

The Tribal Newsletter is issued free each month

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United States Environmental Protection Agency

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<http://www.epa.gov/tribal/region-10-tribal-newsletter>

Top News

Environmental Justice 2020 Action Agenda

The EPA's Office of Environmental Justice 2020 Action Agenda - the Agency's environmental justice strategic plan for 2016–2020 was released last month. Chapter 9 of the EJ 2020 Action Agenda focuses on EPA's actions with federally recognized tribes and indigenous peoples to provide for environmental justice to help protect the environment and public health in Indian country, on tribal lands, and in other areas of interest to tribes and indigenous peoples. Other chapters of the Action Agenda also include actions and measures that pertain to the interests of tribes and indigenous peoples.

The EPA's EJ work with Region 10 tribes includes specific projects in Alaska and Washington. In Alaska, the EPA is assisting communities in addressing imminent and future risks from climate change impacts — the community of Newtok is in the process of moving to a new location, Shishmaref is in the process of planning for relocation, and Shaktoolik is adapting in place. In Washington, the EPA is working with tribes to reduce childhood asthma and improve residential indoor air quality and help to develop the infrastructure and capacity to deliver in-home asthma care for native children.

CHAPTER 9: TRIBES & INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

OBJECTIVE
FULFILL EPA'S COMMITMENT TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH OF FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, AND PROVIDE THEM ACCESS TO THE AGENCY'S DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES, SO THAT EVERYONE HAS A SAFE AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH TO LIVE, LEARN, WORK AND PLAY.

EJ is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. The EJ 2020 Action Agenda will integrate EJ considerations in all of the Agency's programs, strengthen collaboration with partners, and demonstrate progress on significant national challenges facing minority and low-income communities. To learn more about the EJ 2020 Action Agenda, and to learn about the support to communities in Alaska and Washington, go to <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/about-ej-2020>.

EPA Stormwater Planning Guide

The EPA has a draft guide, toolkit, and technical assistance to promote comprehensive, community-wide planning approaches to manage stormwater.

Check it out online at

<https://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater-planning>.

Native American and Alaska Native Heritage Month

Last month President Obama issued a Presidential Proclamation recognizing November as national Native American Heritage Month. The proclamation pledges to maintain the meaningful partnerships the federal government has with tribal nations and renews its commitment to government-to-government relationships. The proclamation is available online at <http://bit.ly/2fgwsLH>.

The EPA's American Indian Environmental Office (which guides the EPA's national tribal program) also commemorated the lessons and wisdom that EPA has gained from our tribal partnerships through a social media series called #NativeFirstVoices. Check out the series on AIEO's Facebook site at <https://www.facebook.com/epatribal>.

LEO Network Expansion

The Local Environmental Observer network has expanded its reach of climate change observers beyond Alaska. The LEO network was launched by the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium with grant funding from the EPA, to increase awareness about the vulnerabilities and impacts from climate change. LEO Network members are local and traditional knowledge experts who share observations of unusual or unique environmental events through their website.

The network is expanding into the lower 48 U.S. states through a new hub for college student observers at Northwest Indian College in Washington. The expansion also includes hub development in Canada through the University of Victoria and into Mexico.

On November 14, a team of EPA and ANTHC representatives traveled to Victoria, British Columbia to host a LEO workshop for the First Nations Health Authority. The workshop included over 30 participants – among them were community representatives, organizations, and Canadian provincial and federal government agencies. Hub development and technology, oversight, collaboration, communications with LEO members, and assembling partnerships were all important themes of the workshop. The participants also learned about outreach strategies for youth, ages 8-15 from the new hub in Mexico.

To learn more about the LEO network, go to <http://bit.ly/2gffo9n>.



Participants in November LEO workshop in Victoria, B.C.

Burn Wise Health and Safety Awareness Kits

The EPA's Burn Wise program has updated its online Health and Safety Awareness Kits. The kits are designed specifically for state, local, and tribal air agencies interested in reducing residential wood smoke pollution. The kits include best burn tips, infographics, social media messages, a fast facts one-pager, and an article template.



With winter wood burning season in full swing, these outreach tools are meant to make it easier for you to add facts to your website, post information on social media and even conduct a full "Health and Safety" awareness campaign in your community. To view the contents of the kit, go to <https://www.epa.gov/burnwise/burn-wise-awareness-kit>.

CONTACT: **Larry Brockman** • 919-541-3609 • Brockman.larry@epa.gov,
or **Melissa Payne** • 919-541-3609 • payne.melissa@epa.gov.



HUD Guide to Post-Disaster Healthy Homes Restoration

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes has developed resources to provide best practices for creating healthy homes after a natural disaster. The goal is to provide practices for preventing hazards before a disaster and for the rebuilding stages of recovery.

The ***Rebuild Healthy Homes: Guide to Post-Disaster Restoration for a Safe and Healthy Home*** provides essential information to homeowners, volunteers and workers who restore homes damaged by disasters. Poorly restored homes, due to lack of knowledge or pressure for a speedy rebuild, can create health hazards, and even make existing hazards worse. For example, common post-disaster problems like the collection of wet materials, can result in mold growth. Likewise, the collection of debris, silt, and grime provides the perfect environment for health hazards.

The Guide includes how-to methods, tips and improvement ideas for safe restoration that result in not just a livable dwelling, but a healthy home that offers even more than before. The guide is available as a PDF online at <http://go.usa.gov/x8Xcw>.

The Guide and other healthy homes resources are available through the HUD OLHCHH website at <http://www.hud.gov/healthyhomes>.



