



EPA Region 7 Communities Information Digest

May 27, 2016

Welcome to the latest EPA Region 7 Digest!

EPA Region 7's Communities Information Digest provides communities with the latest news about funding and technical assistance opportunities, webinars, conferences, and other activities related to human health and the environment.

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Headlines

National

***EPA Awards 18 Grants for Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training**

Each grantee will receive funds to operate environmental job training programs that advance environmental justice by providing opportunities for residents living in areas impacted by contaminated lands.

***EPA and NIH Award \$25.5 Million to Help Improve Environmental Conditions in Disadvantaged Communities**

EPA and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), are funding research centers at five universities (Harvard, Boston University, Johns Hopkins, University of New Mexico, University of Arizona, and University of Southern California) to work with local communities to better understand ways to improve environmental conditions for vulnerable populations.

***EPA Proposes Increase in Renewable Fuel Levels**

EPA proposed increases in renewable fuel volume requirements across all types of biofuels under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) program. The proposed increases would boost renewable fuel production and provide for ambitious yet achievable growth.

[*EPA Administrator McCarthy Announces \\$55.2 Million to Assess and Clean Up Contaminated Sites, Promote Economic Redevelopment Nationwide](#)

EPA recently announced the selection of 218 new grant investments to 131 communities across the U.S. The Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund and Cleanup (ARC) grants go to communities that are underserved and economically disadvantaged, including neighborhoods where environmental cleanup and new jobs are most needed.

[*Help Set HUD's Research Agenda](#) **Feedback is due May 27.**

HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research is looking for research ideas, trends, and questions that should frame their strategic research plan, known as the Research Roadmap.

[DOI Seeks Your Comments: Draft 2016-2020 Environmental Justice Strategic Plan](#)

The Department of the Interior released its draft 2016-2020 Environmental Justice Strategic Plan for public review and comment, which updates its environmental justice strategic plan to increase interagency cooperation and participation opportunities for minority, low-income, American Indian and Alaska Native Communities, and Tribal governments. **Comments are due May 27.**

[*Public Comment Period for EJ 2020 Action Agenda Strategy for Environmental Justice](#)

Building on Plan EJ 2014, this strategy draws upon input from governmental partners and external stakeholders to address the real environmental challenges that are facing American communities today. **Comments are due July 7.**

Region 7 News

[*EPA Awards \\$200,000 to Missouri Career Center to Recruit, Train and Place Workers in Green Environmental Jobs](#)

The Missouri Career Center in Springfield, MO has been selected to receive an Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant to recruit, train and place local unemployed and underemployed individuals in full-time sustainable green jobs.

[*Cities and Groups in Iowa and Missouri to Receive \\$1.8 Million for Assessments and Cleanups of Brownfield Properties](#)

Six cities or groups in Iowa and Missouri have been selected to receive a total of \$1.8 million in funding from EPA's Brownfields Program to conduct environmental assessments or cleanups of vacant or abandoned properties so they can be returned to new and productive uses.

[*City of Fort Dodge, Iowa, to Pay Penalty and Perform Project to Settle Water Plant Risk Management Program Violations](#)

The City of Fort Dodge, Iowa, has agreed to an administrative settlement of alleged violations of federal Risk Management Program regulations at the John T. Pray Water Treatment Plant. The city will pay a penalty to the United States, and will build a new road to provide emergency vehicles better access to the facility.

****New Resource:* [Old North St. Louis: Sustainably Developing a Historic District](#)**

This document reports on the community engagement workshop that brought together residents, stakeholders, city officials, business owners, and community members to refine goals and explore options for redevelopment, and illustrates the comprehensive vision that resulted for sustainably redeveloping Old North St. Louis.

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Funding & Technical Assistance Opportunities

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Funding & Technical Assistance Opportunities

[*FTA Rides to Wellness Demonstration and Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Grants](#) **May 31**

[Play Everywhere Challenge](#) **May 31**

[Healthiest Cities & Counties Challenge](#) **May 31**

[Economic Development Administration appointment to the National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship \(NACIE\)](#) **June 1**

[Missouri Department of Conservation TRIM grants for community tree care](#) June 3

*[DOT Every Place Counts Design Challenge](#) June 3

*[Downtown Achievement Awards](#) June 3

[EPA Source Reduction Assistance Program \(SRAP\)](#) June 6

[Nominate a White House Champion of Change for Climate Equity](#) June 10

[FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant](#) June 15

[FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant](#) June 15

[National Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost-Share Grant](#) June 17

