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Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



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Top News

Environmental Justice Program Celebrates 25 Years

For 25 years, EPA has worked to address the environmental and public health concerns of minority, low-income, and indigenous communities. The Agency's decision to establish the **Office of Environmental Justice**, initially called the Office of Environmental Equity, stemmed from the recommendations of the EPA Environmental Equity Work Group, which was formed by EPA Administrator Bill Reilly in 1990 to "review the evidence that racial minority and low-income communities bear a disproportionate risk burden."

Since these initial recommendations, OEJ has learned that vulnerable populations face overwhelming public health and environmental challenges. In response, OEJ launched financial and technical assistance programs to support community-driven solutions, established collaborations with local leaders as well as other state and federal governmental organizations, and continues to infuse Agency policies and programs with environmental justice principles.

In July 2014, EPA completed its [Policy on Environmental Justice for Working with Federally Recognized Tribes and Indigenous Peoples](#), which explains how the Agency works with tribes and other indigenous groups and members to protect the environment and public health in Indian country.

To learn more about EPA's Environmental Justice program, including the history of the EJ movement, check out [EPA's Environmental Justice](#) website.



OEJ staff in the 1990s

How to Build a Firewood Storage Shed Video

**How to Build a
Wood Storage Shed**

EPA's Burn Wise program has a new online video available that demonstrates [how to build a firewood storage shed](#). To protect air quality, your family and neighbor's health, and to save energy — burn wood that is properly dried. To learn more about best burning practices and educational materials you can use, check out [EPA's Burn Wise](#) website.

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Alaska and Oregon Environmental Justice Small Grant Recipients

EPA will award Environmental Justice Small Grants to the Sitka Tribe in Alaska, Three Degrees Warmer in Anchorage, Alaska, and Trash for Peace in Portland, Oregon. EPA’s [EJ Small Grants Program](#) provides funding for non-profit and tribal organizations to partner with stakeholders to better understand and address exposure to multiple environmental harms and risks.

The Sitka Tribe in Alaska will study microplastics in subsistence foods with help from the University of Alaska, Mount Edgecumbe High School, Alaska Watershed Coalition, Sitka Conservation Society, and Sitka Sound Science Center. The Sitka Tribe and local students will collect water and subsistence food samples within the tribe’s traditional territory to test for the presence of microplastics. The results will be shared with the public to help make informed decisions about harvesting traditional foods.

Kivalina, a rural Alaskan community of approximately 475 residents, lacks adequate water and sanitation infrastructure. In 2015, the city and tribe worked with community partners to develop a prototype biochar reactor that converts human waste into biochar.

Biochar is a type of charcoal that can be added to soils to enhance agricultural production. Three Degrees Warmer will help the City of Kivalina, Native Village of Kivalina, Re-Locate Kivalina, and Biomass Controls, LLC train to run and operate a biochar reactor that converts human waste into valuable carbon-rich, pathogen-free biochar.



Trash for Peace in Portland, Oregon will foster environmental sustainability and stewardship through solid waste disposal education for youth at various affordable housing properties in Portland. The properties are in areas that have high rates of poverty and lack proper trash disposal and recycling options. Project partners include Home Forward, People-Places-Things, Confluence Environmental Center, Leaven Community, and the City of Gresham.

Volkswagen Clean Air Act Settlement Resources for Tribes

Through a series of three partial settlements, EPA and Volkswagen resolved allegations that VW violated the Clean Air Act by selling approximately 590,000 vehicles equipped with defeat devices to cheat on emissions tests. Diesel vehicles emit nitrogen oxides, which are a serious health concern.

As a part of the settlements, VW is required to pay in to an environmental mitigation trust to fund eligible actions that reduce excess emissions of NOx caused by the violating cars. There will be two environmental mitigation trusts established to administer the funds - one for State Beneficiaries and one for Indian Tribe Beneficiaries. The trusts will be administered by an independent trustee - Wilmington Trust, N.A. An amount of \$55 million was set aside to establish the trust for all federally recognized tribes over the next 6-10 years.

To access a share of the trust, tribes must qualify as a trust beneficiary by developing an Environmental Mitigation Plan and a budget. Tribes must submit their EMPs for the first year by **January 2, 2018**, and for each subsequent year by September 1.

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Volkswagen Clean Air Act Settlement Resources for Tribes

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EPA developed a new factsheet to help tribes understand the funding options for the VW environmental mitigation settlement and EPA's Tribal Diesel Emissions Reductions Act grant program. The factsheet includes:

1. Background about the VW Environmental Mitigation Settlement.
2. An overview of the 10 eligible mitigation actions.
3. A table comparing EMAs 1-9 and EMA 10 (a.k.a. the DERA Option).
4. How to implement the DERA Option with a Notice of Intent to Participate.
5. Additional information about the FY17 Tribal DERA Request for Proposals.

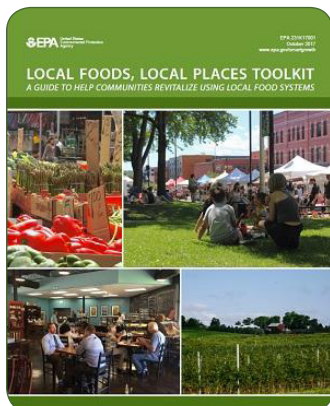
EPA's website, [VW DERA Option for Tribes Supporting Documents](#) includes a Tribal DERA Option Fact Sheet, DERA Comparison Table, and the Notice of Intent to Participate form for the DERA Option.

