

# Cowper orders recycling policy for state offices

JUNEAU — Gov. Steve Cowper recently signed an administrative order directing state agencies to recycle solid waste, reduce the production of solid and hazardous waste and use products made from recycled materials whenever possible.

He signed the order, along with an executive proclamation and concurrent resolution transmittal letter recognizing Earth Day 1990.

In addition, students from Peregrine School in Juneau presented a petition to Cowper with more than 5,600 signatures from 52 communities through Alaska asking that the state develop and encourage recycling programs, conduct recycling research and encourage new waste management technologies.

"A lot of state agencies, including my office, have voluntarily been recycling paper and other waste products for quite awhile now. This administrative order makes it official policy," Cowper said.

The order directs state agency managers to develop the following:

Appoint an individual to serve as the department's waste reduction recycling liaison; encourage and authorize the substitution of products or processes that reduce the amount of toxicity of waste produced; encourage and authorize the purchase of equipment to recycle or beneficially use waste; encourage and authorize the purchase of products made from recycled materials, especially paper products and encourage agency staff to become familiar with waste reduction and recycling practices and identify opportunities to implement them at their job locations.