Tips to Keep the Holiday Season Green

The winter’s holidays are great for celebrating with family and friends. To keep the holiday season green, look for ways to reduce waste and environmental impact when shopping, decorating, and party planning.

- Think green when you shop. Try to buy items with minimal packaging, those made with recycled content, or consider giving homemade gifts. Keep an eye out for products that have as little environmental impacts as possible, such as electronics with the ENERGY STAR label. And remember to bring your reusable cloth shopping bag!
- Decorate with ENERGY STAR qualified decorative light strings that use less electricity.
- Wrap gifts in recycled or reused wrapping paper, and send recycled-content greeting cards. Be sure to recycle the wrapping paper and greeting cards after they’re used.
- If you travel over the holidays, carpool or use public transportation when feasible.
- If you host a party, set the table with cloth napkins and reusable dishes, cups, and silverware.
- When washing dishes, soak them with soapy water and rinse them at the same time. If you use a dishwasher, fill it up completely before you run it.
- Put leftovers or any baked goods in reusable containers and share with others.
- Check with your local solid waste department to find out when they collect used trees or look for ways to reuse it.

For more ideas on how you can reduce waste during the holidays, check out EPA’s Reducing Waste: What You Can Do website.

FY 2020-2021 National Water Program Guidance Early Tribal Engagement

EPA’s National Program Guidances communicate operational planning priorities, strategies, key activities and measures, and guides grant work planning with tribes, states, and territories. Over the past six months, EPA’s Office of Water conducted a robust consultation and outreach process to states and tribes to establish a set of core measures for EPA’s National Water Program. The core measures serve as the basis for the FY 2020-2021 National Water Program Guidance. Information on EPA’s FY 2020-2021 National Program Guidances development and tribal engagement is available on the National Program Guidance website and on page 12.

CONTACT: Chris Gollan ● 202-564-8056 ● Gollan.Christopher@epa.gov
IGAP Grant Closeout Best Practices

With the end of the calendar year fast approaching, some EPA grant recipients have a grant closeout due. A closeout is the process by which EPA determines that all projects funded by a grant or cooperative agreement are completed and administrative requirements are met. A successful closeout is important because it may affect future agency funding decisions.

Closeouts are due 90 days after the last day of a grant’s project and budget period. Generally, IGAP grants last for four years. If your tribe’s four-year IGAP grant began on October 1, 2014 (FY 2015) and ended on September 30, 2018 (FY 2018), then your closeout is due 90 days later — or by December 29, 2018. If you aren’t sure if closeout is due, please refer to your grant agreement’s end date or contact your Project Officer.

As you prepare to close out a grant, take time to review past year’s work plans, budgets, and progress reports to see if there is any work that remains. It’s also important to collect receipts and deliverables, review timesheets, and submit any missing items to EPA. A thoughtful review of previous work plans and reports can help identify meaningful accomplishments, challenges encountered, and improvements for the future.

The first step in completing a grant closeout is to make the final drawdown or payment. You can make drawdowns to pay any bills and to cover payroll costs for work or expenses charged before the end of your grant. But, no new charges should be made, even if there is unspent money remaining. Don’t 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.

Las Vegas Finance Center
- Final Drawdown.
- 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 email to lvfc-grants@epa.gov or by postal mail to 4220 Maryland Parkway, Bldg. C, Room 503, Las Vegas, NV 89119.

Project Officer
- Submit any remaining deliverables.

Describe all activities conducted during the grant in your final report. Consider organizing the report by year or topic. The report must include a comparison of accomplishments against work plan commitments, an evaluation of the effectiveness of work performed, any existing or potential problems (such as staff turnover or natural disasters that affected accomplishments), and suggestions for improvement.

To obtain example Final Performance and Technical Reports, success stories, or for templates you may use, check out EPA’s new Tools for Tribes webpage or contact your EPA Project Officer.
IGAP Grant Closeout Best Practices

Grant Specialist

- **Equipment Inventory Report.**

  Equipment is defined as any one item that cost $5,000 or more and has a useful life of one year or more (like a snow machine, truck, or boat). If your tribe or organization purchased any equipment during the grant period - then you must submit a report that provides a description of each item, original date of purchase, original cost, and its estimated value and condition today. It must also include the disposal method, which is written into your grant agreement under Equipment Disposition. The disposal method is typically 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 [Minority Business Enterprise /Woman Enterprise Utilization report](https://www.epa.gov/grants-and-funding/mbewbe-report) (a.k.a. MBE/WBE, EPA Form 5700-52A). If this situation applies to your grant, please refer to that condition for specific requirements. Note that MBE/WBE reporting does not apply to most IGAP grants.

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

For more information on grant closeout requirements, check out EPA’s [Frequent Questions About Closeout](https://www.epa.gov/grants-and-funding/igap-frequent-questions-about-closeout) website or contact your EPA Project Officer.