Additional information from EPA about the VW Settlement and Tribal DERA program can be found on EPA's [Clean Diesel Tribal Grants: Current Supporting Documents](#), [VW Settlement: DERA Option General Information](#), and [Tribal DERA Request for Proposals](#) websites.

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals will assist tribes in developing their EMP's, and Wilmington Trust will distribute funds once a tribe's plan is approved. On **December 7** at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time, ITEP will host an [Introductory Webinar to the VW Settlement for Tribes](#). See our Calendar of Events on page 18 for details.

ITEP is working with Wilmington Trust to develop a plan to provide technical assistance and will be organizing a Tribal Advisory Council to foster communication between the trustee and tribes. Until ITEP sets up the technical assistance program for tribes, please refer to information available from the National Tribal Air Association. NTAA maintains a [Tribal VW Settlement](#) website that includes resources such as a [Fact Sheet](#) and a [Beneficiary Claim Checklist](#) to guide tribes through the application process.

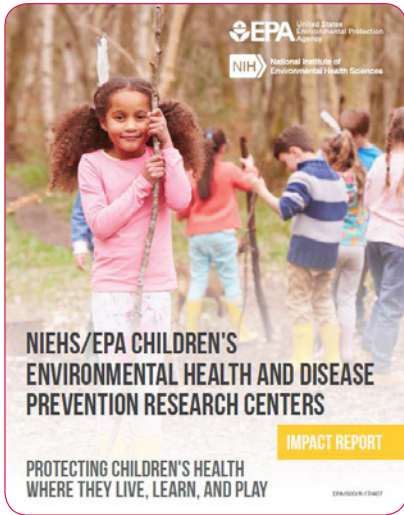
Local Foods, Local Places Toolkit



EPA's [Local Foods, Local Places](#) program recently released, [Local Foods, Local Places Toolkit - A Guide to Help Communities Revitalize Using Local Food Systems](#). The online toolkit is designed to help communities interested in using local foods to support downtown and neighborhood revitalization. The toolkit includes case studies, and step-by-step instructions for community-led workshops that allow local officials, community groups, businesses, and citizens to explore the benefits of using farmers' markets, community kitchens, and other food-related enterprises to revitalize communities and develop action plans for pursuing those goals.

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Children’s Environmental Health and Disease Prevention Research Centers Impact Report



In October, the [Children’s Environmental Health and Disease Prevention Centers Impact Report](#) was published based on over a decade of scientific research. The report highlights environmental exposures to air pollution, arsenic, consumer products, lead, pesticides, and secondhand tobacco smoke — and the health impacts of those exposures (e.g. asthma, cancer, obesity, etc.).

Environmental exposures in the earliest stages of human development influence the occurrence of disease later in life. Infants and children are more vulnerable than adults to the negative effects of environmental exposures. The rapid growth and development that occurs in utero and during infancy, childhood, and adolescence makes children especially susceptible to damage.

Many factors contribute to children’s health, including genetics, nutrition, and exercise, among others. The research was funded jointly by EPA under the [Science to Achieve Results](#) grant program and the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences.

Grants.gov Transition to Workspace

Beginning **January 1, 2018**, all EPA grant applicants must [create a workspace](#) to submit applications through [Grants.gov](#). The legacy PDF application package method to apply for a federal grant will be retired on **December 31**. The legacy system allowed applicants to download a grant application and work offline.

EPA’s Office of Grants and Debarment will host *Grants.gov Workspace Training and Demonstration* webinars. No registration is required, simply [join the webinar](#) on:

- **December 4** at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time (for all grant applicants), or
- **December 11** at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time (for tribes).

EPA will [record and post the training sessions](#) online for those who cannot attend.

Grants.gov has other resources to get you started, such as [how-to training videos](#), and an [online user guide for Workspace](#). If you have questions about Workspace or the Legacy PDF retirement, send an email to community@grants.gov.



Best Practices for GAP Grant Closeouts

With the end of the calendar year fast approaching, some EPA grant recipients will soon have a grant closeout due. A closeout is the process by which EPA determines that all required work under a grant or cooperative agreement has been completed and all administrative requirements are met. A successful closeout is important, because it is a performance criteria considered when the Agency reviews future funding requests.

Closeouts are due 90 days after the last day of a grant's project and budget period. Generally, GAP grants last for four years. If your tribe's four-year GAP grant began on October 1, 2013 (FY 2014) and ended on September 30, 2017 (FY 2017), then your closeout is due 90 days later – or by **December 29, 2017**.

It's important to be aware of when your closeout is due because sometimes grants end sooner than every four years. If you aren't sure if your GAP grant ended, refer to your grant agreement's project and budget period expiration dates, or contact your Project Officer.

