



United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 9, San Francisco, California

October 2009

# Tribal Program Newsletter

## Meetings and Conferences



**Sponsors: Navajo Housing Authority (NHA) Northern Arizona Building Association (NABA) Rocky Mountain Indian Chamber of Commerce National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)**

Oct 26-28	Going Green in Native Communities	Flagstaff, AZ	Rose M. Begay, 928-729-6301 <a href="mailto:rmoore@hooghan.org">rmoore@hooghan.org</a>
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**Sponsor: Law Seminars International**

Oct 29-30	Air Quality Regulations in California	Los Angeles, CA	800-854-8009
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**Sponsor: Nielsen Environmental Field School**

Jan 12-15	2010 North American Environmental Field Conference & Exposition	Tampa, FL	<a href="http://www.envirofieldconference.com">www.envirofieldconference.com</a>
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**Sponsor: Northeast Waste Management Officials Association (NEWMOA)**

Nov 17-18	2009 Mercury Science and Policy Conference	Chicago, IL	<a href="http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury/conferences/sciandpolicy/registration.cfm">www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury/conferences/sciandpolicy/registration.cfm</a>
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**Sponsor: SRA International and NativeEnergy**

Nov 16-19	National Brownfields Conference	New Orleans, LA	Janice Sims, 202 566-2892 or <a href="http://www.brownfields2009.org">www.brownfields2009.org</a>
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**Sponsor: Tribal Science Council (TSC)**

Dec. 7-11	Tribal Science Council Fall Meeting	Washington, DC	Monica L. Rodia, 202-564-8322; <a href="http://www.epa.gov/osp/tribes.htm">http://www.epa.gov/osp/tribes.htm</a>
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**Sponsor: Environmental Protection Agency**

Oct 19-20	Fall RTOC	Tucson, AZ	Hillary Hecht, 415-972-3790
Oct 21-23	17 <sup>th</sup> Annual Tribal/EPA Conference	Tucson, AZ	Pamela Overman, 415-972-3781 or <a href="mailto:overman.pamela@epa.gov">overman.pamela@epa.gov</a> or go to <a href="http://www.tonation-nsn.gov/epa_conference">www.tonation-nsn.gov/epa_conference</a>
Nov 16-19	Brownfield Conference	New Orleans, LA	Janice Sims, 202 566-2892 <a href="http://www.brownfields2009.org">www.brownfields2009.org</a>

 Jun 6-10	2010 National Tribal Science Forum	Traverse City, MI	202.564.8322 <a href="http://www.epa.gov/osp/tribes.htm">http://www.epa.gov/osp/tribes.htm</a>
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**Sponsor: Law Seminars International**


Oct 29-30	Air Quality Regulations in California	Los Angeles, CA	800-854-8009
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**Sponsor: American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES)**

Oct. 29-30	2009 AISES National Conference and Career Fair	Portland, OR	<a href="http://www.aises.org/Events/NationalConferences/2009NationalConference">http://www.aises.org/Events/NationalConferences/2009NationalConference</a>
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## Trainings and Workshops

**Sponsor: Environmental Protection Agency**

Oct 23	QA training and consultation for tribes at annual conference	Tucson, AZ	E. McNaughton, 415-972-3411, or <a href="mailto:mcnaughton.eugenia@epa.gov">mcnaughton.eugenia@epa.gov</a>
 Oct 26-30	Water Quality Standards Training Academy	Portland, OR	<a href="http://www.glec-online.com/WQSA_sessions/session1/form1.php">http://www.glec-online.com/WQSA_sessions/session1/form1.php</a>
 Dec 7-11	Water Quality Standards Training Academy	Washington, DC	<a href="http://www.glec-online.com/WQSA_sessions/session1/form1.php">http://www.glec-online.com/WQSA_sessions/session1/form1.php</a>



**Sponsor: Department of Energy**

Nov. 16-19	Tribal energy Program Review	Denver, CO	<a href="http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/upcoming_events.cfm">http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/upcoming_events.cfm</a>
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### EPA National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Online Overview Course for Permit Writers

The "NPDES Permit Writers' Course" is a five-day training course covering the key elements of NPDES permit development. The course is taught by experienced EPA staff and contractors. These recorded presentations are not intended to replace the "live course," but should enable permit writers who attended the NPDES Permit Writers' Course to review the material on demand in a self-paced environment. The Web-based presentations should also be useful for those who have not attended a live course, but wish to become familiar with important concepts of the NPDES permit program. The first installment in this Web-based training, "Establishing Water Quality-based Effluent Limitations in NPDES Permits" is now available at <http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/outreach/training/pwtraining.cfm>. This Web site provides links to the presentations, as well as introductory text describing the training materials, and explanations of how to navigate through the presentations. Additional training materials will be posted to the site in the coming months. Questions or comments should be directed to David Hair in EPA's Water Permits Division, 202-564-2287; [hair.david@epa.gov](mailto:hair.david@epa.gov)