[Enabling Extreme Real-Time Grid Integration of Solar Energy \(ENERGISE\)](#) June 17

[Tribal ecoAmbassadors Grant Program](#) June 17

[Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants Program](#) June 18

[CDC Building Resilience Against Climate Effects: Enhancing Community Resilience by Implementing Health Adaptations Program](#) June 20

*[Native American Agricultural Fast Track Fund \(NAAFTF\)](#) June 24

[EDA Innovation Strategies Program Federal Funding Opportunity \(FFO\)](#) June 24

[HUD Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants Program](#) June 28

[FWS National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program](#) June 29

[Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program](#) June 30

[USDA Strategic Economic and Community Development \(SECD\)](#) June 30

[ATSDR Community Health Projects Related to Contamination at Brownfield/Land Reuse Sites](#) July 5

[Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Food Security Challenge Area](#) July 7

[BIA Energy and Mineral Development Program](#) July 8

*[EPA 2016 Targeted Air Shed Grant Program](#) July 11

[Department of the Interior National Climate Change & Wildlife Science Center Program](#) July 19

[NEA Our Town Grants](#) August 1

[Agriculture and Food Research Initiative-Food Safety Challenge Area](#) August 3

*[Agriculture and Food Research Initiative-Water for Agriculture Challenge Area](#)
August 4

[Asthma Empowerment Collaborations to Reduce Childhood Asthma Disparities](#)
October 16

Ongoing Opportunities

[Tribal Climate Change Funding Guide](#) – Regularly updated grants and programs

[EDA Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Program](#)

[USDA Agricultural Conservation Easement Program](#) – Contact Local USDA Service Center

[Apply for a Fruit Tree Planting Foundation Orchard in Your Community](#)

[American Planning Association Community Planning Assistance Teams](#)

[Climate Solutions University Adaptation Plan Assistance](#)

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Meetings, Conferences, & Events

[Zero Waste Business Conference: Tuning in to Zero Waste](#) June 1-4, Austin, TX

[Grey to Green Conference 2016](#) June 1-4, Toronto, ON

[How to Create Successful Markets](#) June 3-4, New York, NY

[Waste Expo](#) June 6-9, Las Vegas, NV

[Sustainable Brands 2016](#) June 6-9, San Diego, CA

[One Water Summit](#) June 8-10, Atlanta, GA

[CNU 24: The Transforming City](#) June 8-11, Detroit, MI

[Alan T. Busby Farm Field Day 2016](#) June 9, Jefferson City, MO

[Creating a Climate for Change Conference](#) June 9, Florence, SC

[2016 LOCUS National Leadership Summit](#) June 13-15, Boston, MA

[National Regional Transportation Conference](#) June 13-15, Chattanooga, TN

[NOAA Climate Stewards Free Regional Climate Education Workshop](#) June 13-16, Salt Lake City, UT

*[Great Plains Grazing Field Research Symposium](#) June 14, Stillwater, OK

*[North American Yes in My Back Yard Gathering](#) June 17-19, Boulder, CO

[Association of State Floodplain Managers National Conference](#) June 19-24, Grand Rapids, MI

[NOAA Climate Stewards Free Regional Climate Education Workshop](#) June 21-22, New Orleans, LA

[NOAA Climate Stewards Free Regional Climate Education Workshop](#) June 30-July 2, Boulder, CO

[Climate-Smart Conservation with Scenario Planning](#) July 11-15, Shepherdstown, WV

[Missouri Brownfields Conference](#) July 11, Osage Beach, MO

*[Local Leaders Council Policy Forum 2016](#) July 18-19, Washington, DC

[Climate Strategies Forum - East Coast](#) July 18-20, Arlington, VA

[Earth Educators' Rendezvous](#) July 18-22, University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI

[Urban Waters 4th National Training Workshop](#) July 26-28, Arlington, VA

[NOAA Climate Stewards Free Regional Climate Education Workshop](#) August 3-4, Charleston, SC

[Kansas Environmental Conference](#) August 9-11, Hutchinson, KS

[North American Symposium on Climate Adaptation](#) August 16-18, New York, NY

[Nebraska Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association Conference](#) July 21, Kearney, NE

[National Nonpoint Source Monitoring Workshop](#) August 23-25, Salt Lake City, UT

[2016 Missouri Recycling Association \(MORA\) Recycling Conference](#) **September 12-14, St. Louis, MO**

[Pro Walk/Pro Bike/Pro Place](#) **September 12-15, Vancouver, BC**

[National Reclaiming Vacant Properties Conference](#) **September 28-30, Baltimore, MD**