As you prepare to close out a grant, review past year's work plans, budgets, and quarterly progress reports in advance of the end of the project period to see if there is any work remaining that needs to be accomplished. It's also a good idea to collect receipts and deliverables, review timesheets, and submit any missing items to EPA. Reviewing previous work plans and reports may also be helpful in identifying meaningful accomplishments, challenges encountered, and to consider what may be done differently in the future.

The first step in processing your closeout is to make the final drawdown or payment. You can make drawdowns to pay any bills for work or charges that were made *before* the end of your project or budget period. You should also figure out final payroll costs, and include them in the final drawdown. But, *no new charges should be made, even if there is unspent money remaining* (please do not order any new supplies or equipment using past years' money). Within 90 days of the end of the grant period, your tribe or organization must submit the following reports to EPA as noted below.

Las Vegas Finance Center

- ✓ **Final Drawdown/Payment Request.** If using ASAP, use it to do the final drawdown. If using EFT, submit the request to EPA Las Vegas Finance Center.
- ✓ **Federal Financial Report – SF425 (after the final drawdown).** A blank [SF-425 is available online](#). A notification will be sent via email from EPA's Las Vegas Finance Center 60 days prior to your grant's expiration date. If it is not submitted to EPA's LVFC by the 90th day, an overdue notice will be sent to you.

Send the above-noted documents by either postal mail to 4220 Maryland Parkway, Bldg. C, Room 503, Las Vegas, NV 89119, or by email to lvfc-grants@epa.gov.

Project Officer

- ✓ **Submit any remaining deliverables.**
- ✓ **Final Performance and Technical Report.**

Although EPA does not require a specific format, it's best to describe all activities conducted during the grant in your final report. Consider organizing the report by year or topic (i.e., solid waste, water quality, environmental training, etc.).

The report must include a comparison of accomplishments against work plan commitments, an evaluation of the effectiveness of work performed, discussion of any existing or potential problems (i.e., staff turnover, natural disasters, etc.), and suggestions for improvement.

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Best Practices for GAP Closeout

You can include a success story in the final performance report, but we'll also need a separate success story.

✓ Success Story.

A GAP success story should be a summary focused on a particular task or project performed during the GAP grant. There is no required format, but consider including the following details:

- How the tribe planned and accomplished it's goals.
- How the grant funded activities resulted in a positive change in the environment or public health.
- Supporting data (for example, waste materials collected by weight, volume or category, etc.).
- Before and after pictures.

To obtain example Final Performance and Technical Reports, success stories, or for templates you may use, please [contact your EPA Project Officer](#).

Grant Specialist

✓ Equipment Inventory Report.

For the purposes of the grant, equipment is defined as any one item that cost \$5,000 or more, and has a useful life of one year or more (i.e. snow machine, truck, boat, etc.). If your tribe or organization purchased any equipment meeting this description during the grant period - then you must submit a report that provides the following details:

- Description of each item of equipment.
- Original date of purchase.
- Original purchase cost.
- Its estimated value and condition today.
- The disposal method. The disposal method is typically written into your grant agreement under Equipment Disposition, and is often the following statement:

The tribe will keep the equipment and continue to use it on the project originally funded through this assistance agreement or on other federally funded projects whether or not the project or program continues to be supported by federal funds.

✓ Indirect Cost Rate Agreement.

If you used an Indirect Cost Rate, submit the most current rate agreement to reconcile information in the Federal Financial Report sent to LVFC.

Note that during the grant period, if your tribe or organization budgeted for over \$150,000 in procurement, then there is a condition in your grant that requires submission of a [Disadvantaged Business Enterprise report](#) (a.k.a. MBE/WBE). If this situation applies to your grant, please refer to that condition for specific requirements. DBE reporting does not apply to most GAP grant recipients.

Submit the above-noted reports to your Grant Specialist by either postal mail to EPA Region 10 Grants Administration Unit, OMP-173, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, Seattle, WA 98101, or by fax to 206-553-4957.

For more information on grant closeout requirements, check out EPA's [Frequently Asked Questions About Closeout](#) website or [contact your EPA Project Officer](#).



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

Alaska News

Vote for RTOC Alaska Positions 1 and 2

ELECTION DEADLINE: **December 8.**

EPA Region 10 is holding elections for two Alaska tribal representatives to serve on the [Region 10 Tribal Operations Committee](#) as the Alaska Position 1 and Alaska Position 2 members. Each RTOC representative will work as a team in collaboration with all of the RTOC Alaska representatives to deliver representation for all of Alaska's tribes.

Ballots and information were sent to all tribal leaders in Alaska in mid-November. The deadline for tribes to submit ballots is **December 8.**

Candidates for Alaska Position 1

Natalia Brink – Kasigluk Traditional Council, **Irene Dundas** – Ketchikan Indian Community, **John Henry** – Native Village of Unalakleet, **Brian Holter, Jr.** – Klawock Cooperative Association, and **Hannah Onalik** Native Village of Noatak.

Candidates for Alaska Position 2

Fred Luther Sr. – Native Village of Noatak, and **Ray Paddock III** – Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

Each federally recognized tribe in Alaska is limited to one vote for Alaska Position 1 and one vote for Alaska Position 2.

To vote, please submit **one** of the following for each position:

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

The RTOC is a partnership between EPA Region 10 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](#).

