

# Eek, Alaska 2018



# Project: New Water, New Air Quality

**Indoor Air Quality**

90% of our lives spent indoors

2-5x More pollution indoors than outdoors

**Common Indoor Air Pollutants**

- Airborne particles** from diesel exhaust, dust, smoke and other sources
- Indoor formaldehyde** from building materials, furniture, cooking, and smoking
- Household odors & gases** from activities such as painting, cooking, and smoking
- Ozone** from outdoor air (ground level ozone is harmful to breathe)
- Carbon Dioxide** from people exhaling and cooking

50 Years, BASF has been developing solutions for Clean Air

[www.catalysts.basf.com/iaq](http://www.catalysts.basf.com/iaq)

## HEALTHY HOMES AND COMMUNITIES

# Eek flushes the honey bucket with completion of water and sewer project

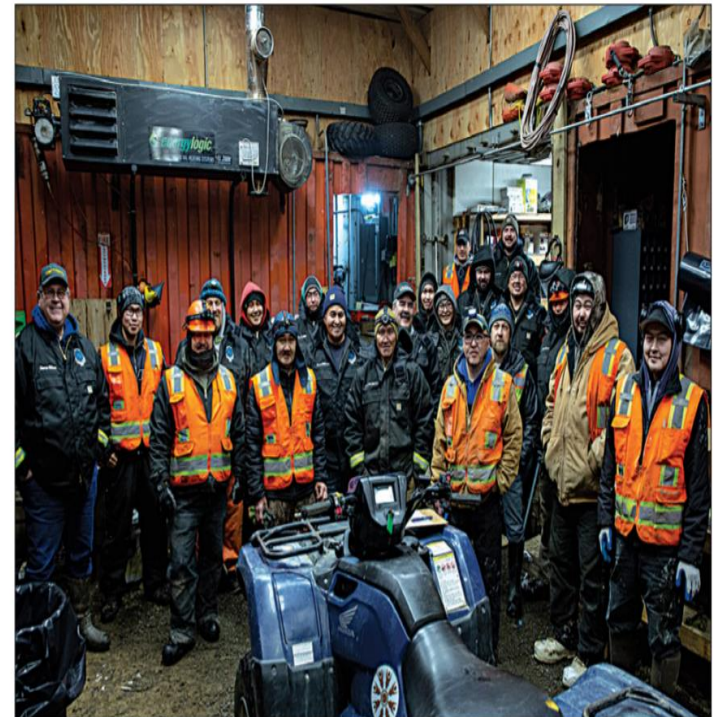
When Eek Elder, Elias Keyes, turned on his new faucet for the first time and watched the water flow down his sink, he saw his relative's prophetic words come to life.

"My grandfather used to say a time would come when we could push a button and everything would happen. Now, I see that it is," Keyes said. "When I'm gone, I won't have to worry about my grandchildren having safe water."

In March, workers on the project to bring first-time running water and sewer services to the entire community of Eek tightened the final fixture and turned on the faucet in the last home. The construction effort took five years to complete, but was worth the wait for residents like Keyes, who hauled water and disposed of waste in honey buckets their entire lives. In total, 100 homes and six other buildings were outfitted with water and sewer services.

The project to bring water to Eek homes began in 2014 with the construction of the sewage lagoon. The crew began laying pipe in 2015 and in 2017 started bringing water and sewer services inside the homes.

The community project also installed a new point for raw water intake, added water and sewer main



*"This crew is one of the finest I've ever had the privilege to work with, and certainly the strongest, most cohesive one I've had over the course of this project," said Steve Wilson, ANTHC Superintendent of the Eek project. "Without the local hires we've been able to bring on and their dedication to complete this project, we wouldn't be here today."*

# Why?

New water services can:

- More indoor water, more moisture
- Build capacity of residents
- Act as disease and pest prevention





## Who?

- Native Village of Eek
- ANTHC  
Department of  
Environmental  
Health &  
Engineering  
(DEHE)







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# Who?