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

REGIONAL NEWS

Washington Updated Standards for Toxic Water Pollutants

The EPA announced actions to update the limits for toxic pollutants in Washington's surface waters which will protect water quality and people who eat fish from those waters. The Clean Water Act sets clear expectations for the nation's water quality and calls for establishing health-based standards using the best available science to ensure that all people can safely fish and swim in U.S. waters. These actions set standards aimed at protecting those who eat salmon and other fish and shellfish from Washington waters.

Specifically, the EPA approved 45 of the pollution standards the Washington Department of Ecology adopted earlier this year, and finalized updates to 144 additional federal standards. For a complete list of the pollutants addressed in this action go to: <http://go.usa.gov/x8Xc7>.

"Washington maintains one of the strongest water programs in the entire nation," said EPA Regional Administrator Dennis McLerran. "Now, the state will have updated standards on the books and the needed flexibility to make progress meeting these more protective standards over time."

Surveys of local residents in the Pacific Northwest, including tribes with treaty-protected rights, reflect that Washingtonians eat fish and shellfish at levels much higher than the rate that was previously used to set standards for toxics in Washington's waters. EPA and Ecology have been working to establish these new water quality standards based on a far more realistic estimate of the amount of fish Washingtonians eat.

"We applaud the Governor and Ecology's decision to increase the fish consumption rate recognized in the standards and to retain the state's protective one-in-a-million cancer risk level. The fish consumption rate and risk level in the standards match those established in Oregon and clearly recognize that greater protection of people who eat larger amounts of fish is appropriate in the Pacific Northwest where fishing is a part of our heritage," McLerran said.

Most of Washington's human health standards for toxics in surface water haven't been updated since 1992. This new set of standards is based on the latest science about health protection and fish consumption rates. These actions ensure that water quality standards are now in place at levels that will adequately protect fish consumers in Washington, including tribes with treaty-protected rights, from exposure to toxic pollutants.

The region's tribes helped both the EPA and the state better understand the particular health risks that tribal members have long faced due to their consumption of large amounts of fish. In establishing a fish consumption rate that better reflects the amount of fish people eat, the Ecology and EPA standards will help to lower health risks from eating fish for all Washingtonians, even those, such as tribal members, who regularly consume large amounts of fish and shellfish. EPA's final rule incorporates Washington's 175 grams per day fish consumption rate and a one-in-one million cancer risk level.

The EPA's rule and Washington's approved water quality standards will take effect 30 days after publication of the rule in the Federal Register. The rule was published in the Federal Register November 28. For more information about EPA's action on Washington's water quality standards, go to: <http://go.usa.gov/x8Xc7>.



**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Alaska Operations Office**

ALASKA NEWS

Elections for NTOC Alaska Position 1

EPA Region 10 is holding elections for an Alaska tribal representative to serve on the **National Tribal Operations Committee** as the Alaska Position 1 Member. The deadline for federally recognized tribes to mail ballots to the EPA is **December 6**.

Ballots and information were mailed to all Alaskan tribal leaders on November 14. Each federally recognized tribe in Alaska is limited to one vote. To vote for NTOC Alaska Position #1, please submit **one** of the following:

1. A marked ballot with an authorized official signature.
2. A tribal council resolution (identifying the individual that the tribe is voting for) that's signed by an authorized official.
3. A letter on your tribe's stationary (identifying the individual that the tribe is voting for) that is signed by an authorized official.

The National Tribal Operations Committee is a partnership between the EPA and elected tribal advisors who work with EPA senior leadership on policy and resource matters related to tribal capacity building, and environmental program development and implementation in Indian country. Members are selected on a regional basis by each **Regional Tribal Operations Committee** or its equivalent, and represent all tribes within the region. The primary focus is to identify and address tribal environmental issues that are national in scope, cross-agency or cross-media in nature, or that may be emerging or urgent.

For more information, contact **JR Herbst** at 206-553-2116 or herbst.john@epa.gov.
To learn more about the NTOC, go to <https://www.epa.gov/tribal/national-tribal-caucus>.
To learn more about the RTOC in Region 10, go to <http://rtocregion10.org>.

Developing a Harmful Algal Bloom Action Plan for Alaska Workshop

December 8-9 in Anchorage, AK

This two-day workshop, co-sponsored by Alaska Sea Grant and the Alaska Ocean Observing System, has the goal of developing an action plan for harmful algal bloom monitoring, event response, outreach and research in Alaska.

The first day is intended to engage a broad audience, including resource managers, shellfish growers, researchers, and anyone affected or interested in HABs. This first day will include presentations to provide an overview and summary of HAB-related activities around Alaska as well as breakout groups to develop an action plan related to monitoring and event response. The second day will engage a targeted audience that is interested in developing an action plan for HAB research, data sharing, outreach and education. Participants may register for the first day only or for both days. Registration is free.

To learn more, go to <http://bit.ly/2eX96JF>.

CONTACT: **Ginny Eckert** • 907-796-5450 • gleckert@alaska.edu.

ITEP Air Quality Training Course for Alaska

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals is accepting applications for an air quality course, planned for tribes in Alaska.