To learn more about the [RTOC in Region 10](#) check out their website, or refer to the *RTOC News* section on page 9.

CONTACT: **JR Herbst** • 206-553-2116 • herbst.john@epa.gov

Michelle Davis • 907-271-3434 • davis.michellev@epa.gov

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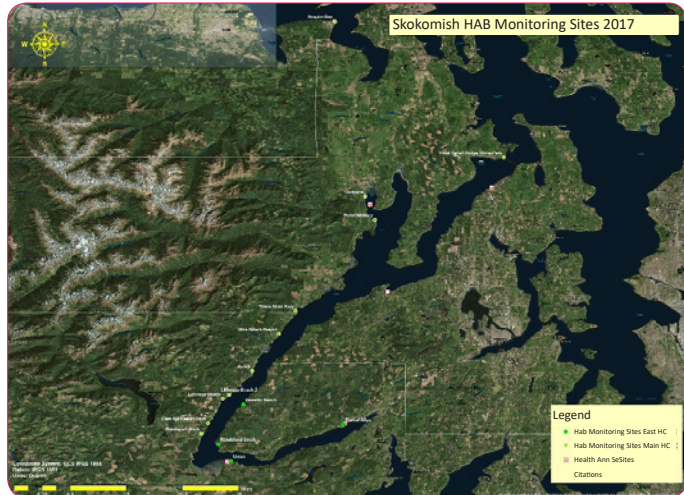
Idaho, Oregon, Washington News

Skokomish Tribe’s Harmful Algal Bloom Monitoring Research

The first year of the Skokomish Tribe’s Hood Canal Harmful Algal Bloom Monitoring Research Project was completed at the end of September 2017. Toxins associated with HABs can cause sickness and even death when the shellfish contaminated by those toxins are eaten.

This first year of a three-year study began the identification and categorization of HABs and the toxins that can be associated with

them in Hood Canal, (located in the Puget Sound region of western Washington). Thirteen locations were sampled from the Hood Canal Bridge to Union, Washington.



Dr. Sang Seon Yun (Ph.D. in Biology and former Assistant Professor at the University of British Columbia) was the chemist in charge of the research. Dr. Yun used the Skokomish lab and their Sciex API 5000 LC/MS/MS system to do quantitative analysis of toxic compounds.

This year’s study found toxins in Hood Canal, but at very low levels. Finding various toxins,

even at very low levels, warrants further testing.

Samples analyzed found Domoic acid, Pectenotoxin, Dinophysistoxin 1, and Yessotoxin while Okadaic acid and Dinophysistoxin 2 were not detected. Laboratory procedures are being refined for Saxitoxin and Gonyautoxin 2.

EPA grant funds support the Skokomish Tribe’s water quality monitoring efforts and were used towards the development of the laboratory and in analyzing the samples.

In May 2018, the second year will begin and run until the end of September 2018. If a HAB event occurs in Hood Canal during the winter months, the lab is ready to analyze samples associated with that event.



RTOC News



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The Region 10 Regional Tribal Operations Committee 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.

We Are Hiring!

Two positions are available for full time employment by the Region 10 Tribal Consortium, a 501(c)3 organization known as the RTOC. Brief descriptions follow.

Tribal Environmental Leaders Summit Coordinator

Coordinates all aspects of planning, development, organization and execution of the RTOC's Tribal Leader's Summit. Reports to the RTOC Coordinator.

RTOC Coordinator

Oversees all aspects of the planning, development, organization and execution of the RTOC meetings, coordination with EPA staff, outreach to tribes and communication regarding the mission and work of the RTOC to tribes within EPA Region 10. Reports to the RTOC Tribal Caucus Co-Chairs. This position is a reorganization and new job title for the current Communications Specialist.

Positions are grant funded and available until filled. Full job announcements stating descriptions, qualifications and salary are available on the [Region 10 RTOC website](#).

Vote! by December 8

Nominee biographies and ballots for Alaska Position 1 and 2 Representatives for RTOC were sent to tribal leaders in Alaska in mid-November.

Download the [ballots and biographies](#), and remember to vote!

Upcoming Meetings

In-person meeting at EPA Region 10, Seattle, WA - **December 12-14**

2018 Tribal Leaders Summit

Save the Date! April 11-13, 2018

Next year's summit will be held in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho!

For a summary of this year's conference, download the [2017 Tribal Leaders Summit Report](#).

Stay Engaged with Us!

- RTOC [Meeting Minutes are available online](#).
- Check out [Region 10 RTOC Facebook](#) for the latest news, training, and funding opportunities.
- Follow [Region 10 RTOC on Twitter](#).
- [Submit meeting discussion topics](#).

Contact **Randi Madison**, RTOC R10 Communications Specialist, **509-703-4219** •

communications@region10rtoc.net if you wish to join our monthly teleconference and/or have environmental topics to raise.

Tribal Consultation Opportunities

A full list of consultation opportunities is available in EPA’s [Tribal Consultation Opportunities Tracking System](#). There were no tribal consultation opportunities listed for tribes in Region 10 at the time of publication.

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Grants

Cooperative Agreement for Emergency Response: Public Health Crisis Response

APPLICATIONS DUE: December 11.

