

NEWS

The Tribal Newsletter
is published free monthly.
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LETTER

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

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

Conferences and Workshops

March

- 1 – 3** **Region 10 Tribal Operations Committee Meeting**, Seattle, WA.
Contact **JR Herbst** • 206-553-2116 • herbst.john@epa.gov
- 8– 10** **Fourth Tribal Green Summit**, Snoqualmie Casino, WA. Contact **Cindy Spiry** •
cindy@snoqualmietribe.us or **Kami Snowden** • ksnowden@tswan.org
- 22 – 23** **TWIG: Tribal Wetland Working Group Spring 2016 Workshop**, hosted by the Tulalip Tribes
in Tulalip, WA. The theme for this workshop is “Setting the Table – Restoring Cultural
Opportunities”. Contact scottodaniel@ctuir.org or dboyer@tulaliptribes.nsn.gov
- 29 – 30** **EPA Region 10 Harmful Algal Blooms Workshop**, Seattle, WA. A tribes-only meeting will
be held **March 31**. Please confirm attendance with **Rochelle Labiosa** •
206-553-1172 • labiosa.rochelle@epa.gov

April

- 4 – 8** **Monitoring Ecological Restoration**, Portland, OR. <http://bit.ly/1UkRlzy>
- 19 – 21** **ITEP Climate Change Adaptation Training**, Anchorage, AK.
http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_cc
- 19 – 22** **National Wetland Condition Assessment Training**, Olympia, WA.
Contact **Mary Anne Thiesing** • 206-553-6114 • thiesing.mary@epa.gov
- 26 – 28** **Free Tribal UST Inspector Training**, Oneida, WI
Contact **Inez Douglas**, idouglas@oneidanation.org
- 27 – 28** **EPA 319/106 Training**, Mill Hotel and Casino, North Bend, OR.
Contact **Bryan Duggan**, 541-756-0904 or bryanduggan@coquilletribe.org

May

- 16 – 17** **2016 Oregon Brownfields Conference**, Sunriver Resort Conference Center, Sunriver, OR.
<http://ymlp.com/z4dCaE>
- 16 – 20** **Water Quality Standards Academy**, Washington DC. Apply by **March 18** at
<http://svy.mk/1NOCVp7> or call **Erin Cabral** at 508-833-6600.
- 17 – 19** **National Tribal Forum on Air Quality**, Niagara Falls, NY. Hosted by the Seneca Nation
of Indians and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe. Go to
http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_ntf

⇒ Continued

Conferences and Workshops

May ⇨ Continued

- 17 – 20** **Geomorphic Road Analysis and Inventory Package: Road Inventory Procedure and GIS Model Training**, Boise ID. To register, contact Tom Black at 208-373-4363 or tblack@fs.fed.us. More info at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/GRAIP>
- 24 – 26** **Bunker Hill Mining and Metallurgical Superfund Site Course**, Spokane, WA
http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/waste/waste_superfundVisits

June

- 6 – 10** **International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology 2016**, Houston, TX. Sponsored by the American Academy of Sciences.
<http://www.AASci.org/conference/env/2016/index.html>

July

- 24 – 29** **Tribal Climate Boot Camp**, University of Idaho's McCall Field Campus, ID.
<http://bit.ly/1Nz8NkF>

August

- 15 – 18** **ITEP'S Tribal Lands and Environment Forum**, Mohegan Sun Resort, CT.
http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_tlef
- 23 – 25** **22nd National Nonpoint Source Monitoring Workshop**, Salt Lake City, UT.
<https://water-meetings.tetrattech.com/NPSTest/index.htm>

September

- 26 – 29** **West Coast Salmon Summit**, Seven Feathers Hotel and Casino Resort in Canyonville, OR. For more information visit: <http://www.salmonsummit.org> or call 541-888-5591 or 707-972-4851

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

Climate Change Webinars, Conferences and Trainings

For a calendar of climate change and water-related trainings, conferences, and webinars, visit <http://www.epa.gov/climate-change-water-sector>

EPA Office of Water, Clean Water Act Tribal Training

For a consolidated, centralized listing of training courses offered by EPA that will help Indian tribes develop and implement water quality programs consistent with the Clean Water Act, go to <http://water.epa.gov/learn/training/tribaltraining>

EPA National Enforcement Training Institute or NETI

Go to EPA's online training resource site for access to NETI course registration, training products, online classrooms, and e-mail updates. Several recorded webinars are available at <http://go.usa.gov/SZZj>

Top News

EPA Administrator Signs New Policy to Enhance Tribal Treaty Rights

US Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy took an important step to help protect the environment on tribal lands by issuing the EPA Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes: Guidance for Discussing Tribal Treaty Rights (Guidance).

