Akutan Student Council launches litter cleanup, prevention program

AKUTAN — The Akutan Student Council has launched a litter prevention and cleanup program involoving recycled fuel drums left during World War II.

Jack Braddock, president of Alaskans for Litter Prevention & Recycling, said the school's 11 students are working with teacher Rich Little to collect, clean up and paint fuel drums left by U.S. military troops in the Aleutian campaign. The refurbished metal barrels are then used to collect litter in the village.

Braddock said the Akutan program is unique in that it converts what is now litter into litter prevention materials.

"And most recycled materials have been around a lot less than 40 years," he added.

Akutan is an island near Unalaska, about 1,200 miles southwest of Anchorage.