The Centers for Disease Control is offering Cooperative Agreements for Emergency Response: Public Health Crisis Response. The purpose is to enhance the nation’s ability to rapidly respond to public health emergencies, which may include infectious disease outbreaks, pandemics, and other public health emergencies that exceed the capacity of jurisdictional public health resources.

The award dates and project periods are subject to change and contingent upon the occurrence of a public health crisis and the availability of funding for the response. Awardees would be approved but unfunded until a crisis occurs, enabling them to plan for emergency activation activities.

Tribal governments may apply if they meet eligibility requirements and serve at least 50,000 people through their public health infrastructure. The award ceiling is \$5 million. Check out the CDC’s [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) online for details.

CONTACT: Celia Toles • crt3@cdc.gov

NOAA 2018 Pacific Northwest Bay-Watershed Education and Training Program

APPLICATIONS DUE: December 15.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Pacific Northwest **Bay-Watershed Education and Training Program** is a competitive, environmental education grants program that promotes locally relevant, experiential learning in the K-12 environment.

Funded projects provide Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences for students, related professional development for teachers, and help to support regional education and environmental priorities in the Pacific Northwest.

Eligible entities are K-12 public and independent schools and school systems, institutions of higher education, community-based and nonprofit organizations, state or local government agencies, interstate agencies, and tribal governments in Oregon and Washington. To learn more about this opportunity, check out [NOAA’s B-WET Education Program](#) website.

FY 2018 Brownfields Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant

APPLICATIONS DUE: **December 15.**

Brownfields Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grants are provided to develop environmental programs that recruit, train, and place unemployed and underemployed residents of communities affected by brownfields and other environmental contaminants with the skills needed to secure full-time, sustainable employment in the environmental field and in assessment and cleanup work taking place in their communities.

Each Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant may be funded up to \$200,000 over a three-year period. Tribes in Alaska are not eligible (with the exception of the Metlakatla Indian Community). Check out EPA's [FY 2018 Environmental Workforce Development Job Training Grant](#) website to learn more.

NOAA Environmental Literacy for Community Resilience Grants

PRE-APPLICATIONS DUE: **December 19.**

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Environmental Literacy for Community Resilience Grants support the education of K-12 students and the public so they are knowledgeable of the ways in which their community can become more resilient to extreme weather events and/or other environmental hazards, and become involved in achieving that resilience.

Projects may focus on a single type of environmental hazard or a range of hazards that may impact a community or communities. Projects will be based on established scientific evidence about current and future natural hazards and stresses facing communities and should consider relevant socio-economic and ecological factors in the targeted geographic area(s). Projects should engage participants in active learning.

Eligible applicants include institutions of higher education, other nonprofits including informal education institutions such as museums, zoos, and aquariums, K-12 public and independent schools and school systems, and state, local, and tribal governments. For details about this opportunity, check out [NOAA's Environmental Literacy grants](#) website.

FY 2018 Exchange Network Grant Solicitation

APPLICATIONS DUE: **January 26.**

The Exchange Network Grant Program provides funding to states, territories, and federally recognized tribes to support the development of the [National Environmental Information Exchange Network](#). The FY 2018 NEIEN Grant Program solicitation is available on [EPA's Exchange Program Network Grant](#) website. The primary outcome expected from Exchange Network assistance agreements is improved access to and exchange of high-quality environmental data from public and private sector sources. In FY 2018, EPA expects to award about \$6 million for 20-25 assistance agreements. Awards for an individual assistance agreement cannot exceed \$200,000. EPA may make a limited number of awards to collaborative, partnership assistance agreements. Budgets for these projects cannot exceed \$400,000.

CONTACT: **Salena Reynolds** • 202-566-0466 • reynolds.salena@epa.gov.

2017 Tribal Diesel Emissions Reductions Program Grants



APPLICATIONS DUE: **January 18.**

EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality is soliciting proposals nationwide for tribal projects that achieve significant reductions in diesel emissions, (in terms of tons of pollution produced by diesel engines and diesel emissions exposure), particularly from fleets located in areas designated as having poor air quality. EPA anticipates awarding \$1.5 million in DERA grant funding under this announcement. Eligible entities include tribal governments (or intertribal consortia) and federally recognized tribes in Alaska that have jurisdiction over transportation or air quality.

Eligible diesel emission reduction solutions include EPA or California Air Resources Board verified emission control technologies such as exhaust controls, cleaner fuels, and engine upgrades, idle reduction technologies, aerodynamic technologies and low rolling resistance tires, certified engine repowers, clean alternative fuel conversion kits, and/or certified vehicle or equipment replacement. For detailed information on eligibility and application requirements, please review the [2017 Tribal Request for Proposals](#) online.

CONTACT: **Lucita Valiere** • 206-553-8087 • valiere.lucita@epa.gov

FY 2019 Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Grants

PROPOSAL DEADLINE: **January 19.**

EPA's Indian Environmental **General Assistance Program** grants help tribes and tribal consortia build capacity for developing and administering environmental protection programs.

The [Notice of Funding Availability](#) describes everything you need to know to prepare and submit your GAP grant application. Please [read the NOFA](#) carefully before drafting your proposal. Initial proposals are due to your EPA GAP Project Officer no later than January 19, 2018.