Under the Constitution, treaties are part of the supreme law of the land, with the same legal force as federal statutes. While treaties do not expand EPA's authority, EPA must ensure its actions do not conflict with treaty rights. In addition, EPA programs should be implemented to enhance protection of tribal treaty rights and treaty-covered resources when we have discretion to do so. The new Guidance directs EPA staff to engage Indian tribes in ways that help better ensure EPA actions and initiatives on Indian lands are consistent with Treaty rights.

EPA's first-ever Tribal Treaty Rights Guidance outlines a process to help navigate treaty rights discussions with tribes during tribal consultations. It is an initial step in EPA's efforts to improve the methods and process in place to meet the commitment to honor and respect tribal treaty rights and resources protected by treaties.

The Guidance complements EPA's successful tribal consultation efforts, building upon the May 2011 EPA Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes.

EPA is at the forefront of this effort and plans to encourage colleagues throughout the federal family to use the Guidance as a model. For more information, go to <http://go.usa.gov/cpHce>.

Consultation

EPA's Tribal Consultation Opportunities

The following tribal consultation opportunities may be of interest to Region 10 Tribes. A full list of consultation opportunities is available at

<http://tcots.epa.gov/oita/tconsultation.nsf/TC?OpenView>.

Hazard Ranking System – Subsurface Intrusion Rule

START DATE: January 15

LINK: <http://go.usa.gov/cvJPH>

CONTACT: Terry Jeng • jeng.terry@epa.gov • 703-603-8852

or Jessica Snyder • snyder.jessica@epa.gov • 202-564-1478

Treatment of Indian Tribes in a Similar Manner as States for Purposes of Clean Water Act Section 303(d)

END DATE: March 21

LINK: <http://go.usa.gov/cPFYd>

CONTACT: Sarah Furtak • 202-566-1167 • furtak.sarah@epa.gov

RTOC Update



By Rich Eichstaedt and Christy Finn

Upcoming RTOC Meetings

- The Regional Tribal Operations Committee for Region 10 is holding our next In Person meeting at the EPA Office in Seattle, WA, **March 1 – 3**. The draft agenda includes a meeting with the Regional Administrator on March 3. If you have issues you would like to raise to the Regional Administrator, please contact your RTOC representative as soon as possible.
- Our next conference calls will be **March 17** and **April 21**. We welcome all tribes of Region 10 to send in topics they wish for discussion at the next meeting. If you wish to request a topics form or have any questions, please feel free to contact Christy Finn at cs@rtocregion10.org.

RTOC Needs Your Help Updating Our Charter!

The RTOC is currently reviewing and updating its Charter. As part of our amendment process, we seek comment from Tribes in Region 10 on the revised Charter. Our current draft clarifies RTOC member attendance requirements and ensures that the RTOC grant can be operated by a proposed RTOC Funding Consortium.

Please visit the RTOC website at <http://rtocregion10.org/operations-guidance-charter> to see the draft revised Charter and send any comments to the RTOC Policy Analyst, Rick Eichstaedt, at ricke@cforjustice.org.



Ann Wyatt receives the 2016 Daniel Ellanak Award at the Alaska Forum on the Environment. Billy Maines (NTOC Primary Member (RTOC Tribal Co-Chair)) is in the middle & Brian Holter, Jr. (NTOC Alternate Member) is on the right.

Photo by: Rick Eichstaedt

Daniel Ellanak Award

The Regional Tribal Operations Committee would like to congratulate **Ann Wyatt** from the Klawock Tribal Association as the winner for the 2016 Daniel Ellanak Award.

Thank you for keeping the spirit of Daniel Ellanak alive through your heartfelt, impactful and inspirational Tribal environmental work!

Climate Change

C L I M A T E C H A N G E

Understanding Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources: EPA Launches New Online Training Module

This training module at <http://go.usa.gov/cpH4P> is designed to increase participants' understanding of the causes of climate change, its potential impacts on water resources, and the challenges water resource managers are facing. The module also describes how federal, state, tribal, and local governments and communities are working to make the United States more resilient to the impacts of climate. The 45-minute training is part of the EPA Watershed Academy Web certificate program at <http://www.epa.gov/watershedacademy>.

