The Tribal Newsletter is issued free each month. https://go.usa.gov/xXNnW

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



Vol. 28. No. 7 October 2019

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Top News

Children's Health Month and National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week



EPA celebrates Children's Health Month each October to raise awareness about children's environmental health. EPA also recognizes Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, October 20-26 to educate the public about reducing childhood lead exposures. In December of 2018, the President's Task Force on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children issued a Federal Action Plan to Reduce Childhood Lead Exposures and Associated Health Impacts that outlines federal agency goals to reduce harm to children from lead.

Children can be more affected by pollution than adults - they're smaller and their bodies are still developing. Children eat, breathe, and drink more relative to their body size than adults, which increases their exposure risk. Lead can affect almost every organ and system in the body, and there is no safe level of lead. The most important step you can take is to **prevent lead exposure**.

Information you can share on how to protect children's health is available on EPA's website - Protecting Children's Environmental Health.

Lead poisoning prevention week outreach materials are available on EPA's National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week website.

Pop Quiz

Which of the following activities can prevent lead exposure?

- **A.** Wash children's hands, bottles, pacifiers and toys often.
- **B.** Use only cold water to prepare food and drinks.
- **C.** Eat well-balanced meals.
- D. Keep your home clean and dust-free.
- **E.** All of the above.

See answer on Page 11.

Heating with Wood Best Practices for Your Health

If you use wood to heat your home, it's important to be aware that there are some health risks from wood smoke. The biggest health threat from smoke is from fine particles. The microscopic particles in smoke can get into your eyes and respiratory system, triggering asthma attacks, burning eyes, causing a runny nose, and illnesses. Wood smoke can affect everyone, but children, teenagers, older adults, people with lung diseases (including asthma and COPD), or people with heart diseases are the most vulnerable.

You can protect the air you breathe and save money by burning only dry, seasoned wood, and maintaining a hot fire. Dry wood burns hotter and cleaner.

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Heating with Wood - Best Practices for Your Health

Have a certified technician inspect and service your appliance annually, and consider using EPA's-Certified Wood Heater Database to choose the cleanest and most efficient models. Cleaner burning woodstoves protect your health by producing less smoke, and they burn less wood.

Tips on how to choose the best appliance to meet your needs is available on EPA's <u>Choosing Wood Burning Appliances</u> website. EPA also offers outreach materials you can use in your community from the Burn Wise Health and Safety Awareness Kit website.



WOOD SMOKE AND YOUR HEALTH

Wood smoke may smell good but it's not good for you.

With a few simple steps you can help reduce wood smoke to protect your health and the air we breathe.

DID YOU KNOW?

One old, inefficient wood stove can emit as much air pollution as 5 dirty old diesel trucks.



Tiny particles in wood smoke can affect your health





HEART IMPACTS

Increases the risk of heart attack, irregular heartbeat, heart failure, stroke and early death.



LUNG IMPACTS

Triggers asthma attacks and aggravates other lung diseases and damages children's lungs.

WHO IS AT GREATER RISK?

Older adults

Children and teens

People with heart or lung disease

Four easy steps to reduce wood smoke



Burn dry, seasoned wood that has been split, stacked,covered and stored.





Use a cleaner-burning gas or wood stove.





Test wood with a moisture meter (20% moisture or less is best).





Provide sufficient air to the fire; never let it smolder.



Learn more at www.epa.gov/burnwise



LEARN if and

how facilities

pollution

prevention

activities to

are implementing

reduce chemical releases

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Toxics Release Inventory for Tribal Communities



TRACK increases or decreases of chemical releases at facilities located on or near tribal lands

PRIORITIZE opportunities to reduce pollution from facilities located on or near tribal lands

EPA's **T**oxics **R**elease Inventory has information about toxic chemical releases and pollution prevention activities from more than 20,000 industrial and federally owned or operated facilities. On the TRI for Tribal Communities page, you can download a fact sheet, find out about requirements for TRI-covered facilities located on tribal lands, learn about the potential risk from chemical releases, and contact EPA's Tribal Program Managers and TRI Program Regional Coordinators. Find TRI data at the TRI for Tribal Communities website.