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2017 Toxics Release Inventory Available

The complete 2017 Toxics Release Inventory dataset is available. It contains data about chemical releases, other waste management and pollution prevention activities that took place at more than 20,000 federal and industrial facilities across the country.

The 2017 TRI data is available in the EPA’s online [Envirofacts](https://www.epa.gov/envirofacts) database, [Online TRI Tools](https://www.epa.gov/ TRI), and [Data files on the TRI website](https://www.epa.gov/2017-toxics-release-inventory-data). EPA will use this dataset to construct the 2017 TRI National Analysis, planned for publication next month.

Map showing the geographic distribution of TRI reporting facilities in the United States
**Join EPA’s Tribal Emergency Notification System**

EPA is launching an outreach effort to encourage tribes to participate in the federal government’s emergency notification process, in the event of oil and hazardous chemical spills. Many notification systems already exist at the state, tribal, and local levels, and EPA wants to build upon the existing infrastructure and improve communication with tribes.

To sign up, tribes must fill out an application that can be requested by email to nrc@uscg.mil or fax to 202-267-1322. If you have questions about the application, contact the National Response Center’s Senior Watch Officer at 202-372-2430. To learn more about the National Response System and tribal notifications, check out EPA’s National Response Center website.

In the event of a spill or hazardous substance release in your community, please contact the National Response Center by calling 1-800-424-8802.

**Apply for a President’s Environmental Youth Award**

The President’s Environmental Youth Award program recognizes outstanding environmental stewardship projects by K-12 youth, promoting awareness of natural resources and encouraging positive community involvement. Winners of this year’s awards will be invited to a ceremony in Washington, D.C. and have their project mentioned on EPA’s website. EPA will select up to two winners in each of EPA’s ten regions – one regional winner for grades K-5 and one regional winner for grades 6-12. All student projects must be sponsored by at least one adult over the age of 21.

Applications are due February 1. Check out the President’s Environmental Youth Award website for information on how to apply and other details. If you have questions, please send an email to PEYA@epa.gov.

**HUD’s Healthy Homes Youth App**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development released a new app to help middle-schoolers learn about their home’s indoor environment, focusing on actions they can take to have a healthy home.

Content was developed to educate middle school youth on healthy homes principles in a preteen-friendly format. Instructions on how to download the app are available on HUD’s Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes website.
Vote for NTOC and RTOC Tribal Representatives

EPA Region 10 is holding elections for two National Tribal Operations Committee and R Region 10 Tribal Operations Committee positions. EPA sent the official ballots for these elections to the tribes in mid-November. The deadline for tribes to vote is December 7. The candidates for each position are listed below.


Each federally recognized tribe within the geographic area is limited to one vote. 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 NTOC.

To learn more about the RTOC in Region 10 check out their website or refer to the RTOC News section on pages 8-9.

CONTACT: JR Herbst ● 206-553-2116 ● herbst.john@epa.gov  
Michelle Davis ● 907-271-3434 ● davis.michellev@epa.gov
Alaska News

National Tribal Water Council Seeks Alaska Representative

The National Tribal Water Council is a technical and scientific body created to assist the EPA, tribes, and tribal organizations with research and water-related concerns. The NTWC is seeking two tribal water professionals for three-year terms — one from Alaska and one representing the Navajo Nation. The NTWC meets monthly by teleconference and twice a year in person. Applications are due December 21 by email to Elaine Wilson at elaine.wilson@nau.edu.

Opportunity to Participate in Backhaul Alaska

Backhaul Alaska coordinates the shipping of waste materials from rural communities in Alaska to recycling and disposal facilities. Funding to develop this new initiative has been provided by the EPA, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Backhaul Alaska is currently testing its concept in eleven communities. The program is currently offering the opportunity for additional communities to participate in a second test phase, called Pilot 2. Participating communities in Pilot 2 will receive free backhaul shipping, supplies, assistance, and training. Pilot 2 will run from the spring of 2019 through the summer of 2020, with most backhaul events scheduled for the summer of 2020.

Communities located within the following service provider regions are encouraged to apply: Association of Village Council Presidents, Bristol Bay Native Association, Kodiak Area Native Association, Kawerak Inc., Maniilaq Association, and Tanana Chiefs Conference. Priority will be given to communities that can demonstrate community interest and involvement. Applicants must also meet the following requirements.

- Designated point of contact who is available throughout the pilot period. The point of contact must have two years of experience in environmental programs or handling and managing solid waste.
- Ability to pay for staff work hours including backhaul temporary labor (using IGAP or other funds).
- Demonstrated proof of worker’s compensation insurance.
- Signed participation agreement that outlines responsibilities and liabilities.

Application forms are available on the Backhaul Alaska website and are due December 16. If you have questions, please send an email to Backhaul Alaska at Info@BackhaulAlaska.org.
Farewell to Alaska Tribal Solid Waste Liaison
Ted Jacobson

On September 30, EPA bid farewell to Ted Jacobson, who served as EPA’s Alaska Tribal Solid Waste Liaison for 12 years. Ted provided extensive technical assistance to tribes on waste management and provided workshops tailored to meet specific community needs. Training courses attended by many tribes over the years included Operating Heavy Equipment in a Landfill, Household Hazardous Waste Identification and Handling, and Rural Alaska Landfill Operator or Administrator training (RALO).

