



# EFFORTS TO REDUCE BACKYARD BURNING ON THE BAD RIVER RESERATION

WORKING TOWARDS A  
BURN FREE COMMUNITY

Presented By:

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# The Bad River Reservation

- ⇒ 124,000 acres
- ⇒ Checkerboard ownership
- ⇒ 2,738 total population
- ⇒ 1,200 Tribal members
- ⇒ Tribe owns 73%
- ⇒ Governed by Tribal Council



# The Kakagon Sloughs



# Bad River Air Quality Program

- ⇒ 2001-Awarded first EPA 103 Clean Air Act grant
- ⇒ Included full time Air Quality Specialist to:
  - Assess current air quality
  - Develop air monitoring projects
  - Develop Tribal environmental policies/ordinances
  - Conduct education and outreach

# The Plan

- ⇒ Source Identification
- ⇒ Develop Feasible Strategy for Reduction
- ⇒ Educate Tribal Community
- ⇒ Gain Partnerships
- ⇒ Implement



# Source Identification

- ⇒ Burn barrels obvious on-Reservation source
- ⇒ Approximately 173 surveyed
- ⇒ No restrictions on burning



# Development of Feasible Reduction Strategy

## ⇒ Phase 1: 2002

- Conservation Code and Ordinance Developed
- Exchange program implemented
- Burning Permit Program Implemented

## ⇒ Phase 2: 2005-2006

- Burn Barrel Buy Back Program

# Phase 1- Conservation Code/ Ordinance

- ⇒ Open Burning, Burn Barrel, and Fire Prevention Ordinance - May 2002
- ⇒ Ordinance Includes:
  - Purpose and Scope
  - Definitions
  - General provisions
  - Permit application and issuance
  - Prohibited burn items
  - Enforcement and Penalties



# Phase 1-Exchange Program, 2002

- ⇒ Partnered with Bad River Solid Waste and Recycling
- ⇒ Exchanged burn barrels, screens and blocks to bring barrels up to code with new ordinance
- ⇒ 113 community members participated
- ⇒ Required community members to have a burn permit and comply with ordinance

## Phase 2- Burn Barrel Buy Back Program, 2005-2006

- ⇒ Received EPA grant for the second phase
- ⇒ Partnered again with Bad River Solid Waste and Recycling
- ⇒ Completely voluntary
- ⇒ Conducted in fall of 2005 and summer 2006



Participants Received Free Pick Up of Their Burn Barrel



Participants Also Received Free Disposal of the Contents of Their Burn Barrel



Participants Signed a "Burn Free Home" Pledge and Received an Incentive Bag With Promotional Items



**Fifty Three Burn Barrels Were Collected During The Buy-Back Program, Resulting In A 31% Reduction Of The Total Barrels on Reservation.**

# Education And Outreach

- ⇒ Articles
- ⇒ Brochures
- ⇒ Posters
- ⇒ Displays
- ⇒ Environmental Health Fairs
- ⇒ School visits
- ⇒ Community Meetings



# CONCLUSION

- ⇒ 31% reduction of barrels on Reservation
- ⇒ Over 4,300 lbs of waste collected
- ⇒ Increased cooperation within homes that participated
- ⇒ Increased solid waste and recycling stream
- ⇒ Implemented personal information shedder at SW&R Center
- ⇒ Successful joint effort



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