**Sponsor: U.S. Institute Training Sessions, Fall 2009**

Nov. 10-11	Interest-Based Negotiation of Environmental Issues	Washington, D.C.	<a href="http://www.ecr.gov/AnnouncementsEvents/Fall2009TrainingSessions.aspx">http://www.ecr.gov/AnnouncementsEvents/Fall2009TrainingSessions.aspx</a> or <a href="http://www.ecr.gov">www.ecr.gov</a>
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**Sponsor: EPA National Enforcement Training Institute (NETI)**

EPA's Safety, Health and Environmental Management (SHEM) Program is now available on-line. These courses are essential for inspectors conducting on-site (field) work. The course for new inspectors is called "EPA SHEM Training for Field Activities." This course consists of 7 modules covering field activities, including information on rights and responsibilities, chemical hazards, physical hazards, biological hazards, personal protection, general safety, and field operations & support activities. Inspectors may also need to take the OSHA "Collateral Duty" course. A "Radiation Safety" and a "Laboratory Activities" safety course are also available. To access these and other on-line training, go to <https://www.netionline.com/course/schedule.asp#wbt> . You can also get about these courses and other EPA-sponsored classroom training by checking out EPA's National Enforcement Training Institute at <https://www.netionline.com/Default.asp>

NETI is a part of the Office of Compliance, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. If you have questions about NETI, please contact Zena Aldridge at [aldridge.zena@epa.gov](mailto:aldridge.zena@epa.gov) or 740-773-4039. There is no cost to attend their training. For a copy of the monthly update of all the upcoming environmental enforcement courses, go to [www.netionline.com](http://www.netionline.com)

**Sponsor: Nielson Environmental Field School**

Oct 19-23	The Complete Ground-Water Monitoring Field Course	Denver, CO	<a href="http://www.envirofieldschool.com">www.envirofieldschool.com</a>
Oct 21-23	The Complete Ground-Water Sampling Field Course	Denver, CO	<a href="http://www.envirofieldschool.com">www.envirofieldschool.com</a>
Nov 9-11	The Complete Ground-Water Sampling Field Course	Las Cruces, NM	<a href="http://www.envirofieldschool.com">www.envirofieldschool.com</a>
Oct 19-20	Ground-Water Monitoring Well Design, Construction and Development	Denver, CO	<a href="http://www.envirofieldschool.com">www.envirofieldschool.com</a>
Nov 12-13	The Complete Surface Water & Sediment Sampling Field Course	Las Cruces, NM	<a href="http://www.envirofieldschool.com">www.envirofieldschool.com</a>

**Sustainable Infrastructure Workshops**

EPA and the California Rural Water Association are offering a series of free Sustainable Infrastructure workshops throughout California. The dates and locations can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/waterinfrastructure/docs/Sustainable-Infrastructure-2009.pdf>. For more information, contact Charlotte Ely, 415-972-3731 or [ely.charlotte@epa.gov](mailto:ely.charlotte@epa.gov)

**Sponsor: Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP)**

ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program has released the 2009 training catalog that includes detailed descriptions of ITEP air quality training courses, activities and services. To view the schedule, go to: <http://www4.nau.edu/itep/trainings/aiatqp.asp> or contact Lydia Scheer, at [Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu](mailto:Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu), or 928-523-6887 or visit: <http://www4.nau.edu/itep/trainings/aiatqp.asp>

**Drinking Water Training for Tribes and Tribal Operators**

The following Web site presents a list of training opportunities that may be of interest to tribes and tribal operators: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/tribal/training.html>. Click on your region to learn about training opportunities that are available in the upcoming months. For more information, email [betanzo.elin@epa.gov](mailto:betanzo.elin@epa.gov)

## **Grants and Loans**



### **Tribal Energy Program**

Funding from the Tribal Energy Program is through a competitive process. Each funding opportunity will include instructions on how to apply, application content, and the criteria by which applications will be selected for funding. Only applications submitted through Grants.gov can be considered for awards. To submit an application, there is a one-time registration process. As the registration process in Grants.gov may take 21 days or more to complete and must take place prior to submitting an application, applicants are encouraged to begin the process at least three weeks before the application due date. See <http://www.grants.gov/GetStarted>. Questions regarding Grants.gov should be directed to the Grants.gov Customer Support Center between 7am and 9pm EDT at 1-800-518-4726 or at [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov).

### **Rural Development's Business and Industry (B&I) Guaranteed Loan Program**

Rural Development's B&I Guaranteed Loan Program has received approximately \$3 billion under Division I, Title A, of the Recovery Act to provide additional funds to lenders in connection with our program's purpose to improve, develop, or finance business, industry, and employment and improve the economic and environmental climate in rural communities. This will be achieved by bolstering the existing private credit structure through the guarantee of quality loans which will provide lasting community benefits. We have funds available under this authority through September 30, 2010. See <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/arra/recovery-program.htm> for additional details.