- ANTHC Air Quality Program
- Residents



<p><b>Mold &amp; Moisture</b></p>	<p>a. Does the home have visible mold growth? (often found in the bathroom, or on ceilings, walls, and sometimes window sills)</p> <p>b. Are there any leaks or places where moisture is entering the home?</p>	<p>a. Yes or <b>No</b></p> <p>b. Yes or <b>No</b></p>	<p>Small amounts of mold can be cleaned with soap and water, or a dilute bleach solution for smooth surfaces. Wear gloves, goggles, and an N-95 respirator mask when cleaning mold.</p> <p>A mold problem is a moisture problem. Make sure the home does not have leaks or water entry points. Proper ventilation will also control moisture.</p>	
<p><b>Other Heating Sources</b></p>	<p>a. Does the home have a heat source such as a Toyo stove or a boiler?</p> <p>b. If yes, is it in good working order and maintained?</p> <p>c. Is it vented so that exhaust does not enter the home?</p>	<p>a. Yes or <b>No</b></p> <p>b. <b>Yes</b> or <b>No</b></p> <p>c. <b>Yes</b> or <b>No</b></p>	<p>Heating appliances will last longer and burn cleaner if properly run and maintained.</p> <p>Companies like Rural Energy Enterprises, may be able to trouble shoot problems if contacted.</p> <p>Make sure exhaust does not enter the home.</p>	
<p><b>Chemical Storage</b></p>	<p>a. Are chemicals or household cleaners (bleach, Lysol, etc.) kept in the home?</p> <p>b. If yes, are they labeled and stored in a cabinet that cannot be accessed by children?</p> <p>c. Are any medications stored where children may reach them?</p>	<p>a. Yes or <b>No</b></p> <p>b. <b>Yes</b> or <b>No</b></p> <p>c. Yes or <b>No</b></p>	<p>Chemicals, household cleaners, and medications can be harmful, especially to children.</p> <p>Store and label chemicals, household cleaners, and medications separately and in a locked cabinet away from the reach of children.</p>	
<p><b>Pests</b></p>	<p>a. Are pests (insects, rodents, etc.) a problem in the home?</p> <p>b. If yes, does the pest have access to food, water, and a way to enter the home for shelter?</p>	<p>a. Yes or <b>No</b></p> <p>b. Yes or <b>No</b></p>	<p>Pests can be a nuisance and some can transmit disease. To prevent infestations, seal any holes and crack in the home and keep the pest from accessing food, water, and shelter (e.g.-trash bins, food on counter.</p> <p>Pesticides should only be used when other methods fail. <b>READ THE LABEL</b> before use.</p>	

# What?

- Project planning with partners
- 103 home assessments



## What?

- Provide one-on-one AQ education
- Provide Air Matters Toolkits





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## What?

- School Outreach



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# How?

- ANTHC AQ Program EPA Subaward or Minigrant Funding
- High Levels of Advertising & Outreach



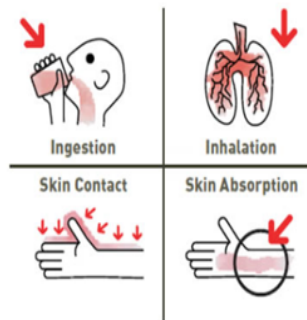
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## Indoor Air Quality Healthy Home Assessments

Alaskans spend about **90%** of their time indoors, and indoor air quality can affect our respiratory health.

**ANTHC will be providing healthy home assessments and education to residents starting Monday, September 17 – 20<sup>th</sup> and Monday, September 24 – 27<sup>th</sup>.**

Each participant will receive an Air Matters Toolkit that contains items to help you monitor and improve your home environment.



Home assessments will include looking at home moisture levels, mold, burning practices, safety, and more.

The goal of ANTHC's Air Quality Program is to help improve the respiratory health of Alaska Native people.



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## How?

- Good Partnerships



# How?

- Community





# Images Provided By: ANTHC Mukluk Telegraph



**Improving patient travel and housing**  
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**Eek flushes Honey Bucket**  
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## Mukluk Telegraph

THE QUARTERLY NEWSPAPER OF THE ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM JULY - SEPTEMBER 2019



### ANMC hospital receives 3-year reverification as a Level II Pediatric Trauma Center



**T**he Alaska Native Medical Center was recently reverified as a Level II Pediatric Trauma Center by the Verification Review Committee (VRC), an ad hoc committee of the Committee on Trauma (COT) of the American College of Surgeons (ACS). This achievement recognizes ANMC's dedication to providing optimal care for injured pediatric patients.

Established by the American College of Surgeons in 1987, the COT's Consultation/Verification Program for Hospitals promotes the development of trauma centers in which participants provide not only the hospital resources necessary for trauma

care, but also the entire spectrum of care to address the needs of all injured patients. This spectrum encompasses the prehospital phase through the rehabilitation process.

"Our team is very excited to be able to provide the highest level of trauma care for children in Alaska. Holding status as a pediatric center allows us to focus on pediatric issues related to trauma care," said Dr. Elisha Brownson, ANMC Trauma Medical Director. "We helped develop guidelines for the care of children with head injuries, a common injury in Alaska due to ATV, sports injuries, and motor vehicle crashes. This allows us to provide excellent pediatric

care and avoid unnecessary transfers of injured children out of the state."

ANMC offers a wide range of pediatric trauma care services and admits between 100-125 pediatric trauma patients each year. ANMC provides specialty care for pediatric burn patients, which allows many children who would otherwise have to travel to Seattle, the ability to be treated right here at home. Care for the seriously injured child is supported by all medical and surgical specialties at ANMC, as well as our incredible staff of pediatric therapists, child life specialists, nurses, and other staff dedicated to

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