Region 10 will host informational webinars for applicants. You do not need to register in advance.

- **Developing a GAP Budget** will be held on **December 6** at 2:30 p.m. Pacific Time.
- **Tips and Forms** will be held on **December 13** at 2:30 p.m. Pacific Time.

To join either webinar — for audio please call 1-866-299-3188, and enter code **907-271-5083**. To view the presentations, go to the [EPA Web conferencing portal](#) online on the above-noted dates and times.

If you have questions about the NOFA or GAP funding, please contact your tribe's GAP Project Officer. A list of GAP Project Officers and tribal assignments is available on EPA's [Region 10 Tribal Contacts](#) webpage.

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation's Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Service

APPLICATIONS DUE: **January 31.**

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation will conduct a number of DEC Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup projects at eligible properties in Alaska. DEC assists Alaskan communities by conducting environmental site assessments, a limited cleanup effort, and characterization/cleanup planning.

A DBAC is intended to help reduce the environmental uncertainties or conditions that hinder the reuse or redevelopment of an eligible property. DEC selects projects that have solid reuse or redevelopment plans, and projects that are seeking other funds to support their reuse goals and projects which have demonstrated strong community commitment and support. For more information, and to apply, please visit the [DBAC website](#).

Note that there are some changes to the previous three-step application process. There is just one combined application this year. The above link will take you to a fillable PDF application that can be saved and submitted. Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Lisa Griswold in advance to ensure eligibility and address any concerns.

CONTACT: **Lisa Griswold** • 907-269-2021 • lisa.griswold@alaska.gov

Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program

PROPOSALS DUE: **January 31.**

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Wildlife Habitat Council, in cooperation with EPA, USDA Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, FedEx and Southern Company are requesting applications for the 2018 Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration program.

The Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration grant program seeks to develop community capacity to sustain local natural resources for future generations by providing modest financial assistance to diverse local partnerships focused on improving water quality, watersheds, and the species and habitats they support.

Projects should include a variety of ecological improvements along with targeted community outreach, education, and stewardship. Ecological improvements may include wetland, riparian, forest and coastal habitat restoration, wildlife conservation, community tree canopy enhancement, water quality monitoring, and stormwater management.

Eligible applicants include non-profit organizations, local governments, municipal governments, tribes, and educational institutions.

CONTACT: **Danny Bowater** • 202-595-2434 • Daniel.Bowater@nfwf.org



2018 Healthy Watershed Consortium Grants

APPLICATIONS DUE: **February 1.**

The Healthy Watersheds Consortium is a partnership between the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities, EPA, and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. The Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program aims to accelerate strategic protection of healthy, freshwater ecosystems and their watersheds.



CONTACT: **Peter Stangel** • 404-915-2763 • peter@usendowment.org

Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreements

APPLICATIONS DUE: **February 16.**

EPA's Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving program provides funding for non-profit and tribal organizations to partner with stakeholders to develop and implement solutions that address environmental and public health issues in low income and minority communities.

Environmental Justice CPS cooperative agreements will be distributed to 10 applicants nationwide to address environmental justice issues. Each recipient will receive up to \$120,000 for two-year projects that create self-sustaining, community-based partnerships that will continue to improve local environments in the future.

This opportunity places special emphasis on projects in rural areas. For the purposes of this opportunity, qualifying locations are defined as local areas with small, low-income, rural, and/or tribal communities with populations of 50,000 or less that have limited access to public or private resources commonly found in metropolitan areas.

Applicants are invited to participate in conference calls with EPA to address questions about the program and this solicitation. Interested persons may access the pre-application conference calls by dialing **1-866-299-3188** and entering the code **202-564-0152**. Conference calls will be held on the following dates and times:

- **December 5** at 1:00 p.m. Pacific Time.
- **December 13** (EJSCREEN Tutorial for applicants) at 12:30 p.m. Pacific Time.
- **January 11** (*en Español*) at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time.
- **January 23** at 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time.
- **February 1** at 1:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

For details about this opportunity and the full Request for Applications check out [EPA's Environmental Justice CPS program](#) website.

2017 Indoor Air Quality Funding Guide for American Indian and Alaska Native Communities

The Tribal Healthy Homes Network, hosted by the Tulalip Tribes, connects tribes, tribal consortia, government, non-profit advocates, and researchers to promote just, healthy, and safe living environments for American Indian and Alaska Native communities. THHNW compiled a [2017 Guide on Indoor Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Tribes](#). The guide also includes tips for preparing a competitive funding proposal. If you are interested in applying for one of the funding opportunities listed in the guide, you can contact THHNW for more information and free technical assistance.

CONTACT: Gillian Mittelstaedt • 1-800-717-2118 • gmittelstaedt@thhnw.org

Training & Scholarships

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. We cannot attest to the accuracy of these third-party sites, nor does EPA endorse any nongovernment websites, companies or applications

Introduction to Tribal Air Quality (Level 1 course)

January 9-12, Flagstaff, AZ

This ITEP course is designed to provide an understanding of the importance of clean air for the protection of human health and the total environment. It is appropriate for tribal environmental personnel who are new to air quality and interested in learning the basics of air quality management.