Supreme Court Stays EPA's Clean Power Plan

The United States Supreme Court has stayed implementation of the Clean Power Plan pending judicial review. The Clean Power Plan is a state-based program under Clean Air Act Section 111(d) for existing sources with EPA establishing guidelines and states then designing programs that fit in those guidelines to get the needed reductions in CO2.

For the states that choose to continue to work to cut carbon pollution from power plants and seek the agency's guidance and assistance, EPA will continue to provide tools and support. To read the White House News Release, go to <http://go.usa.gov/cpH2C>.

K-12 BIA/BIE Tribal Student Climate Change Photo Contest for Spring and Summer 2016

The Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Indian Education are holding a tribal climate photo contest. Using a classroom or cell phone camera, take a picture of things of value in your community that climate change might affect, include a climate caption, and submit the photo or questions by e-mail. DEADLINES: **April 30** (Spring Semester) and **August 26** (Summer Semester). For more information, go to <http://go.usa.gov/cpH2R>.



Climate Links

NOAA's Portal Launches New El Niño – Southern Oscillation webpage

<https://www.climate.gov/enso>

Climate Resilience Toolkit

<https://toolkit.climate.gov/topics/coastal-flood-risk/sea-level-rise>

What the EPA is Doing about Climate Change

<http://www3.epa.gov/climatechange/EPAactivities.html>

Climate News Clips

NASA, NOAA Analyses Reveal 2015 was the Hottest Year on Record

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

Man-Made Heat put in Oceans has Doubled since 1997

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

Arctic Methane Emissions 'Greater' than Previous Estimates

<http://bit.ly/1QZ3ZEo>

USGS Study Projects Alaska Permafrost Losses

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

Global Mercury Emissions Down 30 Percent as Coal Use Drops

<http://reut.rs/1oFBJ3h>

Sitting Ducks: Why Millions of Arctic Seabirds are in Danger

<http://bit.ly/1TE03Pm>

Rampant El Nino Offers Glimpse of Future Climate Risks

<http://www.climatechangenews.com/2016/01/13/risk>

Focus on Regional Climate Impacts to Hasten Emission Cuts

<http://bit.ly/1QBGwPs>

Endangered Salmon Surviving

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

Impacts

Drought and Heat Took a Heavy Toll on Crops, Study Finds

<http://nyti.ms/1XMDszo>

Scientists Link Climate Change to Bird, Fish Die-offs

<http://www.eenews.net/climatewire/2016/01/14/stories/1060030590>

Polar Wildlife under Threat as Ice Melts and Makes Seas Brighter

<http://bit.ly/1QeVsRn>

Rising Temperatures Are Good News for Germs, and Disease-Carrying Bugs Will Thrive

<http://n.pr/1QxZJv2>

Climate Change Triggers Triage in Northwest Forests

<http://bit.ly/1LG02Td>

Climate Change 'a Part of' Costliest U.S. Fire Season

<http://www.eenews.net/climatewire/2016/01/08/stories/1060030322>

Climate Change Could Cut First Nations Fisheries' Catch in Half

<http://phys.org/news/2016-01-climate-nations-fisheries.html>

Lost at Sea: Rising Ocean CO2 Intoxicates Fish

<http://www.climatechangenews.com/2016/01/20/co2-sozzled-fish-lost-at-sea-study/>

U.S. Becomes More Vulnerable to Tropical Diseases Like Zika

<http://nyti.ms/1QeVl8z>

Links to websites outside of 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.

Grants

EPA Clean Air Act Tribal Air Quality Grant Announcement for FY 2016

DUE DATE: **March 30** for new programs or **May 1** for current grantees.

EPA Clean Air Act grant funding is available for federally recognized tribes and tribal consortia within Region 10. The agency anticipates approximately \$2.25 million will be available for individual awards that will typically range from \$25,000 to \$250,000.

Priority for funding will be based on sufficient evidence of an ongoing air pollution concern and tribal capacity to address it. Proposals for new programs or projects are due **March 30** and applications from current grantees are due **May 1**.

If you have any questions please contact **Erin McTigue**, Tribal Air Quality Specialist at mctigue.erin@epa.gov • 206-553-1254.

EPA Announces Availability of \$26 Million to Clean Up Diesel Engines Nationwide *Preference given to fleets in areas with poor air quality*

DUE DATE: **April 26**

The EPA is soliciting proposals nationwide for projects that significantly reduce diesel emissions and exposure, especially from fleets operating in areas designated as having poor air quality. Priority for funding will be given to projects that engage and benefit local communities and applicants that demonstrate their ability to promote and continue efforts to reduce emissions after the project has ended.