## **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**



### **Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside Solicitation**

EPA Region 9 has issued the 2010 guidance and procedures for applying for assistance from the Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside (DWTSa) program: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/dwtsa.html>. This program provides funding for tribes within Region 9 (California, Nevada, and Arizona) for projects which address the most significant public health threats for public water systems. Up to \$5 million of FY 10 funds may be available and proposals must be received at EPA by November 2. For more information, contact Linda Reeves at [reeves.linda@epa.gov](mailto:reeves.linda@epa.gov) or 415-972-3445.

### **Guidelines for Brownfields 104(k) Competitive Grants**

To view these guidelines, click or paste on your browser: <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/grants-funding.htm>. The due date is October 16, 2009. For more information, call Glenn Kistner, 415-972-3004 or email [kistner.glenn@epa.gov](mailto:kistner.glenn@epa.gov)

### **National Environmental Information Exchange Network (NEIEN)**

EPA requests proposals for the NEIEN Grant Program. This program supports the development of information technology and information management capabilities needed to actively participate in the Exchange Network, a secure, internet and standards-based way to support electronic data reporting, sharing, and integration of both regulatory and non-regulatory environmental data. \$10 million is expected to be available; up to 50 awards are anticipated. Responses are due November 20. For more information, contact Edward Mixon at [mixon.edward@epa.gov](mailto:mixon.edward@epa.gov) or go to: <http://epa.gov/exchangenetwork/grants/>.

### **Fellowships for Graduate Environmental Study**

EPA requests proposals for Science to Achieve Results (STAR) Fellowships for Graduate Environmental Study. Through this RFP, EPA is offering Graduate Fellowships to students in environmental fields of study. Topic areas identified include, but are not limited to: Global Change; Energy; Green Engineering/Building/Chemistry/Materials; and Environmental Behavior and Decision Making. \$4.5 million is expected to be available and up to 120 awards anticipated. Responses are due October 22. For more information, contact Brandon Jones at [2009FellowshipsRFA@epa.gov](mailto:2009FellowshipsRFA@epa.gov) or go to: [http://epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2009/2009\\_star\\_gradfellow.html](http://epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2009/2009_star_gradfellow.html).

### **Brownfields Assessment Grants**

EPA requests proposals for Brownfields Assessment Grants. A brownfield site is defined as real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, controlled substances, petroleum or petroleum products, or is mine-scarred land. This program supports inventories, characterizations, assessments, planning (including cleanup planning) and community involvement related to brownfield sites. \$37.3 million is expected to be available and up to 171 awards are anticipated. Responses are due October 16. For more information, including regional contacts go to: <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/docs/grants/epa-oswer-orcr-09-04.pdf>.

### **Brownfields Cleanup Grants**

EPA requests proposals for Brownfields Cleanup Grants. Cleanup grants provide funding to carry out cleanup activities at specific brownfield sites owned by the applicant. An individual applicant can apply for up to \$200K per brownfield site and can submit up to three site-specific cleanup proposals. \$35.1 million is expected to be available and up to 163 awards anticipated. Responses are due October 16. For more information, including regional contacts go to: <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/docs/grants/epa-oswer-orcr-09-05.pdf>.

### **Brownfields Revolving Loan Funds**

EPA requests proposals for Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grants. This program provides funds for a grant recipient to capitalize a revolving fund and to make loans and provide subgrants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites. \$7 million is expected to be available; up to seven awards are anticipated. Responses are due October 16. For more information, including regional contacts go to: <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/docs/grants/epa-oswer-orcr-09-06.pdf>.

### **Materials Management Assistance – Region 10**

EPA, Region 10, requests proposals for Materials Management Assistance Grants, for projects that address solid waste reduction, stewardship and materials management. Projects must take place in AK, ID, OR, or WA. \$80K is expected to be available, up to four awards anticipated. Responses are due October 5. For more information, contact Ofelia Erickson at [erickson.ofelia@epa.gov](mailto:erickson.ofelia@epa.gov) or go to: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/OWCM.NSF/Recycle/wrrcs-past-grants>.

### **Brownfields Training, Research and Technical Assistance Grants**

EPA is providing more than \$1.5 million for ten Brownfields Training, Research and Technical Assistance Grants. Funding will provide information, training, tools, and technical assistance to brownfields stakeholders to support brownfields assessment, cleanup, and revitalization. Each assistance project will receive between \$100,000 and \$150,000 in annual funding for up to five years. For more information, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>

### **EPA Region 9 Water Infrastructure Loans Available to Tribes**

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loans are innovative methods of financing a range of water quality and safe drinking water projects. Under the CWSRF & DWSRF programs, EPA Region 9 provides grants or “seed money” to the states of Arizona, California, Hawaii and Nevada to capitalize individual state CWSRF and DWSRF loan funds. The states, in turn, make loans to communities and individuals for high-priority water quality and drinking water activities. Tribes are also eligible to receive CWSRF and DWSRF loans from the states. The programs are managed by the states, and loans or other types of assistance for water quality and drinking water projects are distributed according to each state’s program and priorities. Eligible projects under the DWSRF include installation and replacement of failing treatment facilities, eligible storage facilities and transmission and distribution systems. Projects to consolidate water supplies may also be eligible. CWSRF loans are used to build or improve wastewater treatment plants, to develop or implement estuary improvement projects, and to implement nonpoint source pollution control activities. For more state-specific information about the CWSRF and DWSRF programs, visit the EPA, Region 9 Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/region09/water>