The course is structured as an intensive training that uses multiple approaches to learning including lecture and discussion, laboratory, and small-group activities. There will also be reading and writing assignments each evening during the course. Details available on [ITEP's Air Quality Trainings Schedule](#) online.

CONTACT: Patricia Ellsworth • 928-523-6721 • patricia.ellsworth@nau.edu

Department of Energy Technical Assistance

Federally recognized tribes, tribal groups, communities, and tribal energy resource development organizations can apply annually to receive on-request technical assistance for planning and implementing renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. The intended result is a tangible product or specific deliverable designed to help move a project forward.

Assistance is provided by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Indian Energy and its national laboratories, along with other partnering organizations, at no cost. Each request will be evaluated based on scope and available budget. Current projects funded by DOE grants receive priority.

Types of on-request assistance include the following:

- Energy planning, • Village power, • Housing, building energy efficiency and resilience,
- Project development, • Policy and regulation.

Apply online at [DOE Office of Indian Energy Technical Assistance](#).

ITEP Student Summer Internship Program



Sherralyn Sneezer, Intern

HOST SITE APPLICATIONS DUE: **January 19.**

The ITEP Environmental Education Outreach Program at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, AZ is seeking tribal environmental offices, organizations, and agencies to host a college student for an 8-week student summer internship.

The host site provides a work place and supervision for the intern. Internship projects must focus on addressing air quality issues in tribal communities.

Interns will be highly-motivated undergraduate or graduate students majoring in environmental or related careers from different colleges and universities.

[Submit an application](#) for your tribe or organization to be an internship host site online.

INTERNSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE: **February 28.**

ITEP offers student summer internships for Native American and other college students with funding from the EPA. The internship is designed to give current college students an opportunity to assist EPA or tribal organizations with environmental issues, acquire new skills in a work environment, and gain actual experience while contributing to a project.

Eligible students must be full-time during the spring semester with at least a 2.5 cumulative Grade Point Average, majoring in an environmental or related field, have an interest in pursuing an environmental career upon graduation, with a strong interest in working with Native American tribes and other criteria. ITEP provides each student intern with a \$4,000 stipend, and limited housing and travel allowances. Interested college students can [apply online for an internship](#).

CONTACT: **Mansel Nelson** • 928-523-1275 • mansel.nelson@nau.edu

Online ITEP Courses Available

Northern Arizona University and ITEP offer tribally focused, professional development training to new and experienced professionals through interactive, online courses. The new online courses include ***Tribal Strategic Planning: Ensuring Successful Development of Your ETEP*** and ***Partnerships and Community Outreach***. View ITEP's online [catalog of available courses](#).



CONTACT: **Natasha Fulton** • 928-523-0673 • Natasha.Fulton@nau.edu

Jennifer Williams • 907-250-3826 • Jennifer.Williams@nau.edu

Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke Webinars and Workshop

Webinar Series

ITEP is offering a webinar series that will provide attendees with an understanding of the impacts of wildland fire smoke on the health of tribal communities and strategies to minimize exposure. Each 90-minute webinar will feature multiple presentations on the topics listed below. The webinars are free and will be recorded.

- **January 18** at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time. The first webinar will explore the components of wildland smoke, how much is produced under different circumstances, and how the components of smoke affect our health.
- **February 1** at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time. This webinar will cover modeling of smoke movement, the role of air resources advisors, and the use of portable monitors or sensors to collect data.
- **February 15** at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time. Covering, gathering, and disseminating information to communities is critical to ensuring the health and safety before, during, and after a smoke event. This webinar will provide tips and strategies for finding information, using social media, and developing outreach products.
- **March 1** at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time. In this webinar, Tribal presenters will describe how smoke events impacted their communities, how utilizing monitoring data during a wildfire can help identify health risks, and how tribes can better prepare for wildfire seasons.
- **March 15** at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time. With smoke events increasingly common, the final webinar will provide information on preparing homes for smoke intrusion, using air scrubbers, creating community cleaner-air shelters, and protecting the health of pets and livestock.

Workshop — March 27-28, Boise, ID

Upon completion of the webinar series, tribal staff are invited to participate in a hands-on workshop designed to reinforce the concepts presented in the webinar series. Participants will learn and practice additional skills that will aid in preparation for wildland smoke events. All webinars must be completed prior to attending the in-person workshop. In order to attend the in-person workshop, you must first [submit an application to ITEP](#), that will be available online in mid-December.