Updates to EPA's Strategic Plan

EPA's <u>FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan</u> describes how the agency will accomplish its mission to protect human health and the environment. The strategic plan provides the measures EPA uses to evaluate success and communicate priorities. Last month, the agency updated its strategic plan goal descriptions to better reflect current environmental and policy priorities. The updated goal statements are as follows.

Goal 1: A Cleaner, Healthier Environment: Deliver a cleaner, safer, and healthier environment for all Americans and future generations by carrying out the agency's core mission.

Goal 2: More Effective Partnerships: Provide certainty to states, localities, tribal nations, and the regulated community in carrying out shared responsibilities and communicating results to all Americans.

Goal 3: Greater Certainty, Compliance, and Effectiveness: Increase certainty, compliance, and effectiveness by applying the rule of law to achieve more efficient and effective agency operations, service delivery, and regulatory relief.

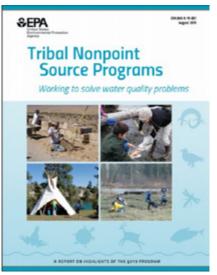
EPA originally issued the *FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan* in February 2018. The previous version of the plan can be found on EPA's Historical Planning, Budget, and Results Reports website.





Idaho, Oregon, Washington News

Region 10 Tribes Featured in Report on NPS Water Quality Programs



In August, EPA issued an online report — <u>Tribal Nonpoint</u>
<u>Source Programs: Working to Solve Water Quality</u>
<u>Problems</u>. Nonpoint source (NPS) pollution is caused by rainfall or snowmelt runoff, picking up and carrying away natural and human-made pollutants, depositing them into lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters and ground waters. Sources of NPS pollution comes from many sources such as runoff from roads, agriculture, forestry, abandoned mine drainage, boats, and other sources.

Under Clean Water Act Section 319, EPA provides grants and technical assistance to tribes to assess and manage NPS pollution problems and threats. The report illustrates the diverse work and accomplishments of tribal programs supported by Section 319 grants, including three tribes from Region 10. Featured tribes from Region 10 include the

Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, Lummi Nation, and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. In total, 19 tribal projects and staff are highlighted as contributing to tribal NPS successes.

Tulalip Tribe's Air Quality Flag Program Video

The Tulalip Tribe's Healthy Homes program, in partnership with Tulalip TV, developed an informative video about their air quality flag program. In recent years, during the late summer months, air quality decreased in Washington, and wildfire smoke has been the main problem. The Tulalip Tribes decided to adopt the EPA's Air Quality Flag Program.

Each day, participating organizations in the Air Quality Flag Program raise a flag that corresponds to air quality conditions. The color of the flag matches EPA's Air Quality



Index: green, yellow, orange, red, and purple. On unhealthy air quality days, the information can be used to adjust physical activities to reduce exposure to air pollution, while keeping people active.

Check out the Tulalip Tribe's air quality flag program video on the <u>TulalipNews Facebook</u> page. To learn more how you can start an air quality flag program, check out the <u>AirNow</u> website.

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Alaska News

Region 10 Alaska IGAP Grant Workshop

EPA will offer an Indian Environmental General Assistance Program grant workshop

December 10-12 in Anchorage, Alaska. The workshop is for tribes and tribal consortia that will focus on developing mentor relationships, long-term planning, developing FY 2021 IGAP workplans and budgets, and encourage collaborative solutions and best practices.

Registration information will be shared soon. For more information, contact Santina Gay by email at gay.santina@epa.gov.



RTOC News





The Region 10 **R**egional **T**ribal **O**perations **C**ommittee is a partnership between EPA and elected tribal representatives to further tribal environmental objectives at the regional level, serve as a liaison between the EPA and tribes regarding information exchange, and provide assistance to the National Tribal Operations Committee.

Tribal Environmental Leaders Summit

- Presentations from the 2019 summit are available on the Region 10 RTOC 2019 Presentations website.
- The 2019 TELS Summit Report is available on the Region 10 RTOC Tribal Leaders Summit website.
- The next Tribal Environmental Leaders Summit will be held in the spring of 2020 in Anchorage, AK.