Under this competition, EPA anticipates awarding between 10 and 40 awards nationally. In Region 10, EPA is requesting proposals between \$300,000 and \$800,000. Tribes are welcome to apply under this RFP, although EPA anticipates releasing a separate Request for Proposals for Tribal applicants during March.

For more information and to access the Request for Proposals, visit <http://www.epa.gov/cleandiesel/clean-diesel-national-grants>.

For more information on the National Clean Diesel campaign, visit <http://www.epa.gov/cleandiesel>.



GRANTS

Healthy Watershed Consortium Grants Program

DUE DATE: March 14

The EPA has awarded the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities \$3.75 million over six years to manage the Healthy Watershed Consortium Grant Program. The program seeks to protect and sustain healthy watersheds so that they will continue to provide ecological services such as clean water, habitat for fish and wildlife, recreation, and protection from natural hazards.

The Endowment will manage an annual grant sub-award process to fund projects that develop healthy watersheds programs and support local projects. The Endowment has released its first RFP soliciting proposals for the Healthy Watershed Consortium Grants Program. This is the new delivery mechanism for grant funding under EPA's Healthy Watershed Program.

Eligible Applicants

Not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organizations, for-profit companies, tribes, intertribal consortia, Interstates, state, and local government agencies including water utilities and wastewater facilities, and colleges and universities are eligible for funding.

Unincorporated individuals and federal agencies are **not eligible**.

Public/private partnerships are particularly desirable.

Funding Amount

Up to \$1.5 million is available for this grant round. There are three different categories of proposals with differing dollar amounts. Go to

<http://www.usendowment.org/partnerships/hwcgrantprogram.html>

U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities contact: Peter Stangel at 404-915-2763 or peter@usendowment.org

EPA contact: **Chris Solloway**, Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds at solloway.chris@epa.gov

Locally-Focused Environmental Education Projects

DUE DATE: April 8

The application period for the 2016 Environmental Education Grants Program is now open. Approximately \$2.7 million of funding is available to support locally-focused EE projects that design, demonstrate, and/or disseminate EE practices, methods, or techniques.

Through the EE Local Grants Request for Proposals, the EPA is looking to support locally-focused EE projects that increase public awareness and knowledge about environmental issues. Projects should promote environmental stewardship and help develop informed, knowledgeable and responsible citizens in the communities where the project is located.

From this Request for Proposals, the EPA expects to award up to three grants from each EPA Regional Office, for a total of approximately 30 grants nationwide. The award amount for each of these grants will be approximately, but no more than, \$91,000. Since 1992, the EPA has distributed between \$2 and \$3.5 million in grant funding per year through the EE Grants Program, supporting more than 3,600 grants. For more information, go to <http://www.epa.gov/education/environmental-education-ee-grants>.

Department of Energy Grant

Due Date: **April 14**

Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz has announced the availability of up to \$7 million to establish an inter-tribal technical assistance energy providers' network to assist Indian tribes and Alaska Native communities regionally.

Under this initial pilot, the DOE Office of Indian Energy is seeking applications from inter-tribal Organizations and Alaska Native Regional Corporations interested in establishing internal energy experts to provide technical energy assistance and informational resources to their member Indian tribes, including Alaska Native villages.

As part of these inter-tribal regional programs, it is envisioned that energy experts would:

1. Coordinate energy solutions among participating Indian Tribes (including Alaska Native villages) within the region;
2. Deliver technical assistance to participating Indian Tribes (including Alaska Native villages) within the region;
3. Build the human capacity of participating Indian Tribes (including Alaska Native villages) by providing information to tribal leaders and staff through workshops or webinars;
4. Serve as an information clearinghouse for participating Indian Tribes (including Alaska Native villages);
5. Network with regional and national energy organizations;
6. Advise DOE's Office of Indian Energy on the energy goals and needs within their region; and
7. Enhance DOE's technical assistance network across Indian Country.

DOE anticipates making awards that range from \$300,000 to \$1,000,000 for the entire period of performance of 3–5 years. After that time it is expected that the Inter-tribal technical assistance energy provider will be financially sufficient and can continue these efforts without further DOE support. Go to <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov>.

Training

Free Tribal Underground Storage Tank Inspector Training

The Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin is offering owner-operator and Tribal Underground Storage Tank Inspector training **April 26 – 28**. This free UST training will provide in depth detail and hands-on experience in assessing, inspecting and evaluating all facets of UST system installation and operations.

