat Smart (<https://akheatsmart.org/>) for a free home assessment.

***What?* Charge your electric vehicle at night**

Why? Charging your vehicle at times when electrical demands are lower will reduce impacts to Juneau's electrical grid.

How? Plug in your vehicle in the late evening, or you may be able to program it to charge on a set schedule. You may even be eligible for AEL&P's reduced rate for off-peak EV charging: <https://www.aelp.com/Energy-Conservation/Electric-Vehicles>

***What?* Protect Juneau's outstanding water**

Why? Juneau placed second in a 2023 Alaska drinking water taste test, and yet the Mendenhall Wastewater Treatment Facility is at risk from a high nutrient load. This is due to fats, oils and greases being washed down the drain.

How? Scrape plates and dishes prior to washing. Pour used cooking oil and grease into a container such as an empty jar. Seal the jar once the contents have solidified, and put in the trash.

***What?* Reduce food waste**

Why? A win-win solution to keep your grocery bills down and lower the need for resources used to produce food.

How? Use these guides for smart shopping (<https://www.wmnorthwest.com/guidelines/foodwaste/gif/smartshoppingguide.pdf>) and smart storage (<https://www.wmnorthwest.com/guidelines/foodwaste/gif/scrapphappyguide.pdf>) so you only buy the food you need, and eat the food you buy.

With thanks to Stuart Ashton, RecycleWorks; Lori Sowa, AEL&P; Brian McGuire, CBJ; Karissa Miller, Waste Management

Action I will take:

Example: I will pour used oil from my frying pans into empty cans instead of down the drain.

Tip: The more specific it is, the easier it is to take action. Even a small action helps!

How I will do it:

Example: I will save empty cans and keep them underneath the sink.

Tip: Think about what you might need to do ahead of time to make your action easier.

When I will do it:

Example: I will pour out the oil before I start washing any other dishes, and put a note by the sink to remind myself.

Tip: Use prompts to remind yourself about a repeated action like dishwashing. For a one-off action like calling Alaska Heat Smart, write down a specific date and time when you will do this.