Stay Engaged with Us

- Follow us on Facebook for the most up to date news and opportunities.
- If you wish to attend or add an item to a monthly meeting agenda, or if you have questions, comments, or suggestions for how RTOC can better serve your community — please contact the <u>RTOC representative for your area</u> or RTOC's Executive Director, Karla Louise.

CONTACT: Karla Louise, RTOC Executive Director ● karla@region10rtoc.net

Tribal Consultation

A full list of consultation opportunities is available in EPA's Tribal Consultation Opportunities Tracking System.

Endangered Species Risk Assessment Process for Biological Evaluations of Pesticides

END DATE: October 11.

EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention's Office of Pesticide Programs is initiating consultation and coordination with tribes on a <u>Draft Revised Method for National</u> Level Endangered Species Risk Assessment Process for Biological Evaluations of Pesticides.

EPA is required under the Endangered Species Act and its implementing regulations to determine whether a pesticide may affect federally listed threatened and endangered species. EPA conducts pesticide risk assessments, **B**iological **E**valuations, which are used to initiate consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service (jointly, the Services). EPA recently proposed some steps to improve those methods.

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Tribal Consultation: Endangered Species Risk Assessment Process for Biological Evaluations of Pesticides

The original method that EPA used to conduct BEs was developed jointly with the Services in 2015, based on recommendations from the National Academy of Sciences, and is called the "interim method". EPA used the interim method to conduct its first nationwide BEs for three pilot chemicals (chlorpyrifos, malathion and diazinon). EPA and the Services intended to revisit and refine the method to address limitations identified through evaluation of the pilot chemicals. EPA is proposing improvements to the risk assessment methods.

For more information, visit EPA's <u>Draft Revised Method for National Level Endangered</u>
<u>Species Risk Assessment Process for Biological Evaluations of Pesticides</u> website. To learn more about endangered species and pesticides, check out EPA's website on <u>Protecting</u>
<u>Endangered Species from Pesticides</u>.

CONTACT: **Emily Ryan** ● (703) 347-0595 ● ryan.emily@epa.gov

2020 Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment

END DATE: November 28.

EPA is initiating consultation and coordination with tribes to obtain input on the proposed design and approach for the agency's forthcoming 2020 Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey and Assessment. The 2020 endeavor will include surveying the 20-year infrastructure investment needs of public water supply systems owned or operated by tribes.

EPA's most recent effort to survey and assess long-term infrastructure needs of tribal water systems was accomplished in a 2011 survey, with a statistical sampling of 220 of the 791 American Indian water systems and 86 of the 165 Alaska Native water systems. While the final design and approach of the 2020 survey is still being developed, the EPA is planning to conduct the effort much in the same way as the 2011 survey. The most significant change in the design from previous EPA surveys will be the inclusion of questions regarding the presence of lead service lines and the estimated cost of their replacement.

The best source of information on the design and approach of the American Indian/Alaska Native Village component of the 2020 survey effort is the "Supporting Statement" used in the EPA's *Information Collection Request* developed for the 2011 survey, which can be found on the regulations.gov website.

CONTACT: Robert Barles ● (202) 564-3814 ● barles.robert@epa.gov



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Grants

Oregon Materials Management Grants

APPLICATIONS DUE: October 4.

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality opened its 2019 <u>Materials Management</u> <u>Grants</u> round for projects that reduce impacts across the full cycle of materials and products. This year, the program aims to foster <u>new partnerships</u> between community-based and environmental organizations in Oregon.

In 2019, DEQ will award up to \$600,000 in statewide funding. Local governments, nonprofit organizations, tribes, organizations created through intergovernmental agreements, and public universities, colleges, community colleges, and public schools in Oregon may apply for a materials management grant. Grant application details, including Frequently Asked Questions and a recording of a conference call about the grant application process are available on DEQ's Materials Management Grants Program website.