The Oneida Compliance Assistance Program will be offering limited travel assistance (per diem, mileage and hotel rooms) for the training. Other travel scholarships are available to one person per Tribe through the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC). Contact: **Susan Bailey**-NEIWPCC • 978-349-2501 or sbailey@neiwpcc.org.

Register by April 4 by contacting **Inez Douglas** • idouglas@oneidanation.org.

Registration Open for Upcoming Water Quality Standards Academy

The EPA's Office of Science and Technology is hosting a Water Quality Standards Academy on **May 16 – 20**. The training course will be held at the Washington Plaza Hotel, 10 Thomas Circle, NW, Washington DC (approximately three blocks from the McPherson Square Metro Station).

The course is offered free of charge; however; **you must apply to attend**. Please apply online at: <http://svy.mk/1NOCVp7>. Online registration is the preferred method, however, you may also apply by phone by calling the EPA WQSA Registration Coordinator, **Erin Cabral**, at 508-833-6600. For more information about the Water Quality Standards Academy, go to <http://www.epa.gov/wqs-tech/water-quality-standards-academy>.

Applications are due by **Friday, March 18**. Please do not apply more than once. Note that because seats in the course are **very limited**, EPA reserves the right to accept applications based on a balanced mix of participants from different types of organizations.

Due to the large amount of material to be covered during the course, participants **MUST BE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES**. Your application does **NOT** guarantee your attendance. You will be notified in writing as to whether or not your application to attend the training course has been accepted. Please *don't* make travel arrangements until the EPA confirms your attendance in writing.

Climate Change Adaptation Planning Training

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium are collaborating to offer a Climate Change Adaptation Planning training **April 19-21**, in Anchorage, AK.

ITEP will be providing a limited number of travel scholarships to help with participant travel costs.

Participants will learn:

- ▶ A general process for developing a climate change adaptation plan
- ▶ To identify climate change impacts and vulnerabilities in their communities
- ▶ Adaptation strategies
- ▶ Tools and resources that may be used for adaptation planning
- ▶ Possible partners

Please e-mail or fax completed applications to:

Oxcenia O'Domin • orodomin@anthc.org • Fax: 1-888-500-1205.

If you have any questions, please contact Oxcenia at 907-729-3492.

Bunker Hill Mining and Metallurgical Superfund Site Course

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals is offering a day and a half of classroom instruction **May 24-26** in Spokane, Washington, as well as an all-day trip to multiple areas of the Bunker Hill Mining and Metallurgical Superfund Site led by staff from the Coeur d'Alene Tribe.

ITEP is accepting up to 30 participants for this course. The deadline for applications is **May 2**, but the sooner you submit your application, the greater your chances of being accepted. Attendees from federally-recognized tribes are eligible for a travel scholarship that will pay for lodging expenses and reimburse travel and per diem costs.

If you are interested in applying for this course, please submit an application to ITEP via email or fax. Contact **Todd Barnell** • Todd.Barnell@nau.edu • 928-523-3840 or **Julie Jurkowski** • Julie.Jurkowski@nau.edu • 928-523-9404. Go to the website at http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/waste/waste_superfundVisits for more information.

ITEP Air Program Training

ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program provides training and educational outreach for tribal environmental staff all over the United States, including Alaska. Upcoming air trainings include:

2016 AIAQTP Course Schedule March – June 2016

Course Title	Dates	Location	Course Level
Air Pollution Technology	Mar 14-18	Flagstaff, AZ	2
Fundamentals of Air Monitoring (new)	April 5-7	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	2
GIS for Air Quality	April 26-28	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	3
Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Diagnostic Tools for Alaska	May 3-6	Palmer, AK	2
Project Planning, QAPPs, and Grants for Alaska	TBD	Alaska	2
National Tribal Forum on Air Quality	May 17-19	Niagara Falls, NY	n/a
Air Pollution and Ecosystems	Jun 7-10	Flagstaff, AZ	2

NOTE: This schedule is subject to change. For up-to-date information, course descriptions, and applications please visit http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air

For more information please contact Lydia Scheer, Program Coordinator • 928-523-6887 • Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu

HUD Environmental Training

This course, **March 8 – 10** in Seattle, offers introductory to mid-level training for staff responsible for conducting environmental reviews under 24 CFR Part 58. The course is NOT recommended for staff that don't actively participate in the environmental review process.

