

# Murie Zero Waste Pilot Project

## University of Alaska Fairbanks



### Project Goals

- Determine % of waste generated that is diverted from landfills
- Identify barriers to waste diversion/reduction, including the University's long-term goal of becoming a Zero Waste campus
- Identify platforms and strategies for waste reduction and increased waste diversion in Fairbanks

The Murie Life Sciences Building (built in 2014) housing the Biology Department was chosen to be the site of a pilot project to test Zero Waste initiatives on the UAF campus. The project was funded by the Student Sustainability Fee under the direction of the UAF Review of Infrastructure Sustainability and Energy (RISE) Board



### How Will We Do it?

- Establishing baseline data
- Murie recycling employee tracking
- Student/staff surveys & feedback
- Data management system to track waste volumes



### Current Initiatives

#### Source Reduction

- Partnering with UAF procurement for packaging reduction project
- Partner with Biology researchers
- Incorporate environmental preferable packaging into contracts

#### Diversion Initiatives

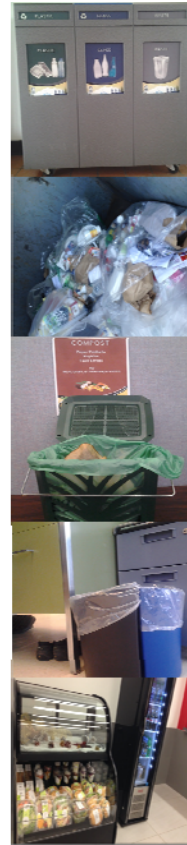
- 3-4 recycling bin systems/floor (waste, paper, glass, aluminum & plastics)
- Dual bins at all desks
- Composting in lounges & common areas
- Increased signage/education campaigns

#### Dining Initiatives (Murie Cafe')

- Replace plastics bottles with cans
- Coffee composting, pre/post-consumer recycling in lounges
- Discounts for reusable cups & soup containers
- Eliminate packaging on bakery items
- Shift packaging towards paper
- Environmentally preferable labeling

#### Other Initiatives

- Sustainable product choice
- Zero Waste lab guidelines
- Zero Waste pledge



### Next Steps

- Increase student engagement/awareness
- Assess reduction in waste generation
- Begin implementation of Zero Waste Initiatives campus wide