CONTACT: **Patricia Ellsworth** • 928-523-6721 • patricia.ellsworth@nau.edu



Calendar of Events

December

- 4 **Grants.gov Workspace Training and Demonstration Webinar.** 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time • <https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/workspacetraining>
- 4 – 8 **National Association of Remedial Project Managers Training Program.** Denver, CO • <https://trainex.org/narpm2017>
- 5 **Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Pre-Application Conference Call.** 1:00 p.m. Pacific Time. • Call 1-866-299-3188 and enter conference code 202-564-0152.
- 6 **FY 19 GAP Notice of Funding Availability: Developing a Budget.** Webinar at 2:30 p.m. Pacific Time • Call 1-866-299-3188 and enter code 907-271-5083. • <https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/fy19nofa>
- 7 **ITEP Introductory Webinar to the VW Settlement for Tribes.** 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time • Call 1-415-655-0060 and enter access code 259-461-573 • <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3176247586848606723>
- 11 **Grants.gov Workspace Training and Demonstration Webinar (for Tribes).** 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time • <https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/workspacetraining>
- 12 – 14 **RTOC In-Person Meeting.** Seattle, WA • <http://region10rtoc.net/meetings>
- 13 **Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Pre-Application Conference Call (EJSCREEN Tutorial).** 12:30 p.m. Pacific Time. • Call 1-866-299-3188 and enter conference code 202-564-0152.
- 13 **FY 19 GAP Notice of Funding Availability: Tips and Forms for Grant Applications.** Webinar at 2:30 p.m. Pacific Time. • Call 1-866-299-3188 and enter code 907-271-5083 • <https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/fy19nofa/>
- 19 **Data Analysis and Reporting Tool for Air Quality Webinar.** 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time • Call 1-800-768-2983, and enter access code 5859608 • <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3252143575492758275>

January 2018

- 9 – 12 **Introduction to Tribal Air Quality.** Flagstaff, AZ • https://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air
- 11 **Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Pre-Application Conference Call (en Español).** 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time. • Call 1-866-299-3188 and enter conference code 202-564-0152.
- 18 **Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke Webinar 1.** 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time • Patricia Ellsworth • 928-523-6721 • patricia.ellsworth@nau.edu
- 23 **Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Pre-Application Conference Call.** 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time • Call 1-866-299-3188 and enter conference code 202-564-0152.
- 31 **National Stormwater Calculator for Managing Runoff Using Green Infrastructure.** Webinar at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time • <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5929804033268092674>

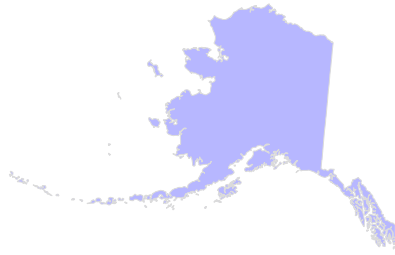
Calendar of Events

February

- 1** **Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke Webinar 2.** 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time. • Patricia Ellsworth • 928-523-6721 • patricia.ellsworth@nau.edu
- 1** **Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Pre-Application Conference Call.** 1:00 p.m. Pacific Time. • Call 1-866-299-3188 and enter conference code 202-564-0152.
- 12 – 16** **Alaska Forum on the Environment.** Anchorage, AK. • <http://www.akforum.org>
- 15** **Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke Webinar 3.** 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time. • Patricia Ellsworth • 928-523-6721 • patricia.ellsworth@nau.edu

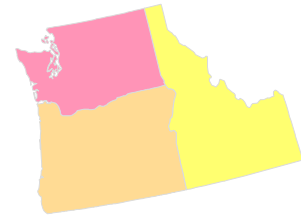
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Region 10 Tribal Newsletter

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Region 10 Tribal Program

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, RAD-202-2
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

Got News?

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

Don Creek

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

☎ 503-326-5015

✉ email creek.don@epa.gov

Helpful Links

R10 Tribal Programs:

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

EPA on Facebook:

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

Follow us @EPAnorthwest on Twitter!

<https://twitter.com/EPAnorthwest>

EPA Region 10 Tribal Trust and Assistance Unit Staff

Stacy Murphy, Unit Manager 206-553-2106

ALASKA

Todd Bender, Tribal Coordinator 206-553-0344

Katherine Brown, Tribal Coordinator 206-553-7263

Susan Conbere, Tribal Coordinator 206-553-6243

Michelle Davis, Tribal Coordinator 907-271-3434

Sherry Davis, Tribal Coordinator 907-271-6322

Santina Gay, Tribal Coordinator..... 907-271-3413

JR Herbst, Tribal Coordinator 206-553-2116

Nica Klaber, Tribal Coordinator..... 206-553-2570

Mahri Lowinger, Tribal Coordinator 907-271-6334

Michael Ortiz, Tribal Coordinator..... 206-553-6234

Neverley Shoemake, Tribal Coordinator ... 907-271-3206

Cathy Villa, Tribal Coordinator..... 907-271-1270

IDAHO, EASTERN & CENTRAL WASHINGTON, AND EASTERN OREGON

Jim Zokan, Tribal Coordinator..... 208-378-5691

WESTERN & CENTRAL OREGON, SOUTHWEST WASH

Kristine Carre, Tribal Coordinator..... 503-326-7024

Don Creek, SEE 503-326-5015

NORTHWEST WASHINGTON

Westley Foster, Tribal Coordinator 206-553-1604

Alan Moomaw, Tribal Coordinator 360-753-8071

REPORT SPILLS AND ACCIDENTS

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

ALASKA	800-478-9300
IDAHO.....	800-632-8000
OREGON	800-452-0311
WASHINGTON.....	800-258-5990
NATIONAL (EPA)	800-424-8802



To report environmental violation
tips and Complaints to the EPA:

<https://go.usa.gov/xNs7B>.