## Department of Agriculture (USDA)

### USDA Rural Development:

The objectives of the Solid Waste Management Grant Program are to (a) reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources in rural areas and (b) improve planning and management of solid waste sites in rural areas. Rural areas are defined as any area not in a city or town with a population in excess of 10,000, according to the latest decennial census of the United States. Tribes, academic institutions and nonprofits are eligible. The grant focuses on landfill assistance as well as helping communities reduce the solid waste stream. For more information go to: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/SWMG.htm>

## Other Available Grants



### Indian Student Renewable Energy Challenge

A call for proposals is being made to all tribal colleges, tribally operated high schools, and Bureau of Indian Education high schools to compete in the upcoming Indian Student Renewable Energy Challenge. The proposal is to design small wind turbine systems that will harness wind energy, store it mechanically or electrically and then use the stored energy to power an array of LEDs. The ten design teams that submit the best proposals will receive \$1300 each to construct their machine (five high schools and five colleges). When the machines have been constructed, each team will collect performance data and submit that, along with a detailed report and a video of their machine in operation, to Argonne National Laboratory, 9700 South Cass Avenue, Argonne, IL 60439, Attention: Deon Ettinger, Division of Educational Programs. The focus of the contest is to promote renewable energy development for American Indian and Alaska Native tribes among students and teachers at the high school and college level. Deadline for proposals is Saturday, October 31, 2009. For more information, contact Ashley Stockdale at 202 219-0740 or go to the challenge website at [dep.anl.gov/indianed\\_energychallenge](http://dep.anl.gov/indianed_energychallenge)



### National Indian Justice Center, Inc (NIJC)

NIJC proposes to develop a national AmeriCorps program that focuses on improving transportation related public safety in California and Nevada Tribal Communities. The goal is to recruit transportation professionals, including State Department of Transportation (DOT) personnel and other qualified individuals, to become full- and part-time AmeriCorps members in tribal communities for the specific purpose of improving tribal transportation planning and public safety programs. This brief survey will gather data on the level of interest in the program; inquire about potential program procedures and criteria as well as questions and concerns. This data will be used to form the implementation plan for this proposed program. If you would like to participate, please click the following link to take this survey.

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=CqUIDcuCFpRq1U2rR8BJlw\\_3d\\_3d](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=CqUIDcuCFpRq1U2rR8BJlw_3d_3d)

### Greening High Schools

The Student Conservation Association requests proposals for the Green Your School Contest. This is a national competition that awards projects that have, or will, improve the environmental health of the school. \$10K is available and three awards are anticipated. Responses are due October 9. For more info, go to: <http://www.thesca.org/green-your-school>.

### Native American Housing Block Grant (IHBG) – \$255 million nationally (formula portion)

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will competitively award \$242 million for Native American grants later this year. For information on eligible activities, award processing, expenditure requirements, and allocations to specific tribal organizations, please visit <http://www.hud.gov/recovery/native-american-formula.cfm>

### **Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program**

The Water and Environmental Program (WEP) provides a combination of loans, grants, and loan guarantees for drinking water, sanitary sewer, solid waste, and storm drainage facilities in rural areas and cities and towns of 10,000 or less. For more information, go to:

<http://www.indiancountryworks.org/file/Rural%20Water%20and%20Waste%20Disposal%20Program%2027-09%20FINAL.pdf> or call Tedd Buelow, 202-690-1681, [tedd.buelow@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:tedd.buelow@wdc.usda.gov) or Sandi Boughton, 202, 720-1681m [sandi.boughton@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:sandi.boughton@wdc.usda.gov)

### **Economic Development**

The U.S. Department of Commerce requests proposals for Economic Development Assistance Grants in the following program areas: Public Works, Planning, Local Technical Assistance, and Economic Adjustment Assistance. Proposals accepted through September 30. For more information, go to:

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&flag2006=false&opId=42952>.

### **California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB)**

The Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant Programs provide funding from CIWMB for cleanup of illegal solid waste sites on farm or ranch property. Grants are limited to \$50,000 per cleanup or abatement project with a limit of \$200,000 per year for each eligible applicant. Only cities, counties, resource conservation districts and Native American tribes may apply. There are no specific filing dates; grant applications are accepted continuously and reviewed on a quarterly basis. General information and an application package are available on Web site: <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov> or by calling 916-341-6316.

### **California Bay-Delta Authority Science Grants**

This program seeks to invest in projects that develop new knowledge about how water use and management activities interact with and affect key aquatic species and environmental processes across spatial and temporal scales. The geographic areas of interest are the San Francisco Bay Estuary and the Bay-Delta System. To access detailed information about this opportunity, visit:

<http://www.solicitation.calwater.ca.gov> or call the Cal Water Helpline at 877-408-9310.