Through his position, Ted was a leader in expanding the knowledge and capacity of solid waste management in rural Alaska. He collaborated with industry partners, educators, and vendors nationally and abroad, to promote the development and integration of new technologies to tackle solid waste management challenges in rural Alaska. In recognition of his efforts, Ted received several awards including the Walter Porter Lifetime Achievement Award from the Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management and an Environmental Excellence Award from the Alaska Forum on the Environment. Prior to EPA, Ted worked in the solid waste field for over 30 years, having started his career as an equipment operator in the Ketchikan landfill located in southeast Alaska. EPA is grateful for his dedicated service and wishes him well as he moves on to new adventures.

Welcome Jim Penor —
New Alaska Tribal Solid Waste Liaison

Jim Penor is the new Alaska Tribal Solid Waste Liaison. He recently retired from the City of Juneau as Solid Waste Coordinator. Jim began his 45-year career in the waste management industry at the Olympic View Landfill in Bremerton, Washington, salvaging metals generated from the Bremerton Naval ship yard. Jim has held positions at municipalities and private waste management firms as a landfill equipment operator, as well as in collection divisions and in landfill management. Throughout his career, he has been recognized for his leadership on innovative initiatives and has been called upon for his expertise by state and federal agencies to share his perspectives on waste management policy. Jim is available to provide solid waste technical assistance to tribes in Alaska. He can be reached at 907-500-4963 or Penor.James@epa.gov.
Warmhouse Beach Superfund Site Newsletter Available

EPA posted the October issue of Warmhouse Beach Dump Superfund Site newsletter — qidiqabíit. The Warmhouse Beach Dump site is on the Makah Reservation in Neah Bay, Washington. The newsletter is designed to let you know about what’s happening at the site, opportunities to get involved, and information resources. The October issue features an update on what’s happening at the dump, the data that’s being analyzed, how the risk assessment process works, an upcoming asbestos removal at the site, and more. Check it out on the EPA’s Superfund Site: Makah Reservation Warmhouse Beach Dump website.

CONTACT: Debra Sherbina ● 1-800-424-4372, extension 0247 ● Sherbina.debra@epa.gov

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RTOC News

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.

Upcoming RTOC Meetings

- December 11-13 ● Quarterly Meeting ● Seattle, WA
- January 17 ● Conference Call

Submit Meeting Discussion Topics

Continued ➜
We’re Hiring!  
RTOC Executive Director

The RTOC Executive Director oversees all aspects of RTOC planning, budget development, grant writing, organization, outreach, and management of staff. Duties include coordination with EPA staff, outreach to tribes, and communication regarding the mission and work of the RTOC to tribes within EPA Region 10.

Other responsibilities include management and administration, fiscal/grant development and management, communications, RTOC member assistance, RTOC meeting planning and coordination, strategic planning and evaluating effectiveness of operations, hiring contractors, and overseeing the Tribal Environmental Leader’s Summit Coordinator. Check out the full [RTOC Executive Director Job Description](#)!

To apply, please email cover letter, resume, and three references to policy.analyst@region10rtoc.net. The subject line of the email should read “RTOC Executive Director Application”.

Vote by December 7 for 2018 NTOC and RTOC Representatives

Tribal representatives to the NTOC and RTOC are elected by tribal governments within specific geographic areas. 2018 elections include the following positions:

1. NTOC Alaska Position 2.
3. RTOC Alaska Position 3.
4. RTOC Idaho Position.
5. RTOC Western Washington Position.

Visit the RTOC website to [view the list](#) of nominees with biographies and attached ballots.

Save the Date

2019 Tribal Environmental Leaders Summit

March 6-8, 2019

Portland, OR

The 2018 TELS Report is [posted on the RTOC Tribal Leaders Summit](#) website and has been shared on the RTOC Facebook page.

CONTACT: Carm Bohnee, RTOC TELS Coordinator ● telscoordinator@region10rtoc.net

Stay Engaged with Us

- [Follow us on Facebook](#) for the most up to date news and opportunities.
- If you wish to attend or add an agenda item to a monthly meeting, or if you have questions, comments, or suggestions for how RTOC can better serve your community — please contact the [RTOC representative for your area](#) or the Interim RTOC Coordinator, Randi Madison.

CONTACT: Randi Madison, Interim RTOC Coordinator ● communications@region10rtoc.net
Tribal Consultation

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

Review and Anticipated Approval of the 2018 Puget Sound Action Agenda

END DATE: December 13.

The 2018 Puget Sound Action Agenda Update is intended to serve as the region’s shared vision for Puget Sound protection and recovery. The Puget Sound Leadership Council will adopt the entire 2018 Action Agenda before submitting it to EPA for final approval. As required by the Clean Water Act, the EPA must review and approve, conditionally approve, or disapprove the plan.