Specific topics to be addressed include the National Environmental Policy Act, section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, wetlands, floodplain management and flood insurance, endangered species, toxic hazards, and noise abatement. Register at <http://go.usa.gov/cda7W>.

Registration is limited to 60 participants, and two (2) people per organization. Preference will be given to Responsible Entities in Washington State.

Questions? Please contact Deborah.peavlerstewart@hud.gov or Sara.Jensen@hud.gov.

News

EPA Releases Online Mapping Tool to Help Protect Drinking Water Sources

The EPA has released DWMAPS – the Drinking Water Mapping Application to Protect Source Waters. This robust, online mapping tool provides the public, water system operators, state programs, and federal agencies with critical information to help them safeguard the sources of America's drinking water.

DWMAPS allows users to learn about their watershed and understand more about their water supplier. DWMAPS also lets users see if sources of their drinking water are polluted and if there are possible sources of pollution that could affect their communities' water supply. DWMAPS can even guide users to ways they can get involved in protecting drinking water sources in their community. <http://www.epa.gov/sourcewaterprotection/dwmaps>

NTAA Conducts Indoor Air Quality Needs Assessments

The National Tribal Air Association is working to provide tribes and the federal government with the first of its kind national snapshot of Indoor Air Quality needs for Tribal Housing in Indian Country with a national needs assessment.

For the first time the NTAA's Needs Assessment will provide reliable data on the status of housing in Indian Country to better understand the impacts from health threats like mold and radon. NTAA will compile the results of this needs assessment into a final report to be released at the 2016 National Tribal Forum on Air Quality in New York in May.

NTAA will then utilize the results to help tribal and federal governmental leaders understand the extent of IAQ needs in Tribal communities to help focus and direct funds to address IAQ. With a better understanding and better facts on the table, tribal communities will benefit from healthier homes.

For more information on the NTAA, please visit www.ntaatribalair.org. You can access the NTAA Indoor Air Quality Needs Assessment at <http://goo.gl/forms/AKpDSLMEQx>.



Mold inside a house is a threat to health,

NWIFC Releases 2016 Annual Report

The Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission has released its 2016 Annual Report. This report is an overview of natural resources management activities of the treaty tribes in western Washington.

The tribes and their Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission are active in all aspects of natural resources management including hatcheries, fisheries management and habitat protection and enhancement. To view the full report, go to <http://nwifc.org/publications/annual-report>.

Joint EPA-Tribal Environmental Plans (ETEPs): *It's not your ordinary 5-year plan*

By Mahri Lowinger

The 2013 *GAP Guidance* directs each tribal government to develop a joint EPA-Tribal Environmental Plan (ETEP). All tribal government GAP grantees must create an ETEP by 2018.

The intention of creating ETEPs is to improve alignment of grant work plan activities with long-term program development goals and priorities, so that EPA and tribes will more effectively build capacity. ETEPs can be used as a strategic planning document in identifying the most critical environmental concerns affecting your community and the steps to address them.

The tribes that have finalized ETEPs with EPA have benefitted by having a common and clear vision of their most pressing environmental issues, and an educational tool for new employees, council members and their community. ETEPs have served as a mechanism for EPA Region 10 staff to deepen their understanding of each tribe's environmental conditions, improved ability to describe those concerns to senior executives, and increasing interest and support for identifying resources and technical assistance.

ETEPs may include priorities that cannot be funded by GAP (i.e. subsistence management, invasive species eradication, etc.). By including all priorities important to your tribe, EPA staff may gain insight on the environmental issues your tribe faces. ETEPs also offer the opportunity to leverage GAP resources towards meeting your goals (such as identifying other grants, developing partnerships, outreach/education).

When your tribe is ready to begin drafting your ETEP, inform your Project Officer and include a task in your GAP proposal for the following year. Your Project Officer will talk with you about the schedule, expectations and due dates for completion. EPA staff may offer teleconferences that provide details on these expectations.

ETEPs should be unique in reflecting your Tribe's situation - no two ETEPs will be the same. They are designed to be effective for up to a 5-year time period, but if priorities change over time, the document should be updated to accurately reflect current priorities and then be submitted to your EPA Project Officer. ETEPs must contain the following four sections:

1. Tribal Environmental Priorities

It is the responsibility of the tribe's staff and council to develop the first section. There is no template for developing this section. Plans do not need to be long or complicated, and other tribal planning documents can be updated and utilized for this purpose.