### **California's Changing Climate**

California has ambitious plans to cut greenhouse gas emissions, but the state also needs an integrated policy to prepare for and adapt to climate change. Some institutions, such as water agencies and electrical utilities, have already begun planning for change but other areas have yet to prepare effectively for the challenges of a changing California. To read more about these changes, go to:

[http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/report/R\\_1108LBR.pdf](http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/report/R_1108LBR.pdf)

### **Native Non-Profit to Focus on Green Collar Careers**

This Web site provides a wealth of information on green technology, training resources, and projects in Indian Country. Additional resources include: nationwide listings of Native Chambers of Commerce, Urban Indian Centers, and Tribal Colleges as well as green Native businesses, green grants for tribes, green tribal news and links to other Native environmental organizations. See Native Workplace at [www.NativeWorkplace.com](http://www.NativeWorkplace.com). For more information contact Cristala Mussato-Allen, 512-462-9056, Native Workplace 4415 Garnett Ave. Suite #A Austin, TX 78745. [info@nativeworkplace.com](mailto:info@nativeworkplace.com)

### **Northwest Sustainable Energy for Economic Development (SEED) Releases Northwest Tribal Energy Planning Guidebook**

With funding provided by the Bullitt Foundation, Northwest SEED just released a new tool to help Native American tribes develop a plan to achieve energy independence. Energy Planning: A Guide for Northwest Indian Tribes contains information and resources to help select and implement projects to conserve energy, generate clean renewable energy, and construct efficient and environmentally friendly buildings, and other energy-related community or business projects. For more information or to obtain a copy of the guide, contact Leslie Moynihan, 206-267-2215 or [leslie@nwseed.org](mailto:leslie@nwseed.org)

### **Toxics Release Inventory**

A peer-reviewed analysis of the Toxics Release Inventory and the impact of the EPA's Toxics Release Inventory Burden Reduction Rule, have been published and are available online at:

<http://news.duke.edu/2008/06/TRIMiranda.html>. Supporting materials for the analysis, including an interactive Web application which provides access to results by EPA Region and state can be found at:

<http://www.env.duke.edu/cehi/about/news/envjustice.htm>. For more information, contact Martha H. Keating, at 919-613-8736 or [martha.keating@duke.edu](mailto:martha.keating@duke.edu)

### **Improving Public Health and the Environment for Local Communities**

A new EPA Web site features dozens of projects that local communities can do to help make the air cleaner and healthier to breathe. The "Improving Air Quality in Your Community" Web site features activities for reducing both indoor and outdoor pollution, including diesel engine retrofit programs, improving air quality in local schools, and pollution prevention options for small businesses. These projects have a successful track record--they were previously put into action by state and local governments across the country. This site includes information about the costs to establish and maintain each project, and how local communities can apply for EPA grants to kick-start their activities. Contact: Cathy Milbourn, 202-564-4355 / [milbourn.cathy@epa.gov](mailto:milbourn.cathy@epa.gov) or go to: <http://www.epa.gov/air/community/>

### **Chemical Spills and Methamphetamine labs**

EPA is the Chair for the National Response Center (NRC)--"the sole national point of contact for reporting oil, chemical, radiological, biological, etiological discharges into the environment anywhere in the United States and its territories." To report a spill, contact 1-800-424-8802 or 1-202-267-2675. NRC is open a 24-hour, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. For more information go to <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/index.html>

### **Tribal Compliance Assistance Center – Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance**

EPA's web-based Tribal Compliance Assistance Center is now available to provide comprehensive compliance assistance and pollution prevention information for regulated activities in Indian Country. For more information, go to the following site: <http://www.epa.gov/tribalcompliance>. This center is designed to help tribal environmental professionals and facility owners and operators comply with environmental regulations and get information on topics including waste management, air and water resources, drinking water, and public safety. From the Tribal Center, viewers can report a complaint to EPA, find out the compliance status of facilities in Indian Country, learn how to apply for federal grants, and locate EPA personnel who can answer your environmental compliance questions. If access to the Internet is limited, much of the Tribal Center's information is found in the *Profile of Tribal Government Operations* which can be ordered by calling 1-800-490-9198. All of EPA's compliance assistance centers are found at <http://www.assistancecenters.net>. If you have any questions about the Tribal Center or the *Profile of Tribal Government Operations*, contact Jonathan Binder at 202-564-2516, [binder.jonathan@epa.gov](mailto:binder.jonathan@epa.gov), or Catherine Tunis at (202) 564-0476, [tunis.catherine@epa.gov](mailto:tunis.catherine@epa.gov) or by mail: EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Mail Code 2224A, Washington DC 20460.

### **Tribal Compliance Assistance Notebook**

EPA's Tribal Schools Compliance Assistance Notebook provides quick access to many programs and resources available to help Tribal school districts and Tribal schools prevent and resolve environmental issues in schools. The Notebook presents information on complying with Federal laws and regulations and maintaining school facilities that are safe and healthy for students and staff. Topics include asbestos, chemical use and management, drinking water, pesticides, PCBs, lead-based paint, and more. The Notebook is available at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/tribal.nsf/programs/tribal+schools>. The Tribal Schools Compliance Assistance Notebook is part of EPA's National Tribal Compliance Assurance Priority (<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/data/planning/priorities/tribal.html>).