CONTACT: Lisa Chang ● 206-553-0226 ● chang.lisa@epa.gov

Emission Standards for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources Reconsideration

END DATE: December 14.

This action proposes amendments to the New Source Performance Standards for the Oil and Natural Gas source category based on EPA’s reconsideration of those standards. On June 3, 2016, EPA published a final rule titled “Oil and Natural Gas Sector: Emission Standards for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources,” at 81 FR 35824. The 2016 rule established standards for emissions of greenhouse gases, in the form of limitations on methane, and volatile organic compounds from the oil and natural gas sector. Following promulgation of the final rule, the Administrator received petitions for reconsideration of several provisions of the 2016 rule.

With the Oil and Gas reconsideration rule, EPA is specifically proposing to reduce the monitoring frequency for fugitive emissions (also known as “leaks”) at well sites and compressor stations, to revise the requirements for pneumatic pumps at well sites, and requirements that a professional engineer certify when meeting those requirements is technically infeasible, to allow either a professional engineer or an in-house engineer with adequate knowledge to certify the design of closed vent systems, and to provide alternative standards for fugitive emissions requirements based on equivalent state programs.

EPA recognizes that numerous oil and gas facilities are located throughout Indian country. The Agency also acknowledges that many tribes were interested and involved in the development of the 2012 and 2016 Oil and Natural Gas Sector NSPS and might have an interest in engaging on these proposed amendments. EPA invites tribal consultation prior to issuing the final rule. If there are questions about the proposed reconsideration of the oil and natural gas sector NSPS, tribes may request an informal discussion.

CONTACT: Toni Colón ● 919-541-0069 ● colon.toni@epa.gov

Continued ➔
Clean Water Act Section 404 Assumption Regulation Update

END DATE: December 21.

The Clean Water Act affirms the role of tribes and states to manage their water resources, and explicitly provides an option for authorized tribes and states to assume responsibility for the dredged or fill permitting program pursuant to Section 404(g). In the Spring 2018 Regulatory Agenda, the EPA announced its plan for the first comprehensive revision to the existing Clean Water Act Section 404(g) regulations since 1988. The Administration recognizes the need for greater clarity on the requirements for state and tribal assumption of the Section 404 permitting program and identifies this issue as one of its priorities. The Agency intends to modernize these regulations and foster a greater interest in assuming this authority by authorized tribes and states.

During the consultation process, the EPA is particularly interested in receiving tribal input on potential impediments to assumption, areas of the existing regulation that could benefit from clarity, and practical implications of assumption. Additional information on state and tribal assumption of the CWA section 404 permit program and this rulemaking activity can be found on EPA's State or Tribal Assumption of the Section 404 Permit Program website.

CONTACT: Lauren Kasparek ● 202-564-3351 ● 404grulemaking@epa.gov

Adopting Subpart Ba Requirements in Emissions Guidelines for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills

END DATE: January 3.

The proposed Municipal Solid Waste Landfills rule changes the regulatory text to cross-reference the new implementation requirements at 40 CFR part 60, subpart Ba to align with the August 2018 proposed Affordable Clean Energy rule, which addresses emission guidelines timing regulations. The proposed ACE rule included a new implementing regulation for Clean Air Act section 111(d) that would change the timing requirements for the submission of state plans, EPA’s review of state plans, and the issuance of federal plans. In addition, the new implementing regulation would include new completeness criteria modeled after those that apply to state implementation plans submitted under CAA section 110.

EPA is specifically proposing new timing requirements for MSW landfills to extend state plan submission deadlines to August 29, 2019, new timing requirements for MSW landfills that would extend the timing to 2 years for EPA to promulgate a federal plan for states that fail to submit an approvable state plan, and EPA would review submitted state plans for completeness within 6 months from submission and review for approval within 12 months of the completeness review. MSW landfill affected facilities may be located throughout Indian country. If you believe your tribe could be affected by these proposed actions, please consult with EPA prior to the Agency issuing the final rule. If your tribe has questions about the proposed rule, you may request an informal discussion. For more information, check out EPA’s Municipal Solid Waste Landfills: NSPS, EG and Compliance Times website.

CONTACT: Toni Colón ● 919-541-0069 ● colon.toni@epa.gov
FY 2020-2021 National Program Guidances

END DATE: March 18, 2019.

The National Program Guidances communicate operational planning priorities, strategies, key activities and measures, and guide grant work planning with tribes, states, and territories. The following eight EPA offices issue National Program Guidances: Office of Water, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, Office of Air and Radiation, Office of Land and Emergency Management, Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, Office of Environmental Information, Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, and Office of International and Tribal Affairs.

EPA’s consultation and coordination process will include several opportunities for meaningful input. As part of early engagement, the EPA’s Regional Administrators will convene meetings with tribal, state, and territory leaders as a critical first phase to inform development of the FY 2020-2021 National Program Guidances. National Program Offices will continue to engage with the National Tribal Caucus, tribal partnership groups, and other relevant organizations, and will consider this feedback together with the results of the RAs’ early engagement efforts, in developing their National Program Guidances.