⇒ Continued

Joint EPA-Tribal Environmental Plans (ETEPs):

The tribal environmental priorities section must include the following:

- Background information about the tribe and its environmental program(s).
- A short description of each environmental priority.
- Long-term program development goals and intermediate program development milestones - to be achieved during the time period of the ETEP (similar to work plan commitments).
- Description of any assistance that may be needed towards accomplishing the goals (training, technical assistance, EPA direct implementation actions, financial, etc.).
- If one of the long-term goals includes management of an authorized environmental program, then you must include a brief description of the tribe's plan to manage that program (for example, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, Resource Conservation Recovery Act).

NOTE: Once an ETEP is finalized, your next grant proposal should include only projects focused on the environmental priorities outlined in the ETEP. EPA can approve work plans with activities not covered in an ETEP, but the ETEP must be amended to include that new priority by the following year.

2. EPA Priorities and Management Requirements

The second section of the ETEP, EPA's Priorities and Management Requirements, has been developed by EPA Region 10. Your EPA Project Officer will share it with you.

3. Inventory of Regulated Entities

The Inventory of Regulated Entities can be created by searching several databases and creating a list based upon the search results (see chart). It may be useful to include latitude/longitude of any entities and/or a community map that identifies their location(s). Your EPA Project Officer will help you develop this section.

4. Mutual Roles and Responsibilities

EPA Region 10 has created a template that will be used in outlining the roles and responsibilities for this section. Your EPA Project Officer will work with you on completing this section and assist with assembling all the sections together to create the final document. While ETEPs do not need to be signed before they are finalized, they should be reviewed by tribal council.

For More Information about ETEPs:

To learn more, visit
<http://go.usa.gov/cvMph>

Databases to review to inventory regulated entities may include:

EPA's: EnviroFacts

<http://www.epa.gov/enviro>

Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO): <http://echo.epa.gov>

Facility Registry Service (FRS)

<http://www.epa.gov/enviro/facility-registry-service-frs>

Toxics Release Inventory (TRI)

<http://www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program>

Clean Water Act Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) Pollutant Loading Tool

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/dmr>

Superfund Sites"

<http://go.usa.gov/3pzXw>

Your State: Contaminated Sites, Underground Storage Tanks, Leaking Underground Storage Tanks, and Public Water System Sanitary Survey information

Other: Formerly Used Defense Sites
<http://go.usa.gov/3pthP>



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

ALASKA NEWS

Rural Alaska Landfill Operator Training

The Rural Alaska Landfill Operator (RALO) course is for the designated landfill operator and administrator in a village with a Class III landfill or open dump, and focuses on the duties of the landfill operator, their personal safety, and the safety of the village. Emphasis is placed on the importance of the landfill operator's role to keep the village clean and the landfill free from harmful substances.

Participants will learn about landfill regulations and requirements, household hazardous waste, waste separation and screening, waste reduction and segregation, recycling, personal protection equipment, and much more.

These courses are hosted by Alaska Forum, Inc with trainers and expertise provided in cooperation with Solid Waste Administration of North America (SWANA), Alaska Chapter. Rural Alaska Landfill Operator Training is made available thanks to the financial support of USDA Rural Development.

Upcoming Class Schedule:

March 8-10

Location: Anchorage
Hampton Inn
4301 Credit Union Drive
Anchorage, Alaska, 99502

April 12-14

Location: Anchorage
Hampton Inn
4301 Credit Union Drive
Anchorage, Alaska, 99502

May 3-5

Location: Bethel
Joe Womack Building
101 Main Street
Bethel, Alaska, 99559

For more information, please visit the Alaska Forum website at <http://www.akforum.org> and click "TRAINING."

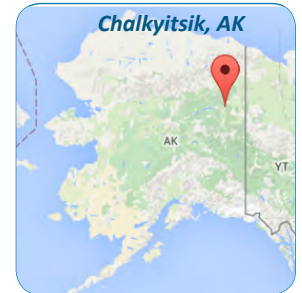
To register, visit
<http://www.cvent.com/d/3rqtyt>



A healthier, cleaner Chalkyitsik Village: GAP funds noteworthy recycling efforts

Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Success Story

After learning about the harmful health impacts from hazardous wastes, Chalkyitsik Village prioritized the creation of a recycling program. They started small in 2012 by recycling bottles, cans, appliances and electronics wastes. Since then, they expanded to recycling thousands of pounds of white goods (large appliances like dishwashers, freezers, etc.), shipping totes full of hazardous lead acid batteries, electronic wastes (like computers and televisions), florescent light bulbs, abandoned vehicles, and other items.