### **Professional Resources for Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program Staff**

California Hazardous Materials Information Exchange list serve is used mainly by HHW professionals in California, but may be useful for those working outside of California as well. The list serve is also searchable by topic and date: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hhwie/>

## **Employment Opportunities**



### **Environmental Review Office (ERO) in the Communities and Ecosystems Division (CED)**

ERO in CED, EPA, San Francisco, has openings for Life Scientists, Physical Scientists, and Environmental Protection Specialists. The purpose of our comments is to encourage environmentally sound decision-making, as well as public disclosure of the environmental impacts of federal projects, and to ensure that federal agencies are aware of environmental regulatory requirements applicable to their projects. In particular, we are seeking candidates with education and/or experience relevant to forestry, water and wetlands protection, mining, transportation, energy, or military projects. The work of a NEPA/309 Reviewer requires critical/analytical thinking and strong organizational, time-management, and interpersonal skills. Candidates must also possess excellent written and oral communication skills. The ideal candidate will have the ability to identify potential pitfalls, gaps, and inconsistencies in large documents or plans, as well as to see and persuasively communicate possibilities and opportunities for incorporating greater environmental protection and/or sustainability into federal projects. The available positions will be posted on USAJOBS.gov in October/November 2009. Please apply through USAJOBS.gov when the positions are posted and also submit your resume and a letter of interest to Kathleen Goforth (ERO Manager) at [goforth.kathleen@epa.gov](mailto:goforth.kathleen@epa.gov)



### **Information Management Specialist**

The National Congress of American Indians has an opening for a full-time Information Management Specialist in Washington, D.C. Incumbent will work with the Communication Team to coordinate communication with external web site providers; develop and implement, with team input, the processes, policies and procedures for information management and support NCAI events in the area of information management and technology. This is a salaried position that offers competitive salary and benefits (including health benefits, 401(k) plan, vacation time, etc.). Salary to be determined based on experience. For more information on how to apply, go to <http://www.ncai.org/>

### **Environmental Positions**

The Air Quality Program (AQP) with the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency is aggressively seeking qualified applicants for two senior environmental specialists, one environmental engineer and one associate environmental engineer. AQP is a pollution monitoring and regulatory authority with Treatment as State status, and is the first Indian Tribe to attain delegated authority to administer the Clean Air Act (CAA), Part 71 Operating Permit Program (Title V – Permits). These positions will be opened until filled. To complete an application, go to [www.nndpm.navajo.org](http://www.nndpm.navajo.org) or mail completed application to the Navajo Nation Department of Personnel Management, P. O. Box 7080, Window Rock, AZ 86515. For more information, contact Charlene Nelson at 928-729-4247 or by email at [charlenenelson@navajo.org](mailto:charlenenelson@navajo.org).

## **Tribal outreach, review and comment**



### **Smart Growth Solutions**

EPA and other agencies have released a first-of-its-kind smart growth guide that will help coastal and waterfront communities tackle threats from sea level rise, stronger hurricanes, flooding and other challenges. The new interagency guide, aimed at planners, local government officials, developers, non-profit groups, and coastal and waterfront residents, includes a description of tools and techniques for applying smart growth guidelines, with case studies illustrating the guidelines in action. The smart growth program nationally covers a range of development and conservation strategies that help protect our natural environment and make our

communities more attractive, economically stronger, and more socially diverse. For more information on the guide: <http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sq-coastal.html>



### **A Guide to Build Cultural Awareness of the American Indian and Alaska Native Communities**

The purpose of this guide is to provide basic information for federal disaster responders and other service providers who may be deployed or otherwise assigned to provide or coordinate services in American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities. This free publication may be downloaded or ordered from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA) at [www.SAMHSA.gov/shin](http://www.SAMHSA.gov/shin); or call SAMHSA's Health Information Network at 877-726-4727 and ask for DHHS publication # (SMA) 08-4354.



### **Plychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)**

Most PCB uses were banned by Congress in 1976. They are toxic chemicals that build up in the body and are potentially harmful if there is exposure to high levels over long periods of time. Exposure to PCBs in caulk may occur as a result of direct contact to the caulk, dust, soil and surrounding surfaces and potential exposure to PCBs released into the air. It is important to note that the fact that PCBs may be found in caulk or in the air does not necessarily mean there are immediate or long term health risks. The greatest risks from PCBs involve sustained long term exposure to high levels of PCBs. Practical steps to address PCBs in caulk include improved ventilation and hygiene. Building owners should consider testing to determine if PCB levels in the air exceed EPA's suggested public health levels. If testing reveals PCBs in the air above these levels, buildings, including schools, should be especially vigilant in implementing and monitoring improved ventilation and hygienic practices to minimize exposures. EPA has set up a hotline and a website to answer questions about this issue – concerned parties can call (888) 835-5372 or visit <http://www.epa.gov/pcbsincaulk/> for additional information.