CONTACT: Marie Diodati ● (503) 229-5446 ● Diodati.Marie-Helene@deq.state.or.us

Alaska Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

APPLICATIONS DUE: October 31.

The Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, as the designated State of Alaska grantee, announces available statewide sub-grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Eligible activities include minor localized flood reduction projects to reduce or eliminate long-term risk from storm water or flood hazards, soil stabilization, wildfire mitigation, 5% "Initiative" projects (public awareness or education about mitigation, equipment and warning systems), developing state, local or tribal hazard mitigation plans, voluntary property acquisition, structure elevation, and other activities.

State-level agencies, state and federally recognized tribal governments, local governments, public and tribal colleges and universities may apply as sub-grant applicants for project or planning funds. All sub-grant applicants must have a FEMA approved and community adopted Local All-Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting the requirements of 44 CFR Part 201 and 206.434(b) to submit HMGP Project Applications. Information on the HMGP is available on the Alaska Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management website.

CONTACT: **Brent A. Nichols** ● (907) 428-7085 ● <u>brent.nichols@alaska.gov</u> **Javin R. Swearinger Sr.** ● (907) 428-7045 ● javin.swearinger@alaska.gov



Training & Technical Assistance

Training opportunities in this newsletter are either hosted, funded, or sponsored in collaboration with EPA. Any links to websites outside of EPA are provided for additional information that may be useful or interesting to our readers. EPA can neither attest to the accuracy of these third-party sites nor endorse any nongovernment websites, companies or applications.

Tribal Superfund Working Group Training and Site Visit

October 8-10, Traverse City, MI

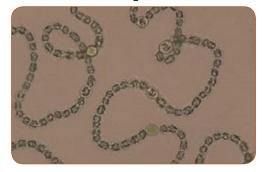
The Tribal Superfund Working Group is a network of tribal professionals, other experts, and government employees engaged in work with Superfund sites, federal facilities and other sites of special concern. This three-day training will include two days of site visits, covering four different sites. The sites include a decommissioned nuclear reactor and an industrial site converted to housing. Discussions will include groundwater protection, cultural and habitat preservation, and redevelopment challenges. Other topics will include an overview of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, an overview of Superfund and Brownfields projects, a tribal case study of plumes and vapor intrusion, and a TSFWG roundtable discussion. Details are available on ITEP's CERCLA/Superfund website.

CONTACT: **Todd Barnell** ● (928) 523-3840 ● Todd.Barnell@nau.edu w

2019 EPA CyanoHABs Workshop and Tabletop Exercises

October 16-18, Seattle, WA

This year's EPA CyanoHAB Workshop will focus on preparing and responding to cyanotoxin and harmful algae bloom incidents in drinking water and recreational waters. State, regional, and national experts will provide the latest information on tools and resources to support management and response plans. Throughout the workshop, speakers will lead participants through different tabletop exercises to



discuss and apply methods in preparing for and responding to incidents. Through these hands-on exercises, participants will work on building, refining, and updating response plans for HABs incidents.

There is no registration fee. Space is limited, please register early. Sessions will be offered as follows:

October 16 – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time – Tribal Environmental HAB Programs

October 16 – 12:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time — Algae Identification Session & Field Trip

October 17 – 8:15 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time – Drinking Water HAB Response Planning

October 18 - 8:15 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time – Preparation and Response to HABs in Recreational Water

CONTACT: Rochelle Labiosa ● (206) 553-1172 ● Labiosa.rochelle@epa.gov

Cyndi Grafe ● (208) 378-5771 ● Grafe.cyndi@epa.gov

Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management

November 19-22, Anchorage, AK

The Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management, organized by the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, is an annual gathering that brings together tribes, non-profits, and state and federal agencies, for a week of environmental conversations. The discussions focus on finding and implementing solutions to address the unique environmental concerns facing Alaskan communities. Details and registration information is available on the ATCEM website.

Air Quality in Alaska Communities

December 3-6, Bethel, AK

This is an entry-level Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals course for environmental staff from tribes in Alaska who are 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 total environment. Attendance is encouraged from environmental, housing, and health departments.