[18th Annual Stormwater Conference](#) **October 2-6, Oklahoma City, OK**

[Toxic Release Inventory \(TRI\) Conference](#) **October 19-21, Washington, DC**

[National Training Conference on the Toxics Release Inventory and Environmental Conditions in Communities](#) **October 19-21, Washington, DC**

[Green Business Engagement National Network Summit](#) **October 19-20, St. Louis, MO**

[Climate Strategies Forum - West Coast](#) **October 19-20, San Diego, CA**

[American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Exposition](#) **October 29-November 2, Denver, CO**

[CitiesAlive: 14th Annual Green Roof and Wall Conference](#) **November 1-4, Washington DC**

*[New Partners for Smart Growth Conference](#) **February 2-4, 2017, St. Louis, MO**

*[Proposal submissions](#) **June 30, 2016**

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Webinars and Conference Calls

[How EPA's Waste Reduction Model \(WARM\) Quantifies GHG impacts of Organics Management](#) **June 2, 3-4:00 p.m. CST**

Learn how anaerobic digestion was modeled, understand how WARM models organics and the differences between the organics categories such as food waste, yard trimmings, and mixed organics, quantify the GHG emissions and energy impacts of source reducing, donating, and composting food, and discuss questions on the modeling of organics management pathways within WARM.

*[FEMA Tribal Hazard Mitigation Planning Policy Webinar](#) **June 6, 2-3:00 p.m. CST**

Please join us for an upcoming webinar and listening session on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) update of its policy on tribal hazard mitigation planning.

*[Convenient Curbside Recycling Webinar](#) **June 8, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. CST**

This webinar will cover the curbside recycling and discuss solutions to help you overcome the obstacles to starting or expanding programs for single and multi-family homes.

[*Know the Drill for Healthy IAQ: Training School Staff and Occupants to Reduce Indoor Asthma Triggers](#) **June 9, 12-1:30 p.m. CST**

The webinar will teach participants how to train staff to identify, recognize and address indoor environmental asthma triggers and perform the actions essential for effectively managing asthma in schools.

[Risk Management: The Key to Sustainable Brownfield Redevelopment](#) **June 10, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. CST**

This session will present concepts for understanding and mitigating risks posed by constraints to redevelopment and long-term sustainability of the redevelopment. A case study will be used to demonstrate the role of due diligence and other tools such as spatial and tabular analysis in the evaluation process.

[The APR Design® Guide for Plastics Recyclability: A Guided Tour through this Comprehensive Product Design Reference Tool](#) **June 28, 12-1:00 p.m. CST**

This webinar will provide a step by step guide through the extensive resources provided on the Association of Plastics Recyclers website.

[Plastics Recycling Works: Facts and Figures to Support a Thriving Industry](#) **August 9, 12-1:00 p.m. CST**

This webinar will provide an overview of the environmental benefits of recycling, market trends, brand owner sustainability goals, and future areas of growth in the plastics recycling industry.

[Recycling Rigid Plastics Beyond Bottles: Resources to Support MRFs and Municipalities](#) **September 6, 12-1:00 p.m. CST**

This webinar will provide an overview of the resources, developed by the Association of Plastics Recyclers for MRFs and Municipalities to support the expansion of plastics collected.

[2015 PET Container Recycling Rate Report Overview](#) **October 18, 12-1:00 p.m. CST**

This webinar will serve as an Executive Summary, featuring data and analyses from the *Report on Postconsumer PET Container Recycling Activity in 2015*.

[2015 National Postconsumer Plastics Bottle Recycling Rate Report Overview](#) **November 15, 12-1:00 p.m. CST**

This webinar will serve as an Executive Summary, featuring data and analyses from the 2015 National Postconsumer Plastics Bottle Recycling Rate Report.

On-Going and On-Demand Webinars

[EPA Computer Training Helps Water and Wastewater Utilities Build Resilience](#)

The training covers several topics including: identifying and funding potential hazard mitigation projects, developing and updating an Emergency Response Plan (ERP), coordinating mutual aid and assistance during emergencies, conducting damage assessments, and many more.

[EPA Sensible Steps to Healthier School Environments 10-Part Webinar Series](#)

Student Curriculum: Recipes for Healthy Kids, and a Healthy Environment

Each 45-minute lesson empowers kids to take steps in their everyday lives to improve the environment for their communities and reduce their environmental risk.

[LeanPath presents: Five Food Waste Myths to Debunk – Now!](#)

This webinar will explore five myths about food waste and the facts you need to debunk them in your kitchen.

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