### **The National Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (PETE)**

PETE has entered into a multi-year contract with EPA to develop a nationwide tribal training program for the Office of Grants and Debarment (OGD) and the Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP). This cutting-edge program will involve a multi-faceted approach to provide tribes, tribal consortia and insular areas with training in the proper management of EPA funds through assistance awards, and OSBP's new Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Rule (DBE) rule. For more information, please go to the tribal training project web site: <http://www.petetribal.org> .

### **National Congress for American Indians (NCAI) Opportunities**

NCAI has posted a list of opportunities for Tribes resulting from the Recovery Act. There are also links to related news updates and webinars. See: <http://www.indiancountryworks.org/>.

### **National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC)**

NPIC offers a toll-free number staffed by knowledgeable specialists seven days/week from 6:30 am to 4:30 pm PST. NPIC has real-time access to current, in depth information for a national audience. NPIC addresses questions in multiple languages such as Navajo, Cherokee, Ojibway and many more. For any question regarding pesticides, please call toll free 800-858-7378 or visit [www.npic.orst.edu](http://www.npic.orst.edu).

### **Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC)**

ITRC is a state-led coalition working with industry and stakeholders to achieve regulatory acceptance of environmental technologies. It consists of 50 states, the District of Columbia, multiple federal partners, industry participants, and other stakeholders cooperating to break down barriers and reduce compliance costs, to make it easier to use new technologies, and help states maximize resources. It is currently seeking tribal representation. For more information, call Eugenia McNaughton, 415-972-3411 or Joe Eidelberg at 415-972-3809 or go to <http://www.itrcweb.org/membership.asp>

### **Sources of Exposure to Lead in Children and Eliminating Childhood Lead Poisoning in America**

The Federal Government banned the use of lead-based paint in housing in 1978. The total number of children who are lead poisoned each year has significantly declined since then. National policies over recent

decades (banning use of leaded gasoline and lead-based paint in housing and consumer products) greatly reduced exposure to lead and thus lead poisoning in children in the US. A research paper in the journal "Environmental Health Perspectives" evaluated numerous sources which can contribute to lead exposure and childhood lead poisoning: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/lead/EHP-lead.pdf> - Achieving the national strategic goal of substantially eliminating childhood lead poisoning as a major health threat in the US by 2010 requires maintenance of current efforts (especially programs addressing lead-based paint) and developing intervention strategies/tools to prevent exposure before children are lead poisoned. For more information: Dave Tomsovic, EPA Region IX Toxics Office, 415-972-3858.

### **Rapid Deployment Energy Efficiency (RDEE) Toolkit Help Line**

EPA designed the RDEE Toolkit Help Line to assist state and local governments in deploying ARRA energy efficiency funding in a successful, sustainable manner by having a go-to resource for RDEE questions. Call 866-602-7333 or email [RDEE@icfi.com](mailto:RDEE@icfi.com) to receive a response to your inquiry within one business day. The RDEE Toolkit was developed through a joint effort of EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), with technical input from the Leadership Group of the National Action Plan on Energy Efficiency. For more information about the Toolkit and to access the Planning Guide, visit: [www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/ee\\_toolkit.html](http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/ee_toolkit.html). All questions related to funding provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act should be directed to DOE: [www.eere.energy.gov/recovery](http://www.eere.energy.gov/recovery) or 1-877-EERE-INF (1-877-337-3463).

### **Ensuring health and safety from potential asbestos hazards in schools (grades K-12).**

Asbestos, a naturally-occurring mineral, is used in building materials due to its heat- and fire-resistant properties. For information on the asbestos-in-schools program go to: <http://www.epa.gov/asbestos/> or contact: Ron Tsuchiya, EPA Region IX Toxics Office, 415-947-4168, or email [tsuchiya.ron@epa.gov](mailto:tsuchiya.ron@epa.gov)

### **Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Public Data**

EPA released the 2007 data on toxic chemicals released to air, water, and land. The Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act requires that certain facilities report the amounts of toxic chemicals disposed of or otherwise released on-site to air, water, land, and underground injection, and the amounts of chemicals transferred off-site for disposal annually to EPA. In addition to the data, EPA Region 9 provides analyses for each Region 9 state, US Pacific Islands, and the border region, which ranks facilities and chemicals in those areas. The data helps increase access to information for tribes and the public on chemicals released in their communities. The Region 9 TRI data and press releases are at <http://www.epa.gov/region09/toxic/tri/> and the national web site is at <http://www.epa.gov/tri> or contact: Mariela Lopez, EPA Region 9 Toxics Office, 415-972-3771 or [lopez.mariela@epa.gov](mailto:lopez.mariela@epa.gov).

### **Tribal Pesticide Issues**

Do you have questions about pesticides that are being used on your reservation for agriculture or to control pests in and around homes? Are pesticides being sold in your community? Do you think that water or other resources are being impacted by pesticide use? Are there other pesticide issues on your reservation that concern you? If you have these or other questions about pesticides, contact Pam Cooper, Manager, Region 9 Pesticides Office at 415-947-4217 or e-mail [cooper.pam@epa.gov](mailto:cooper.pam@epa.gov) .