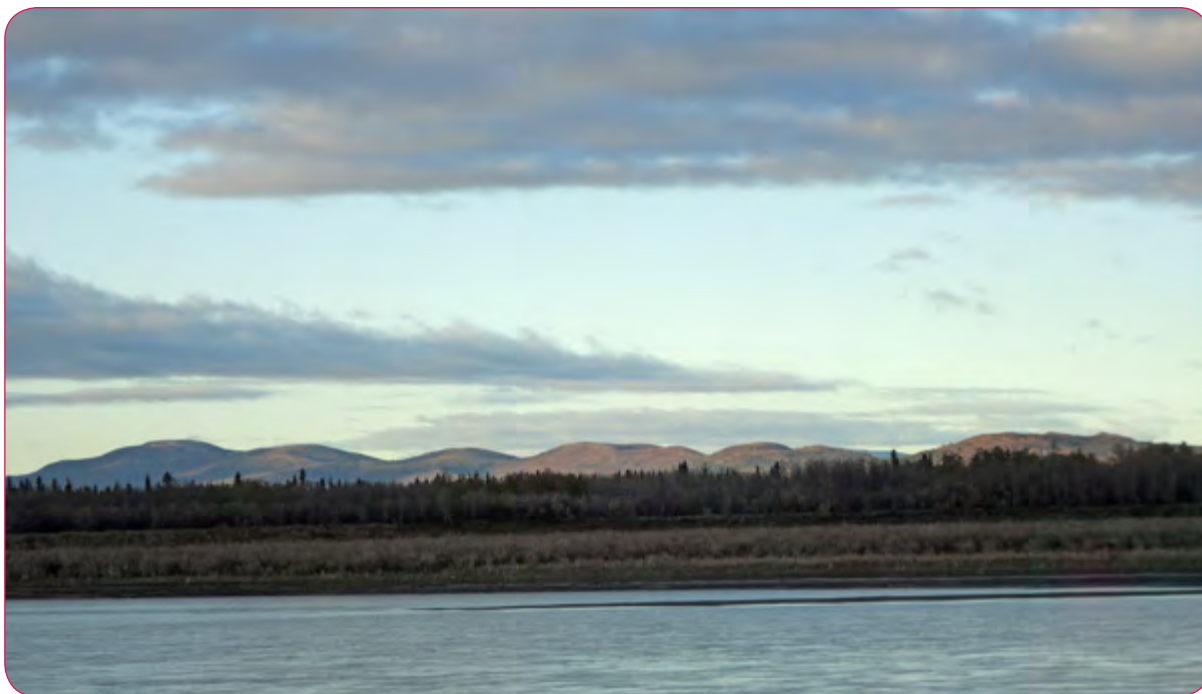
Air Quality & Indoor Air Quality in Alaska Native Villages

December 6 – 9 in Kotzebue

ITEP is offering this entry-level course for Alaska tribal environmental staff interested in air quality issues. The content is basic and assumes the participant has no background in science or air quality management.

The course provides an understanding of the importance of clean air (outdoors and indoors) for the protection of human health and the environment. Instructors and participants will explore ways in which Alaska Native Villages can take action to solve air quality problems, protect human health, and preserve cultural values. This course consists of lectures, demonstrations, small-group activities, and a building walk-through. There will be hands-on practice with a comprehensive assessment checklist used to identify IAQ problems.

CONTACT: **Lydia Scheer** • 928-523-6887 • Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu



Alaska Marine Science Symposium

January 23 – 29 in Anchorage, AK

Alaska Marine Science Symposium, Alaska's premier marine research conference, brings together scientists, educators, resource managers, students, and interested public to discuss the latest and greatest marine research being conducted in Alaskan waters. Research will be presented by geographic theme, including the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, and the Arctic. Topic areas will include ocean physics, fishes and invertebrates, seabirds, marine mammals, local traditional knowledge and more.

Early online registration closes **December 20** and online registration closes **January 18**. For more information and/or to register, go to <http://amss.nprb.org>.

Alaska DEC Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Service Grant Opportunity

DUE DATE: **January 31.**

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation assists communities by conducting environmental site assessments and cleanups at qualifying brownfield sites. The DEC Brownfield Assessment and Cleanup request period is now open for project work beginning in July 2017. DBAC objectives are to:

- Clarify whether an environmental problem is limiting a site's use or intended reuse or redevelopment.
- Identify the nature and extent of contamination.
- Provide recommendations and estimate costs for additional assessment, if needed.
- Propose cleanup options and provide a general estimate of cleanup costs, if indicated.
- When funding permits, conduct cleanup activities designed to enable reuse of a site.

In selecting projects, ADEC looks for solid reuse or redevelopment plans and strong community support and commitment.

Contact **Amy Rodman** • 907-465-5368 • amy.rodman@alaska.gov.

To learn more go to <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/bf-dbac.htm>.

RTOC News

2017 TRIBAL LEADERS SUMMIT

Come raise your environmental issues!

March 29 – 31 • Suquamish Clearwater Casino Resort, Suquamish, WA

The summit includes three days of discussions with tribal council members and staff from Region 10. The goal of the summit is to provide tribal council members and staff the opportunity to meet and share environmental concerns from their geographic areas with other tribes in Region 10 and EPA. Topics for discussion could include climate change, environmental justice, and fish consumption rates.

We need to hear all voices! With so many issues affecting our tribal communities, we are calling for grassroots activists, environmental professionals, tribal leaders, EPA employees and appointees to guide our committee as we develop the agenda and format for the 2017 Tribal Environmental Leaders Summit. Please complete a short online survey. The survey is an important part of the planning process and will largely guide the Region 10 RTOC to create a memorable and influential Tribal Environmental Leaders Summit. The deadline to have your voice heard is **December 9**. The online survey is available at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SY3BMXH>.

Next R10 RTOC In-Person Meeting: EPA Office in Seattle, WA • **December 13 – 15**

Save the Date!

2018 Tribal Leaders Summit • March 2018 • Seattle, WA area

CONTACT **Randi Madison**, RTOC R10 Communications Specialist if you wish to join our monthly teleconference and/or have environmental topics to raise.

509-703-4219 • communications@region10rtoc.net • <http://rtocregion10.org>

We look forward to hearing from all the tribes in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.

EPA Tribal Consultation Opportunities

The following tribal consultation opportunities may be of interest to Region 10 tribes. A full list is available at <https://yosemite.epa.gov/oita/TConsultation.nsf>.