The EPA will make available draft National Program Guidances on the National Program Guidance website for a 30-day external review and comment period. The review and comment period is planned for February 14, 2019 through March 18, 2019. A template will be posted on the National Program Guidance website for tribes to use to provide written comments. Two national conference calls for tribes are planned for February 26 and March 7, 2019 to discuss the National Program Guidances.

CONTACT: Emily Heller ● 202-564-3332 ● heller.emily@epa.gov

NOAA 2019 Marine Debris Research Grant

APPLICATIONS DUE: December 14.

This opportunity provides funding for research directly related to marine debris through field, laboratory, and modeling experiments. Successful project proposals will explore the ecological risk associated with marine debris, determine debris exposure levels, examine the fate and transport of marine debris in nearshore coastal environments, and/or quantify habitat impacts resulting from marine debris. Projects may address one or more of these research priorities and should be original, hypothesis-driven projects that have not previously been addressed to scientific standards.

Typical awards will range from $150,000 - $250,000. Eligible applicants include state, local, tribal and territory governments, institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, or commercial organizations with expertise in a field related to marine debris.

For details about this funding opportunity, check out NOAA’s Marine Debris Program website.

CONTACT: Peter Murphy ● 206-526-4661 ● peter.murphy@noaa.gov
National Estuary Program Coastal Watersheds Grant

APPLICATIONS DUE: December 20.

EPA is soliciting applications to administer a competitive subaward through the National Estuary Program Coastal Watersheds Grant addressing urgent and challenging issues that threaten the ecological and economic well-being of coastal and estuarine areas. The applicant selected under this announcement will be funded under one assistance agreement. The total amount of funding expected under this announcement is approximately $4 million.

Eligible applicants include state, interstate, tribal, intertribal consortia, regional water pollution control agencies and entities, state coastal zone management agencies, and other public or nonprofit private agencies, institutions, and organizations. Applicants must have the ability to work within all the geographic areas defined in the Request for Applications (including areas in and beyond Region 10) and be capable of undertaking activities that advance NEP coastal watershed priorities. The full RFA available on EPA’s Estuaries and the National Estuary Program website.

USDA Solid Waste Management Grants

APPLICATIONS DUE: December 31.

The Solid Waste Management Grant Program is designed to assist communities through free technical assistance and training provided by the grant recipients. Qualified organizations will receive grant funds to reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources and improve planning and management of solid waste sites in rural areas.

Funds may be used to evaluate current landfill conditions to determine threats to water resources, provide technical assistance and/or training to enhance operator skills in the maintenance and operation of active landfills, provide technical assistance and/or training to reduce the solid waste stream, and provide technical assistance and/or training for operators of landfills in rural areas which are closed or will be closed (with the development or implementation of closure plans), future land use plans, safety and maintenance planning, and closure scheduling within permit requirements.

Eligible entities include state and local governments, nonprofit organizations, tribes, and academic institutions serving rural areas and towns with a population of 10,000 or less. Application details, including a 2019 Solid Waste Management Application Guide is available on USDA’s Solid Waste Management Grants website.

2018 Targeted Airshed Grants

APPLICATIONS DUE: January 4.

The overall goal of the Targeted Airshed Grant Program is to reduce air pollution in the nation’s areas with the highest levels of ozone and PM$_{2.5}$ ambient air concentrations. This program will assist local, state, or tribal air pollution control agencies to develop plans and conduct projects to reduce air pollution in nonattainment areas. EPA anticipates awarding a total of approximately 8-12 assistance agreements from this announcement. The Request for Applications and other details are available on EPA’s 2018 Targeted Airshed Grants website.
HUD FY 2018 Indian Community Development Block Grant

APPLICATIONS DUE: January 7.

The Indian Community Development Block Grant program provides tribes and tribal organizations with grants for use in developing viable Indian and Alaska Native communities, including decent housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities - primarily for low and moderate-income persons. The ICDBG program can provide funding for housing, community facilities, or economic development. The ICDBG Notice of Funding Availability is on HUD’s Indian Community Development Block Grant Program website. NOFA related questions can be sent by email to ONAP-ICDBG@hud.gov.

FY 2020 Indian Environmental General Assistance Program

PROPOSALS DUE: January 31.

The EPA Region 10 Notice of Funding Availability for FY 2020 Indian Environmental General Assistance Program is available on EPA’s Region 10 Tribal Environmental GAP Funding website. IGAP grants help tribes and tribal consortia build capacity for developing and administering environmental protection programs. The NOFA describes everything you need to know to prepare and submit your IGAP grant application. Please read the NOFA carefully before drafting your proposal, as some requirements have changed. EPA Region 10 will host a series of webinars for applicants on the NOFA. The webinar schedule is on page 20 and is available on the Region 10 Tribal Environmental GAP Funding website. If you have questions about the NOFA, please contact your tribe’s IGAP Project Officer.