### **The Sierra Nevada Adaptive Management Project (SNAMP)**

SNAMP is an effort to gather independent scientific data on the effects of forest thinning for fire protection as done by the US Forest Service. There are two study sites; a southern one near Oakhurst off Hwy 41, and a northern one near Tahoe. The study focuses specifically on the ongoing conflicts over forest fuels management in the Sierra Nevada National Forests and the controversial Record of Decision 2004 (ROD) that establishes the current legal boundaries for management prescriptions in the Sierra Nevada's. Scientists from the University of California will take baseline measurements before thinning treatments and after to quantify any adverse effects. The data will be used to advise and hopefully improve the process in the future. There will be annual meetings and regular Integration Team meetings and the public will be encouraged to attend. A mailing list and a Web site at <http://snamp.cnr.berkeley.edu> will have all of SNAMPs activities. For more information, contact Anne Lombardo at 209-966-2417 or email [amlombardo@ucdavis.edu](mailto:amlombardo@ucdavis.edu).

## **Procedures for Accessing EPA Resources for Emergency Responses to Hazards Materials Incidents on Tribal or Federal Lands in AZ**

Call 9-1-1 first. Then notify the National Response Center at 1 800-424-8802. A tribe can also notify Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) at 602-390-7894 or 602-771-2330. If it is a transportation-related spill, call 602-223-2212 at the Arizona Department of Public Safety. In addition, local jurisdictions need to be notified of the incident. If ADEQ is unable to respond to a hazardous materials incident on tribal and federal lands, contact the National Response Center at 800-424-8802, and ask for the EPA Region 9 Duty Officer. EPA has On-Scene Coordinators placed in San Francisco, and Los Angeles, CA, Carson City, NV and Phoenix, AZ who can provide timely response to a hazardous materials incident.

## **Web sites for tribal programs and federal programs**



To find case studies and information on Energy Efficiency, Green Site Cleanups, Renewable Energy, Smart Growth, Transportation, Sustainable Water Infrastructure and Waste Management go to:

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/climatechange/tribes.html>



### **Web sites for EPA's compliance assistance newsletter:**

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/newsletters/assistance/index.html>

Automotive Recycling: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/newsletters/assistance/cacompassvol4no1.pdf>

Strategic Approach--Best Practices:

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/newsletters/assistance/cacompassvol3no1.pdf>

Educational Facilities: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/newsletters/assistance/cacompassvol2no2.pdf>

Healthcare: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/newsletters/assistance/cacompass2-2006.pdf>

Storm Water: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/newsletters/assistance/cacompassvol1no1.pdf>

WTR7 presented the Clean Water Act compliance program to tribes on August 20th. The presentations are available online at this address: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/tribal-CWA-workshop/>

### **More EPA Websites:**

<http://www.epa.gov/indian/new.htm>

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

<http://www.epa.gov/radon/index.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/water/tribaltraining/2009/tevent0919.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/ust/leaking-tanks-indian/>

<http://www.epa.gov/water/tribaltraining/training.html>

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

<http://www.epa.gov/oswer/tribal> .

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/index.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/indian/res.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/region9/indian/pdf/gap-water-activities-factsheet.pdf>

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/newsletters/assistance/index.html>

<http://www.epa.govhttp://www.epa.gov/water/tribaltraining/resources/general.html>)

<http://www.epa.gov/water/tribaltraining/resources/data.html>)

<http://www.epa.gov/water/tribaltraining/index.htmlv/region09/funding/pdfs/tribal-gap/GAP->

[http://iaspub.epa.gov/GAP\\_Online/](http://iaspub.epa.gov/GAP_Online/)

### **National Indian Justice Center**

<http://www.nijc.org/pdfs/AIR.PDF>

<http://www.nijc.org/pdfs/SOLIDWAS.PDF>

<http://www.nijc.org/pdfs/WATER.PDF>

<http://www.nijc.org/pdfs/DRWATER.PDF>

### **Other Web Sites of Interest**

<http://www.communityhealthstudies.com>  
<http://www.wihresourcegroup.com/>  
<http://www.doi.gov/bia>  
<http://www.narf.org/nill/triballaw/index.htm>  
<http://www.stopwaste.org/home/index.asp>  
<http://www.conservatree.com/index.shtml>  
<http://soils.usda.gov/survey>  
<http://www.eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/projects.cfm>  
[www.energysavers.gov](http://www.energysavers.gov)  
<http://www.gaia-gis.it/spatialite/> Spatialite is a free open source spatial database that has a simple GIS/Map Viewer, as well as a GUI (graphical user interface) for interacting with the database tables itself.  
<http://earth911.com/hazardous/rechargeable-batteries/>

This monthly newsletter contains information on meetings, conferences, trainings, available grants, employment opportunities and other items of interest. Comments and feedback are appreciated. Contact Maria Castain 415-972-3264; email [castain.maria@epa.gov](mailto:castain.maria@epa.gov) or go to: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/indian/newslet.html>. Also, if you want to be removed from this mailing list, contact Maria.