Instructors and participants will explore ways in which Alaska Native communities 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. Details are available on ITEP's Air Quality Trainings Schedule website.

CONTACT: Christal Black ● (928) 523-8410 ● Christal.Black@nau.edu

GIS for Air Quality

December 16-18, Las Vegas, NV

This ITEP course will provide tribal environmental professionals with the skills needed to map and interpret air quality-related data using **G**eographic Information **S**ystem software. Participants will learn to integrate a variety of data (including Access and Excel file formats) into a GIS project.

Prior GIS experience is not required, but basic computer skills are necessary. Participants will be able to progress at their own pace through a series of computer exercises designed to use GIS for real-world applications. Applicants need a working knowledge of air quality terms and concepts and must have completed prerequisites (or have equivalent training/experience) prior to attending. Details are available on ITEP's Air Quality Trainings Schedule website.

CONTACT: Patricia Ellsworth ● (928) 523-6721 ● Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu



EPA Online Grants Training



EPA is offering an online grants training

— EPA Grants Management Training for

Applicants and Recipients. The training
is great way for new or experienced staff
to learn more about grants management
at your own convenience. The principles
covered in the training relate to all EPA
grant programs. There are six modules
covering such topics as applying for,
managing, and closing out EPA grants. A

certificate of completion is provided at the end of each module which can be downloaded or printed and shared with supervisors or EPA project officers.

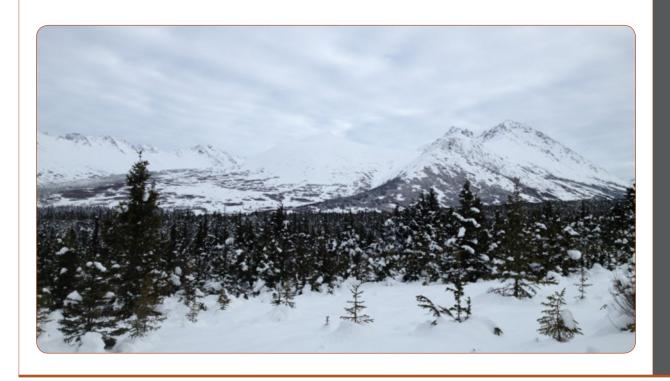
Pop Quiz Answer from Page 1

Which of the following activities can prevent lead exposure?

E. All of these **₹**

- A. Wash children's hands, bottles, pacifiers and toys often.
- **B.** Use only cold water to prepare food and drinks.
- C. Eat a well-balanced meal.
- **D.** Keep your home clean and dust-free.

Check out EPA's <u>Learn About Lead</u> website for simple things you can do to lower your chances of exposure.



Calendar of Events

October

8-9	Tribal Wetlands Working Group (TWIG) Fall 2019 Workshop. Blyn, WA https://pnwtwig.wordpress.com/meetings
8-10	Tribal Superfund Working Group Training and Site Visit. Traverse City, MI https://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/waste/waste_superfundVisits
9	Mine and Mineral Processing Virtual Workshop Session 2 – Emergency Management. 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time ● https://clu-in.org/live
10	Green Cleaning for Improved Health: The Return on Investment of Green Cleaning in Schools. 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time ● https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5357290543148283915
16	EPA CyanoHAB Workshop Session 1: Tribal Environmental HABs Programs. Seattle, WA https://bit.ly/2HIMKCf
16	Mine and Mineral Processing Virtual Workshop Session 3 – Innovative Technologies and Strategies. 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time ● https://clu-in.org/live
16	EPA CyanoHAB Workshop Session 2: Algae Identification Session and Field Trip. Seattle, WA https://bit.ly/2Hnaqq5
17	EPA CyanoHAB Workshop Session 3: Drinking Water HABs Response Planning. Seattle, WA https://bit.ly/2P8GAvN
17	Green, Clean and Healthy: Effective Cleaning and Preventative Maintenance for a Healthier School Environment. 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6037325290788246795
18	EPA CyanoHAB Workshop Session 4: Preparation and Response to HABs in Recreational Waters. Seattle, WA ● https://bit.ly/33SN7Os
18	Redevelopment Academy Webinar: Peering into the Crystal Ball – How the Market Decides Future Use. 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time • https://clu-in.org/conf/tio/RE-DA2
21	Contaminated Sediments Virtual Workshop Session 1 – Site Characterization. 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time ● https://clu-in.org/live
22	Alaska LEO Network Monthly Webinar. 2:00 p.m. Alaska Time ● http://www.leonetwork.org
23	Mine and Mineral Processing Virtual Workshop Session 4 – Big Data. 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time https://clu-in.org/live
23	ANTHC Monthly IGAP Networking Call. 2:00 p.m. Alaska Time ● https://bit.ly/2GRKy4f
29-31	Management of Tribal Air Programs and Grants. Tulsa, OK https://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air
29- Nov. 1	Exploring and Applying Surface Water Quality Modeling Tools to Achieve Program Goals. Dallas, TX ● https://bit.ly/2ZiMtu9F