2019 Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grants

PROPOSALS DUE: January 31.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Wildlife Habitat Council in cooperation with the EPA, USDA Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, FedEx, Southern Company, Shell Oil Company, and BNSF Railway are pleased to solicit applications for the 2019 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 include a variety of ecological improvements along with targeted community outreach, education, and stewardship.

Funding levels range from $10,000 to $40,000, with $20,000 as the average amount awarded. Grants should span 12 to 18 months in length with a start date in July 2019. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations, state, local, and municipal governments, tribes, and educational institutions.

For more information on the Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program, see EPA’s 5 Star Wetland and Urban Waters Restoration Grants website.
2020 Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program

PROPOSALS DUE: January 31.

The Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Subsistence Management administers the Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program (Partners Program). OSM is seeking proposals for the Partners Program that strengthens Alaska Native and rural involvement in federal subsistence management.

The Partners Program is a competitive grant that funds biologists, social scientists, and outreach or educator positions with the intent of increasing the organizations ability to participate in federal subsistence management. The program also supports opportunities for local and rural students to connect with subsistence resource monitoring and management through science camps and paid internships. Applications are encouraged from rural public and private educational organizations, Alaska Native and rural non-profit organizations, and federally recognized tribal governments. The 2020 Notice of Funding Opportunity and other information is available on the U.S. Department of Interior’s Partners for Fisheries Monitoring website.

Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grants Program

PROPOSALS DUE: February 4.

The U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities, Inc. (Endowment) published the 2019 Request for Proposals for the Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program. Up to $1.2 million is available in 2019 for projects that accelerate strategic protection of healthy freshwater ecosystems, and their watersheds.

Applicants should focus on protection and stewardship of land in the watershed, rather than restoration of degraded habitats, or projects with a strictly water quality improvement outcome. In 2019, priority will be given to proposals that maximize measurable outcomes for watershed protection.

The Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program is a partnership that includes the Endowment, the EPA Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds, and USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service.

CONTACT: Peter Stangel ● 404-915-2763 ● peter@usendowment.org
Jeff Lerner ● 202-236-1883 ● jalanlerner@gmail.com
Federal Emergency Management Agency
FY 2018 Grants

APPLICATIONS DUE: January 31.

Flood Mitigation Assistance
The Flood Mitigation Assistance Program makes federal funds available to state, local, and tribal governments to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program.

FEMA will seek to fund two types of community flood mitigation activities: advance assistance for flood mitigation design and development of community flood mitigation projects, and mitigation projects that address community flood risk for reducing NFIP flood claim payments. The remaining funding, will be used for FMA technical assistance, mitigation planning, and mitigation projects reducing risk to severe repetitive loss and repetitive loss properties. Applicants may submit a maximum of one advanced assistance and one community mitigation project sub-application.

Details on this grants notice are on the grants.gov website. Applicants must submit applications via the Mitigation eGrants system on the FEMA Grants Portal website.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation
The Pre-Disaster Mitigation program makes federal funds available to state, local, and tribal governments to implement and sustain cost-effective measures designed to reduce the risk to individuals and property from natural hazards, while also reducing reliance on federal funding from future disasters.

FEMA will provide allocations of $575,000 to states and territories, and a tribal set aside of $15 million for allocations up to $575,000 for tribal governments to support overall mitigation planning and projects. The remaining PDM funds will be awarded on a competitive basis with a focus on multi-state/tribal mitigation initiatives.

Applicants may submit a maximum of nine project sub-applications notwithstanding any project(s) submitted for the state/territory allocation or tribal set aside. In addition, any state or tribe willing to serve as the applicant for a multi-state or tribal activity may submit one additional plan or project sub application.

Details about this grants notice are on the grants.gov website. Applicants must submit applications via the Mitigation eGrants system on the FEMA Grants Portal website.

2019 Environmental Justice Small Grants
PROPOSALS DUE: February 15.

The Environmental Justice Small Grants program supports community-driven projects designed to engage, educate, and empower communities to better understand local environmental and public health issues and develop strategies for addressing those issues, building consensus in the community, and setting community priorities. Given projected increases in extreme weather events and the vulnerability of underserved populations, this opportunity will emphasize projects that address emergency preparedness and increase resiliency, as well as projects that include the needs of U.S. military veterans and homeless populations.

Continued ⇒
2019 Environmental Justice Small Grants

EPA anticipates awarding approximately 50 grants of up to $30,000 each for one-year projects (five grants for each of EPA’s ten regions). Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations, federally recognized tribal governments, and tribal organizations.

Potential applicants are invited to participate in pre-application assistance conference calls with EPA to address questions about the EJSG program and this solicitation. The conference calls can be accessed by dialing 1-866-299-3188 and entering 202-564-6349. The conference call schedule is as follows:

- **December 13** at 12:30 pm Pacific Time (EJSCREEN Tutorial).
- **January 16** (en Español) at 11:00 am Pacific Time.
- **January 23** at 1:00 Pacific Time.
- **January 31** at 4:00 pm Pacific Time.