Office of International and Tribal Affairs FY 18-19 National Program Manager Guidance

The EPA's Office International and Tribal Affairs is continuing its consultation and coordination with federally recognized tribes on the OITA Fiscal Year 2018-2019 NPM Guidance.

As part of EPA's two-year NPM Guidance process, the Agency has adopted an early engagement approach with tribes and states to seek their input on NPM Guidances before they are drafted. During the early engagement period, EPA NPMs will hold in-person meetings and conference calls with tribes to discuss priorities and other important issues regarding the development of each NPM Guidance.

OITA invites you and/or your designated consultation representative to participate in early engagement on OITA's FY 2018-2019 NPM Guidance to discuss EPA tribal program priorities.

The current FY 2016-2017 OITA NPM Guidance is available on our website at <https://www.epa.gov/planandbudget/national-program-manager-guidances>.

CONTACT: **Jeff Besougloff** • 202-564-0292 • besougloff.jeff@epa.gov

FY 2018-2019 National Program Manager Guidances

END DATE: **June 30.**

The NPM Guidances provide direction to EPA Regions on where the EPA will focus its work with tribal and state governments to ensure implementation of and compliance with environmental laws and regulations. The NPM Guidances are not budget decision-making documents though they do provide a roadmap for the activities that support the priorities identified in the President's Budget.

The NPM Guidances are developed in three stages:

1. NPMs receive input from tribes and states during the early engagement stage, which is now underway.
2. NPMs prepare draft guidances for review and comment.
3. NPMs issue final NPM Guidances.

CONTACT: **Emily Heller** • 202-564-0000 • heller.emily@epa.gov

Or **Joseph Greenblott** • 202-564-4250 • greenblott.joseph@epa.gov



Grants

G R A N T S

NOAA Marine Debris Research Grants

DUE DATE: December 19.

This opportunity provides funding to conduct research directly related to marine debris through field, laboratory, and modeling experiments. Projects may address one or more research priorities and should be original, hypothesis-driven projects that have not previously been addressed to scientific standards.

Applicants requesting funds for research that explores the ecological risk associated with marine debris, determines debris exposure levels, and examines the fate and transport of marine debris in nearshore, coastal environments are welcome to apply. In accordance with the Marine Debris Act, eligible applicants are state, local, and tribal governments whose activities affect research or regulation of marine debris and any institution of higher education, nonprofit organization, or commercial (for-profit) organization with expertise in a field related to marine debris.

For more information, go to <https://marinedebris.noaa.gov/funding/funding-opportunities>.

CONTACT: Peter Murphy • peter.murphy@noaa.gov



EPA STAR Freshwater Harmful Algal Bloom Grants

DUE DATE: January 4.

The EPA's Science to Achieve Results program announced the release of the Freshwater Harmful Algal Blooms Request for Applications. This request seeks regular and early career applications proposing innovative research on the prediction, prevention, control and mitigation of freshwater Harmful Algal Blooms.

HABs and associated hypoxia events have devastating consequences for ecosystems, communities and the health of humans, pets, livestock and wildlife. Recent large scale HAB events in lakes and reservoirs across the country emphasize the need for further research to improve water quality and protect public health.

Public nonprofit institutions/organizations (includes public institutions of higher education and hospitals) and private nonprofit institutions/organizations (includes private institutions of higher education and hospitals) located in the U.S., state and local governments, federally recognized tribal governments, and U.S. territories or possessions are eligible to apply. Special eligibility criteria apply to the early career award portion of this RFA.

See full announcement for more details online at <http://go.usa.gov/x8N5A>.

EPA FY 17 Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Grants

DUE DATE: **December 22.**

The EPA's brownfields program provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofits to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites. A brownfield is a property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

Grants may be used to address sites contaminated by petroleum and hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants (including hazardous substances co-mingled with petroleum). Two separate EPA brownfields funding opportunities are available.

Even though the federally recognized tribes of Alaska are not eligible for the competitive brownfields funding (with the exception of the Metlakatla Indian Community), there is the opportunity to work with other eligible entities in the application process. In addition to local governments, land clearance authorities, regional councils, etc. – the Alaska Native Village and Regional Corporations are eligible entities to apply for the following competitive brownfields opportunities.

1. Assessment Grants (funded over three years)

- **Community-wide or Site-Specific Applicants:** Applicants may apply for up to \$200,000 in hazardous substances funding or up to \$200,000 in petroleum funding.
- **Community-wide Applicants:** Applicants seeking **both** hazardous substances funding and petroleum funding may request a combined total up to \$300,000, however the request for hazardous substances funding or petroleum funding cannot exceed \$200,000 for any one individual type of grant funding. For example, an applicant may apply for \$200,000 in hazardous substances funding and \$100,000 in petroleum funding.
- **Assessment Coalition Applicants:** Applicants may request up to \$600,000 in hazardous substances funding and/or petroleum funding.

2. Cleanup Grants (funded over three years)

Applicants can apply for up to \$200,000 per brownfield site and can submit up to three separate, site-specific cleanup proposals.

To learn more about these opportunities, go to

<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/apply-brownfields-grant-funding>.



EPA FY 17 Environmental Justice Small Grants

DUE DATE: **January 31.**

The EPA's Environmental Justice Small Grants program provides financial assistance to community-based organizations, and local and tribal governments working on projects to address environmental and public health concerns. EPA will award grants that support activities designed to empower and educate affected communities and to identify ways to address environmental and public health concerns at the local level.

Approximately 40 one-year projects will be awarded at up to \$30,000 each nationwide.

An eligible applicant must be one of the following entities:

- Incorporated, non-profit, community-based organizations. This includes environmental justice networks, faith-based organizations and those affiliated with religious institutions.
- Federally recognized tribal governments.
- Tribal organizations.