Map data ©2015 Google, INEGI

Recycled Materials 2013-2015

Items	Pounds estimated
White Goods	26,031
Small Appliances and Scrap Metal	4,589
Electronics	3,610
Batteries	3,100
Propane Bottles	1,600
Junk Vehicles, Tires & other	1,198
Bottles and Cans	864
Printer ink cartridges & toner	697
Florescent Light Bulbs	418
Clothing	286
Total	42,393

Geared up for lead acid battery recycling



Racheal Lee of Tanana Chiefs Conference and Patricia Salmon of Chalkyitsik Village

Photo: courtesy of Patricia Salmon

Like many rural Alaskan communities, Chalkyitsik is not on the road system, thus transporting recyclables out of the village can be challenging and requires ingenuity. When the tribes' housing program charts a plane to deliver building materials, they send some of the recyclables out on the return flight – demonstrating just one way, Chalkyitsik, like other remote communities, address this unique challenge.

How has the project made a difference in the community? Patricia Salmon, Chalkyitsik Village's Environmental Planner responds, "I think we've cleaned up a lot. It's not an eyesore anymore, and it's better health wise."

⇒ Continued

Items Staged for Recycling



Photo: courtesy of Patricia Salmon

Chalkyitsik Village just completed construction of a new recycling center, and with the capacity they've developed through their GAP grant, they are collaborating with the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium to use State of Alaska Capital Improvement Project funds to build a state-permitted landfill and access road.

Partners & Support

Alaskans for Litter Prevention and Recycling

Bottles and cans recycling
<http://www.alparalaska.com>

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Technical assistance with grant applications, and landfill planning and design
<http://anthctoday.org>

Everts Air Cargo

Shipping recyclables (backhaul)
<http://www.evertsair.com>

K&K Recycling

Recycling and disposing of lead acid batteries, white goods, scrap metal and propane bottles
<http://kandkrecycling.net>

OfficeMax

Recycling printer ink cartridges and copier toner
<http://www.officedepot.com/storelocator/ak/fairbanks/officemax-6466>

Tanana Chiefs Conference

Technical assistance with lead acid battery packaging for shipment
<https://www.tananachiefs.org>

Total Reclaim

Appliances, florescent light bulbs, and electronics waste recycling
<http://www.totalreclaim.com>

Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council

Shipping recyclables
<http://www.yritwc.org>

Community Profile: Chalkyitsik

Population: 77

Culture: Traditional Gwich'in Athabascan village, with a subsistence lifestyle.

Location: Chalkyitsik is located on the Black River about 50 miles east of Fort Yukon.

Transportation: Access is primarily by air; there is a gravel runway. Residents own ATVs, snow machines, and skiffs for fishing, hunting, and recreation. No roads connect Chalkyitsik with other villages, although there is a winter trail to Fort Yukon. It is accessible by small riverboat.

Source: State of Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development Community Database

EPA Region 10's Commitment to Federally Recognized Tribes

EPA Region 10 is committed to helping tribes strengthen their abilities to manage environmental programs in Indian country, and to ensure that tribes have a voice in decisions that affect their land, air and water. Region 10 serves 271 federally recognized tribes in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. The goal of the EPA IGAP grant program is to assist tribes and intertribal consortia in developing the capacity to manage their own environmental protection programs, and to develop and implement solid and hazardous waste programs in accordance with individual tribal needs and applicable federal laws and regulations.

<http://www2.epa.gov/tribal/region-10-tribal-program>

<http://www2.epa.gov/tribal/indian-environmental-general-assistance-program-gap>

For More Information

Chalkyitsik Village Environmental Planner

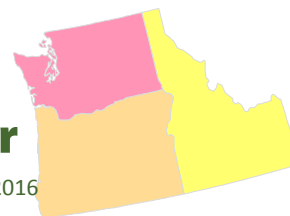
Patricia Salmon
Chalkyitsik Village ☎ 907-848-8618 or 907-848-8117

EPA Grant: Indian General Assistance Program (GAP)

EPA Project Officer: Sherry Kimmons
☎ 907-271-6322 ✉ kimmons.sherry@epa.gov

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter

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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://www2.epa.gov/tribal/region-10-tribal-program>



EPA on Facebook:

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



Follow us @

EPAnorthwest on Twitter!

<https://twitter.com/EPAnorthwest>

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