For more information about this grant opportunity, check out EPA’s Environmental Justice Small Grants Program website.

Alaska DEC Brownfields Assessments and Cleanup Service

APPLICATIONS DUE: March 1.

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation assists Alaskan communities by conducting environmental site assessments, a limited cleanup effort, and characterization/cleanup planning. Using funds from the EPA, DEC will conduct Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup projects (DBAC) at eligible properties in Alaska. A DBAC is intended to help reduce the environmental uncertainties or conditions that hinder the reuse or redevelopment of an eligible property. DBAC objectives are to help clarify whether an environmental problem is limiting a site’s use or intended reuse or redevelopment, identify the nature and extent of contamination, provide recommendations and estimate costs for additional assessment, if needed, and when funding is available - conduct cleanup activities designed to enable reuse of a site.

DBAC services are available to public, quasi-public or nonprofit entities such as municipalities, tribal governments, native corporations, and community development organizations interested in redeveloping abandoned or underutilized properties. Details about this funding opportunity are available on the Alaska DEC Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Service website.

CONTACT: Lisa Griswold • 907-269-2021 • lisa.griswold@alaska.gov
**Tribal Clean Diesel Funding FY 2018**

APPLICATIONS DUE: April 3.

EPA’s Office of Transportation and Air Quality is soliciting applications for 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.

Eligible diesel emission reduction solutions include verified emission control technologies such as exhaust controls, cleaner fuels, and engine upgrades, verified idle reduction technologies, verified aerodynamic technologies and low rolling resistance tires, certified engine replacements, and/or certified vehicle or equipment replacement. Eligible diesel vehicles, engines and equipment may include buses, Class 5 – Class 8 heavy-duty highway vehicles, marine engines, locomotives and nonroad engines, equipment or vehicles used in construction, handling of cargo, agriculture, mining, or energy production.

Eligible entities include tribal governments or intertribal consortia that have jurisdiction over transportation or air quality. The maximum amount of funding requested is $800,000. EPA anticipates awarding 2-8 cooperative agreements nationally.

An informational webinar about the FY 2018 Tribal DERA RFA will be held on February 21 at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time. To join, click on the link to webinar on the Clean Diesel Tribal Grants website, and call 202-991-0477 with access code 414-9804.

For more details, check out EPA’s Tribal Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program FY 2018 website. Questions about DERA funding may be directed to cleandiesel@epa.gov.

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**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.

**Food Waste Diversion and Composting Programs on Tribal Lands**

**December 11-13**, San Diego, CA

During this Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals course participants will hear from tribal professionals who oversee successful food waste diversion programs and will visit a biodigester and a compost operation. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions of tribal professionals that have implemented different strategies for dealing with food waste. The course is limited to 20 participants. Applications are available on ITEP’s Waste and Response Training Schedule website.

CONTACT: Julie Jurkowski ● 928-523-9404 ● Julie.Jurkowski@nau.edu
Air Quality in Alaska

December 11-14, Fairbanks, AK

This is an entry level ITEP course for environmental staff from Alaska who are interested in air quality issues. The content is basic and assumes the participant has no background in science or air quality management. The course provides an understanding of the importance of clean air (outdoors and indoors) for the protection of human health and the environment.

Instructors and participants will explore ways to solve air quality problems, protect human health, and preserve cultural values. There will be hands-on practice with a comprehensive assessment checklist used to identify indoor air quality problems, and a visit to the Cold Climate Housing Research Center. Details are available on ITEP’s Air Quality Trainings Schedule website.

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

Soil Stabilization and Dust Abatement

December 12, Fairbanks, AK

This Tribal Technical Assistance Program class provides attendees with an overview of dust control requirements and current strategies for preventing, mitigating, and controlling dust on roads. Students will learn the effects that vegetation removal, wind, and mechanical movement of soil have on roads. Students will also gain an understanding of soil modification methods and how to preserve fines with dust suppressants. There is no cost and the class is open to everyone including tribal, city, and maintenance workers. For more information check out the Tribal Technical Assistance Program Class Enrollment website.

ITEP Student Summer Internship Program

HOST SITE APPLICATIONS DUE: January 18.

The ITEP at Northern Arizona University is seeking intern host sites for their student summer internship program. Tribal environmental offices, EPA offices, and other tribal environmental organizations can apply to host a college student for eight weeks during the months of June, July, and August. The intern will complete a new or ongoing project directly related to air quality, which will benefit the student, agency, and the environment. To apply to host a summer intern, submit an application on ITEP’s Environmental Education Outreach Program website.