In an effort to increase outreach to affected communities in more States and U.S. Territories, this year's opportunity will place special emphasis on proposals in two areas:

- 1. Underrepresented States**— defined as States and U.S. Territories where three or fewer EPA EJ grants have been awarded over the last five years. A list of all Underrepresented States is included in the RFP.
- 2. New Potential Grantees**— defined as projects proposed by eligible organizations that have not received an EPA Environmental Justice grant award over the last five years.

All eligible organizations are encouraged to apply regardless of a project's location in an underrepresented state and/or the applicant's grant history with the EPA Environmental Justice grant program. The special emphasis described above only applies as any other selection factor the program will consider.

Pre-application assistance calls will be held:

- **December 8** at 10:30 a.m. Pacific Time.
- **January 12** at 1:00 p.m. Pacific Time.
- **January 24** at 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

Dial conference call number 1-866-299-3188, and enter conference code 202-564-0152#.

During these 90-minute calls, EPA staff will go over the entire RFP section-by-section describing important aspects of the RFP and key points to remember. There will be extensive time for questions and answers.

The EPA will respond to questions from individual applicants regarding threshold eligibility criteria, administrative issues related to the submission of the proposal, and requests for clarification about the announcement. The EPA won't respond to questions about individual applications or individual projects.

For more information, visit the Frequently Asked Questions page – <https://bit.ly/2f03x1L>.

CONTACT: **Jacob Burney** • 202-564-2907 • burney.jacob@epa.gov

USDA Solid Waste Management Grants

DUE DATE: December 31.

USDA Solid Waste Management grants help reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources through funding for organizations that provide technical assistance or training to improve the planning and management of solid waste sites. The funds may be used to:

- Evaluate current landfill conditions to identify threats to water resources.
- Provide technical assistance or training to enhance the operation and maintenance of active landfills.
- Provide technical assistance or training to help communities reduce the amount of solid waste coming into a landfill.
- Provide technical assistance or training to prepare for closure and future use of a landfill site.

Most state and local governmental entities, non-profits, federally recognized tribes, and academic institutions may apply. All applicants must have proven ability, background or experience to, or have successfully completed a project similar to the one proposed, have legal authority and capacity to provide technical assistance or training, be from rural areas and towns with 10,000 or fewer people. Special consideration may be given for projects serving an area with fewer than 5,500, or fewer than 2,500 people; regional, multi-state or national areas; or lower-income populations.

To contact the Solid Waste Grant Manager at USDA's Rural Development National Office, call 202-720-9589. For more information, go to <http://go.usa.gov/x8NKN>.

Captain Planet Foundation Environmental Education Grants

DUE DATE: January 31.

Grants from the Captain Planet Foundation are intended to provide hands-on environmental stewardship opportunities for youth, serve as a catalyst to getting environment-based education in schools, and inspire youth and communities to participate in community service through environmental stewardship activities. The mission of the Captain Planet Foundation is to give the next generation of environmental stewards an active understanding and love for the natural world in which they live.

The Captain Planet Foundation primarily makes grants to U.S.-based schools and organizations with an annual operating budget of less than \$3 million. Grants are made for activities that conform to the mission of the Captain Planet Foundation and must have all four of the following to be considered for funding:

- Be project-based.
- Projects must be performed by youth.
- Projects must have real environmental outcomes.
- Be based in the U.S.

Funding range: \$500 to \$2,500.

To learn more, go to <http://captainplanetfoundation.org/apply-for-grants>.

EPA Region 10 FY 18 GAP Funding

DUE DATE: **January 17.**

Region 10's FY 18 notice for Indian Environmental General Assistance Program grants was released in October. The purpose of GAP is for tribes and tribal consortia to build capacity for developing and administering environmental protection programs. The NOFA describes everything you need to know to prepare and submit your GAP grant application. Before you draft your initial proposal, please carefully read the full NOFA.

All final application packages must be submitted through Grants.gov by a date that will be negotiated between your tribe and your EPA Project Officer (between **March 3** and **May 26**). The NOFA is available for review on the Region 10 tribal website at <https://www.epa.gov/tribal/region-10-tribal-environmental-gap-funding>.

Rural Energy for America Program Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Grants

DUE DATE: **January 31.**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is calling on eligible organizations to assist rural small businesses and agricultural producers by conducting and promoting energy audits, and providing renewable energy development assistance. The assistance must be provided to agricultural producers and rural small businesses located in eligible rural areas. Assistance provided must consist of energy audits, renewable energy technical assistance, and/or renewable energy site assessments.

Eligible applicants include state and local governments, federally-recognized tribes, land-grant colleges, universities, or other institutions of higher education, rural electric cooperatives, public power entities, instrumentalities of state, tribal, or local governments, and Resource Conservation & Development Councils. For more information, visit:

<http://go.usa.gov/x8Xx3>. Or contact your State Rural Development Energy Coordinator in:

Alaska: **Jessie Huff** • 907-761-7768 • jessie.huff@ak.usda.gov

Idaho: **Dale Lish** • 208-690-3538 • dale.lish@id.usda

Oregon: **John Holman** • 503-414-3369 • john.holman@or.usda.gov

Washington: **Randy Baird** • 509-454-5743 • randy.baird@wa.usda.gov

Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy on Indian Lands

DUE DATE: **February 7.**

U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Indian Energy program review funding opportunity for up to \$6 million to install energy efficiency measures and deploy clean energy systems on Indian lands. The Office of Indian Energy will continue its efforts to maximize the development and deployment of energy solutions for the benefit of American Indians and Alaska Natives and help build the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to implement those energy solutions.