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Calendar of Events

October

- 30 Contaminated Sediments Virtual Workshop Session 2 Risk Assessment. 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time ● https://clu-in.org/live
- Insights from the Experts: IAQ Preventative Maintenance Today for a Healthy Green Cleaning Tomorrow. 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/860053789567804683

November

- 8 Redevelopment Academy Webinar: Pulling Back the Curtain How Developers Make Money. 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time https://clu-in.org/conf/tio/RE-DA3
- Contaminated Sediments Virtual Workshop Session 3 Remediation Technologies. 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time https://clu-in.org/live/
- **Arctic and Western Alaska Area Committee Meeting.** Anchorage, AK http://www.alaskarrt.org
- **19-21** Sensor Technology. Las Vegas, NV https://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air
- **19-22** Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management. Anchorage, AK www.atcemak.com
- 20 Contaminated Sediments Virtual Workshop Session 4 Long-Term Monitoring. 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time https://clu-in.org/live
- **26** Alaska LEO Network Monthly Webinar. 2:00 p.m. Alaska Time http://www.leonetwork.org
- 27 ANTHC Monthly IGAP Networking Call. 2:00 p.m. Alaska Time https://bit.ly/2GRKy4f

December

- 3-5 BIA Tribal Providers Conference. Anchorage, AK https://biaprovidersconference.org
- **3-6 Air Quality in Alaska Communities.** Bethel, AK https://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air
- **10-12 IGAP Grants Management Workshop.** Anchorage, AK Contact: **Santina Gay** gay.santina@epa.gov
- 11-13 Brownfields 2019. Los Angeles, CA https://brownfields2019.org
- 16-18 GIS for Air Quality. Las Vegas, NV https://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air
- **17** Alaska LEO Network Monthly Webinar. 2:00 p.m. Alaska Time http://www.leonetwork.org
- **ANTHC Monthly IGAP Networking Call.** 2:00 p.m. Alaska Time https://bit.ly/2GRKy4f

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Region 10 **Tribal Newsletter**

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Environmental Protection

Region 10 Tribal Program

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155, MS 12-D12 Seattle, WA 98101-3140

Got News?

Got News? Please send submission ideas to R10TribalNewsletter@epa.gov

For Tribal Solid and **Hazardous Waste** Technical Assistance

ALASKA: Jim Penor • 907-500-4963 IDAHO, OREGON, WASHINGTON: **Rick McMonagle • 503-326-6363**

Helpful Links

R10 Tribal Programs:

http://go.usa.gov/xkdMv

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Follow us @EPAnorthwest on Twitter!

https://twitter.com/EPAnorthwest

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IDAHO, WASHINGTON & EASTERN OREGON

Westley Foster, Tribal Coordinator (206) 553-1604 Alan Moomaw, Tribal Coordinator (360) 753-8071

Report Spills and Violations

In the event of an oil spill, release of hazardous materials, or accident that may lead to an immediate threat to human health or the environment, please call 911. Then, report it to EPA's National Response Center by calling 1-800-424-8802.

To report a possible environmental violation, submit information online to the EPA at https://echo.epa.gov/report-environmental-violations.