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

Air Quality Computations

January 29-February 1, Phoenix, AZ

This ITEP course enhances the skills needed to work with air quality measurements. It is designed for tribal environmental personnel who have limited experience in air quality data computations. Brief lectures will be mixed with activities in which participants practice skills and learn to apply the math to air quality work. Each participant will have access to a calculator and/or computer as needed. Applicants will complete a pre-course assignment and there will be homework each evening. Prior completion of ITEP’s Introduction to Tribal Air Quality course (or a basic familiarity with air quality topics) is strongly recommended. Details are available on ITEP’s Air Quality Trainings Schedule website.

CONTACT: Patricia Ellsworth • 928-523-6721 • Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu
Region 10 Alaska IGAP Training

January 15-18, Anchorage, AK

The EPA Region 10 Tribal Trust and Assistance Unit will host an IGAP Grant Workshop in Anchorage. The workshop will offer a variety of sessions and TTAU staff are exploring opportunities for participants to earn a mentor or student certificate, including college credits. Registration information will be shared soon. If you have Alaska IGAP Workshop questions or comments, please contact Santina Gay by email at gay.santina@epa.gov.

Region 10 IGAP Grant Training Webinars

EPA Region 10 is hosting a series of webinars with the goal of improving grant recipient understanding of grant requirements and common environmental topics. Details will be shared when the specific dates are determined.

Join the webinars on EPA’s Region 10 IGAP Training Adobe Connect website. For audio call 1-866-299-3188 and enter conference code 907-271-5083.

DECEMBER 10 at 2:00 p.m. Alaska Time – EPA’s Indirect Cost Rate Policy. This webinar will discuss EPA’s new policy on indirect costs and how it affects grant recipients in Region 10.

JANUARY 3 at 1:30 p.m. Alaska Time – Grant Application Tips and Forms. This webinar will discuss the required application forms for submitting a FY 2020 IGAP application and will include tips for preparing final applications.

FEBRUARY 7 at 10:00 a.m. Alaska Time - Grants.Gov Workspace. This webinar will feature an online demonstration of Grants.gov application submission procedures.

CONTACT: Susan Conbere ● 206-553-6243 ● Conbere.susan@epa.gov
Calendar of Events

December

10  Region 10 EPA Indirect Cost Rate Policy. Webinar at 2:00 p.m. Alaska Time. Call 1-866-299-3188, and enter code 9072715083 ● http://bit.ly/2BzJi4M
11 – 13  Food Waste Diversion and Composting Programs on Tribal Lands. San Diego, CA http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_waste
12  Soil Stabilization and Dust Abatement. Fairbanks, AK ● https://ttap.enrollware.com/enroll?id=2316631
13  Environmental Justice Small Grant Program Pre-Application Assistance Conference Call (EJSCREEN Tutorial). 12:30 p.m. Pacific Time ● Call 1-866-299-3188, enter code 202-564-6349
18  Alaska Tribal Air Workgroup Quarterly Call. 10:00 a.m. Alaska Time Call 1-800-832-0736 and enter code 6298822 ● http://anthc.adobeconnect.com/airquality
18  Planning for Natural Disaster Debris on Tribal Lands. Webinar at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time http://bit.ly/2r86TTY
18  Alaska LEO Network Monthly Webinar. 2:00 p.m. Alaska Time ● http://www.leonetwork.org

January 2019

3  Region 10 FY 20 IGAP Grant Application and Tips. Webinar at 1:30 p.m. Alaska Time Call 1-866-299-3188, and enter code 9072715083 ● http://bit.ly/2BzJi4M
15 – 18  Region 10 Alaska IGAP Workshop. Anchorage, AK CONTACT: Santina Gay ● 907-271-3413 gay.santina@epa.gov
16  Environmental Justice Small Grant Program Pre-Application Assistance Conference Call (en Español) 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time ● Call 1-866-299-3188, and enter code 202-564-6349
17  Region 10 RTOC Conference Call. 1:00 p.m. Pacific Time ● http://region10rtoc.net/meetings
22  Alaska LEO Network Monthly Webinar. 2:00 p.m. Alaska Time ● http://www.leonetwork.org
23  Environmental Justice Small Grant Program Pre-Application Assistance Conference Call. 1:00 p.m. Pacific Time ● Call 1-866-299-3188, and enter code 202-564-6349
29 – Feb. 1  Air Quality Computations. Phoenix, AZ https://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air
31  Environmental Justice Small Grant Program Pre-Application Assistance Conference Call. 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time ● Call 1-866-299-3188, and enter code 202-564-6349

February

19  Alaska LEO Network Monthly Webinar. 2:00 p.m. Alaska Time ● http://www.leonetwork.org
21  FY 2018 Tribal Clean Diesel Funding Informational Webinar. 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time Call 202-991-0477, and enter code 4149804 ● https://meet.lync.com/usepa/swift.faye/6WCB1M71

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Region 10 Tribal Program
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155, RAD-122
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

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Don Creek, SEE............................... 503-326-5015

IDAHO, WASHINGTON & EASTERN OREGON
Westley Foster, Tribal Coordinator......... 206-553-1604
Alan Moomaw, Tribal Coordinator......... 360-753-8071

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

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