Specifically, the Office of Indian Energy is soliciting applications from Indian tribes (including Alaska Native Regional Corporations and Village Corporations) and Tribal Energy Resource Development Organizations to install energy efficiency measures and clean energy systems on tribal buildings, and/or deploy clean energy systems on a community-scale.

⇒ *Continued*

⇒ *Continued* **GRANT: Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy on Indian Lands**

In this instance, an eligible “Indian Tribe” (including Alaska Native villages) must be federally recognized as listed in the Entities Recognized and Eligible to Receive Services from the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs. The list is available online at <http://go.usa.gov/x8XxY>. Applications may also be submitted on behalf of an Indian Tribe(s) by an authorized tribal organization or inter-tribal organization, provided evidence of that authority is provided as part of the application.

The intended results of the 50% cost shared projects selected are immediate cost savings, reduced energy use, and increased energy security for Indian tribes, Alaskan Native villages, and tribal members. To learn more about this opportunity, go to <http://go.usa.gov/x8XxN>.

An informational webinar is planned for **December 16** at 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time. To register for the webinar, go to <https://bit.ly/2fLH7k3>.

Training & Scholarships

EPA Webinar on Final Rule Enabling Tribes to Obtain Authority to Identify Impaired Waters and Establish TMDLs

December 13, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time

A webinar is planned on the final EPA rule that establishes procedures for eligible Indian tribes to obtain the authority under the Clean Water Act section 303(d) to identify impaired waters on reservations, and to establish Total Maximum Daily Loads, which serve as plans to attain applicable water quality standards.

The webinar will provide an overview of the CWA section 303(d) program and the responsibilities tribes with 303(d) TAS will have in implementing the program, including steps involved in developing lists of impaired waters and TMDLs. The webinar will also provide an overview of the final rule, including procedures for tribes to apply for TAS, and EPA’s procedures for reviewing a tribe’s TAS application. Please register online, at the link provided below. You will receive an email confirmation after you submit your registration. To register, go to: <http://bit.ly/2eShqwa>.

EPA Tribal Solid Waste Peer Matching Program

The EPA has developed a new tribal solid waste management peer matching program. The program aims to strengthen tribal capacity building and develop sustainable waste management programs. The program identifies peer matches for tribes through the use of peer mentors who are working on similar issues to exchange experiences and share practical knowledge with each other.

Peer mentors are tribal environmental personnel who can provide expertise and experience. Mentors volunteer to participate in the program. Please note that the peer matching program does not have funding available to cover any associated costs (i.e. travel to meet with a mentor). However, funding for travel for peer matches may be available through the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program or other programs. For details, click on the fact sheet link at <http://go.usa.gov/xDwz4>.

CONTACT: **Tonya Hawkins** • 703-308-8278 • Hawkins.tonya@epa.gov

Host Sites and Interns Needed for ITEP Tribal Air Quality Internships

DUE DATE: **January 20.**

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals – Environmental Education Outreach Program at Northern Arizona University is seeking air quality focused offices and programs to host college students for 8-week summer internships. Tribal environmental offices, EPA offices, and other tribal environmental organizations are encouraged to apply.



The projects must focus on addressing air quality issues in tribal communities.

The interns will be highly motivated undergraduate or graduate students majoring in environmental or related careers from different colleges and universities nationwide. ITEP provides each student intern with a \$4,000 stipend, and limited housing and travel allowances. The host site provides a work place and supervision for the intern.

Submit an application to host an intern online at http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/eeop/Internships/ssi_host.

If you know of a college student that might be interested in being an intern, encourage them to apply at: http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/eeop/Internships/ssi_internship.

For more information on the internship and requirements, go to <http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/eeop/Internships>. CONTACT: **Mansel A. Nelson** • 928-523-1275 • EEOP-INTERN@nau.edu • mansel.nelson@nau.edu.

ITEP Air Quality Computations (Level 1)

January 24-27, Phoenix, AZ

This course enhances the skills needed to work with air quality measurements. It is designed for tribal environmental personnel who have limited experience in air quality data computations. The course takes a “learn-by-doing” approach. Brief lectures will be interspersed with activities in which participants practice skills and learn to apply the math to air quality work. Each participant will have access to a calculator and/or computer as needed during the practice sessions. Applicants will complete a pre-course assignment and there will be homework each evening during the course.

Topics Include:

- Arithmetic computations in air quality.
- Metric system.
- Significant figures and rounding.
- Unit conversion.
- Basic statistics.
- Problem solving.
- Volume, temperature, and pressure.
- Calibration and slope.
- Bias and precision.
- Exponents.
- Working with Excel.

Prior completion of ITEP’s “Introduction to Tribal Air Quality” (or a basic familiarity with air quality topics) is strongly recommended. Both “Introduction to Tribal Air Quality” and “Air Quality Computations” (or equivalent education/training) are prerequisites for ITEP’s “Air Pollution Technology” course and are recommended for those working on the technical side of air programs including: quality assurance/quality control, data management, and technical report writing. If you have questions about the course, or think you might be overqualified for it, please call **Pat Ellsworth** at 928-523-6721.

CONTACT: **Lydia Scheer** • 928-523-6887 • Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu

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Developing and Implementing a Tribal Recycling Program

January 24-26, Palm Springs, CA

This Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals course will have a strong emphasis on creating a recycling program from the ground up. Three different tribal professionals will discuss common obstacles, how to build your team, understanding recycling markets, equipment needs, facility design and operations, and give case study examples of different approaches. Attendees will also participate in a variety of small group activities so you can work directly with fellow tribal professionals, putting into practice what you learn during the lectures.

In this course, we will have the opportunity to visit two different tribal recycling programs: **29 Palms Band of Mission Indians** and **Morongo Band of Mission Indians**. As part of this training we will be visiting their facilities and talking with their staff about how they met various challenges and developed successful approaches.

This course is limited to twenty participants. We anticipate a high degree of interest in this course, so a maximum of two applications from any one tribe will be considered. We will be reviewing all applications as we receive them, and select the successful applicants. Individuals selected to attend the course will have their lodging expenses covered by ITEP. All participants are responsible for their own travel and per diem expenses.

Topics Include:

- Overcoming common obstacles to recycling projects.
- Conducting a waste audit and choosing your approach.
- Creating an economically sustainable program.
- Building your team and foundation.
- Effective program management.
- Understanding the markets.
- Innovative outreach and engagement strategies.
- Digital storytelling.
- Planning for the future.
- Tour of 29 Palms Band of Mission Indians’ Recycling Center and Morongo Band of Mission Indians’ recycling activities at their tribal facilities.
- Small Group Activities throughout the course.

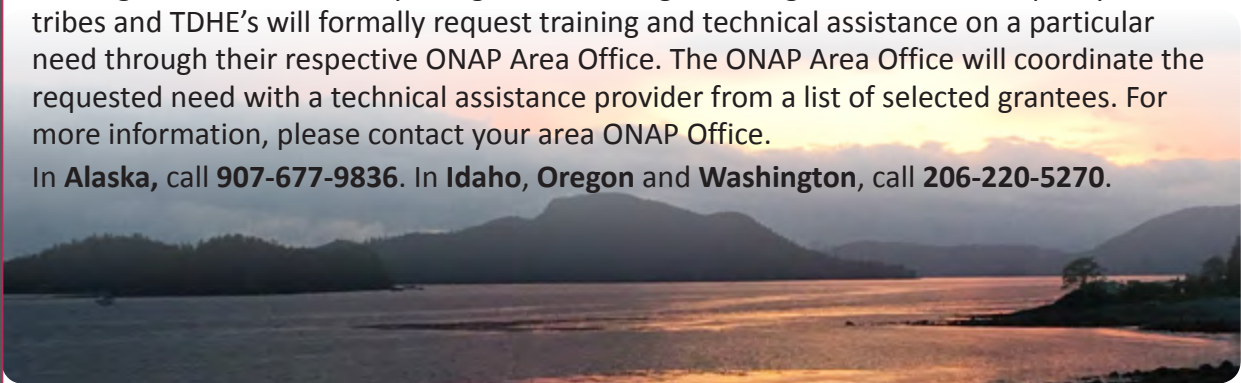
For more information, go to <http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training>.

CONTACT: **Julie Jurkowski** • 928-523-9404 • Julie.Jurkowski@nau.edu

HUD Office of Native American Programs Technical Assistance

The Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Office of Native American Programs is embarking on an innovative and responsive process of delivering technical assistance and training to tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities grantees. As in the past years, tribes and TDHE’s will formally request training and technical assistance on a particular need through their respective ONAP Area Office. The ONAP Area Office will coordinate the requested need with a technical assistance provider from a list of selected grantees. For more information, please contact your area ONAP Office.

In Alaska, call 907-677-9836. In Idaho, Oregon and Washington, call 206-220-5270.



Indoor Air Quality Diagnostic Tools

(A Level 2 course for tribes in the lower 48)

February 7-10, Las Vegas, Nevada

This Level 2 ITEP course will bring together tribal environment, housing, and health staff to learn how to use diagnostic equipment as a tool to assess indoor air quality. After completing this course, participants will be able to use diagnostic equipment and interpret data to assess a home, test a home for radon, and educate the occupants about a healthful indoor environment. The course is structured as an intensive training that uses multiple approaches to learning: lecture/discussion, hands-on, and site visits.

Topics include:

- Managing IAQ in the home – holistic approach to occupant behaviors.
- Making the Building healthier – holistic approach to the structure.
- Weatherization and IAQ.
- Building Investigations using diagnostic equipment.
- Hands on use of equipment on field trips to local homes.
- Moving from interpretation into action.

Prerequisites: (or equivalent experience)

- Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Communities, OR
- Indoor Air Quality in Alaska Native Villages, OR
- Tribal Healthy Homes

If you have questions regarding the pre-requisites or your eligibility, please contact

Patricia Ellsworth • 928-523-6721 • Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu.

Climate Change

Indigenous Peoples of the North: Traditional Culture and Knowledge for the Environment

The UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education developed “A Networked System of Open Indigenous Knowledge Resources for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in Polar Regions.” The project was funded by the UNESCO Intersectoral Platform. It contains multimedia modules with interdisciplinary indigenous knowledge related to mitigation and adaptation to environmental changes in the Far North of Russia. To view the website, go to https://iite.unesco.org/courses/climate_change/en/index.html.

Climate Science Digest

Climate Science and Observations

Amazon rainstorms and cloud formation

<http://go.usa.gov/x8Xxv>

Carbon hungry plants

<http://newscenter.lbl.gov/2016/11/08/atmospheric-co2-pause>

Globally averaged CO2 levels reach 400 parts per million in 2015

<https://bit.ly/2gedqGO>

Space-based view of human made CO2

<http://go.usa.gov/x8XxA>

⇒ *Continued*

⇒ Continued

Climate Science Digest

At the Poles & in Alaska

Appeals court supports climate-based listing of bearded seals as threatened

<https://bit.ly/2gfmLxw>

Huge puffin die-off may be linked to hotter seas

<https://bit.ly/2ganrD7>

Fleeing climate change University of Alaska scholar describes a coming crisis of displacement

<http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2016/11/fleeing-climate-change>

Impacts

The global climate 2011-2015: heat records and high impact weather

<https://bit.ly/2fLLHPf>

NOAA 2016 – 2017 U.S. winter outlook

<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/videos/2016-2017-us-winter-outlook>

NOAA U.S. drought monitor

<https://www.climate.gov/maps-data/dataset/weekly-drought-map>

Adaptation/Mitigation

Oceans action day, other COP 22 events launch initiatives, propose roadmap for oceans and climate

<https://bit.ly/2f07y6g>

Climate Change Webinars, Conferences and Trainings

For a calendar of climate change and water-related trainings, conferences and webinars, visit

<https://www.epa.gov/climate-change-water-sector/calendar-climate-change-and-water-events>.

Links to websites outside of the EPA are provided for additional information that may be useful or interesting to our readers. We cannot attest to the accuracy of these third-party sites, nor does EPA endorse any non-government websites, companies or applications.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

- 6 – 9 **Air Quality & Indoor Air Quality in Alaska Native Villages (Level 1 course)**, Kotzebue, AK.
 Lydia Scheer • 928-523-6887 • Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu •
http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air
- 7 **Tribal Superfund Working Group Webinar**. 11 a.m. Pacific Time. This webinar will be focused on EPA cooperative agreements available to tribes working on Superfund sites. To register: <https://bit.ly/2fLQujC>.
- 8 **EPA FY 2017 EJ Small Grants Pre-Application Webinar**. 10:30 a.m. Pacific Time. Dial conference call number 1-866-299-3188, conference code 202-564-0152#.
 Jacob Burney • 202-564-2907 • burney.jacob@epa.gov
- 8 – 9 **Developing a Harmful Algal Bloom Action Plan for Alaska Workshop**, Anchorage, AK
 Ginny Eckert • 907-796-5450 • gleckert@alaska.edu • <http://bit.ly/2eX96JF>
- 9 **EPA STAR Webinar Series: Black Carbon – Representation at Different Graphical Scales**.
 9 a.m. Pacific Time. To register:
<https://www.epa.gov/research-grants/star-black-carbon-webinar-series>

⇒ Continued

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December *⇒ Continued*

- 13** EPA Clean Water Act section 303(d) Final Rule Enabling Tribes to Obtain Authority to Identify Impaired Waters and Establish TMDLs. Webinar at 10 a.m. Pacific Time. <http://bit.ly/2eShqwa>
- 16** DOE Deployment of Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy on Indian Lands Funding Webinar. 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time. To register for the webinar, go to <https://bit.ly/2fLH7k3>.

January

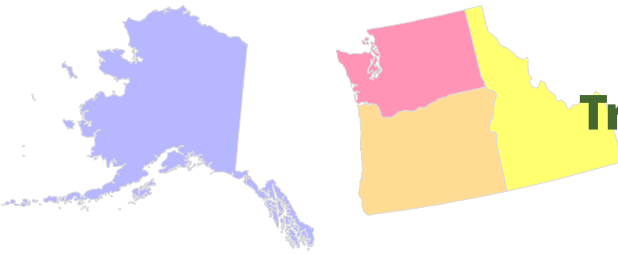
- 12** EPA FY 2017 EJ Small Grants Pre-Application Webinar. 1:00 p.m. Pacific Time. Dial conference call number 1-866-299-3188, conference code 202-564-0152#. **Jacob Burney** • 202-564-2907 • burney.jacob@epa.gov
- 23 – 29** Alaska Marine Science Symposium. Anchorage, AK. <https://amss.nprb.org/register>.
- 24** EPA FY 2017 EJ Small Grants Pre-Application Webinar. 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time. Dial conference call number 1-866-299-3188, then input conference code 202-564-0152#. **Jacob Burney** • 202-564-2907 • burney.jacob@epa.gov
- 24 – 26** ITEP Developing and Implementing a Tribal Recycling Program. Palm Springs, CA. **Julie Jurkowski** • 928-523-9404 • Julie.Jurkowski@nau.edu • http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_waste
- 24 – 27** ITEP Air Quality Computations (Level 1), Phoenix, AZ. **Lydia Scheer** • 928-523-6887 • Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu • <http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training>

February

- 6 – 10** Alaska Forum on the Environment. Anchorage, AK. <http://www.akforum.org>
- 7 10** Indoor Air Quality Diagnostic Tools (a Level 2 Course for Tribes in the Lower 48), Las Vegas, NV. **Pat Ellsworth** • 928-523-6721 • Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu

For more information on EPA tribal trainings, webinars, grants and opportunities for tribal consultation, visit <http://www2.epa.gov/tribal>.





Region 10 Tribal Newsletter

Vol. 25 No. 11 – December 2016

REGION 10 TRIBAL PROGRAM

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, RAD-202
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

Got News?

The Region 10 Tribal Newsletter invites you, our readers, to submit ideas and articles for consideration and to share your successes and challenges. Photographs are also welcome as separate files in jpeg or other graphic format. Please submit articles and pictures to:

Don Creek

EPA, 805 SW Broadway, Suite 500
Portland, Oregon 97205

☎ 503-326-5015

✉ email creek.don@epa.gov

Helpful Links

R10 Tribal Programs:

<http://go.usa.gov/xkdMv>

EPA on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/EPARegion10>

Follow us @EPAnorthwest on Twitter!

<https://twitter.com/EPAnorthwest>



To report environmental violation tips and complaints to the EPA:

www.epa.gov/tips

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Don Creek, SEE 503-326-5015

NORTHWEST WASHINGTON

Westley Foster, Tribal Coordinator 206-553-1604

Alan Moomaw, Tribal Coordinator 360-753-8071

Report Spills and Accidents

NOTE THESE EMERGENCY NUMBERS TO CALL IN THE EVENT OF HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SPILLS OR ACCIDENTS.

ALASKA 800-478-9300

IDAHO 800-632-8000

OREGON 800-452-0311

WASHINGTON 800-258-5990

NATIONAL (EPA) 800-424-8802