

## About ATSDR

ATSDR's mission is to serve the public by using the best science, taking responsive public health actions, and providing trusted health information to prevent harmful exposures and disease related to toxic substances. ATSDR's primary divisions and services include:

### Division of Health Assessment and Consultation

Conducts public health assessments, evaluates exposure pathways, identifies appropriate intervention to prevent exposure, provides broad-based public health assistance and consultation on environmental issues, and issues public health advisories.

### Division of Health Studies

Performs epidemiological investigations, designs and conducts human exposure investigations, and provides medical consultation.

### Division of Toxicology

Coordinates all activities associated with the development of substance-specific toxicological profiles, provides substance-specific consultations, identifies and publishes a priority list of substances of greatest concern in the environment.

### Division of Health Education and Promotion

Develops and implements programs that educate individuals and communities on the health effects of hazardous substances.



## Want More Information?

### ATSDR Web Site

[www.atsdr.cdc.gov](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov)

### OTA Web Site

[www.atsdr.cdc.gov/tribal](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/tribal)

### ATSDR's Office of Tribal Affairs

1600 Clifton Rd, Mail Stop E-32  
Atlanta, GA 30333

### Toll Free Number

1-888-42-ATSDR (1-888-422-8737)

### OTA Staff

Dean Seneca  
*Assistant Director*

Alan Crawford  
*Environmental Scientist*

Jasen Kunz  
*Environmental Scientist*



Agency for Toxic Substances  
and Disease Registry

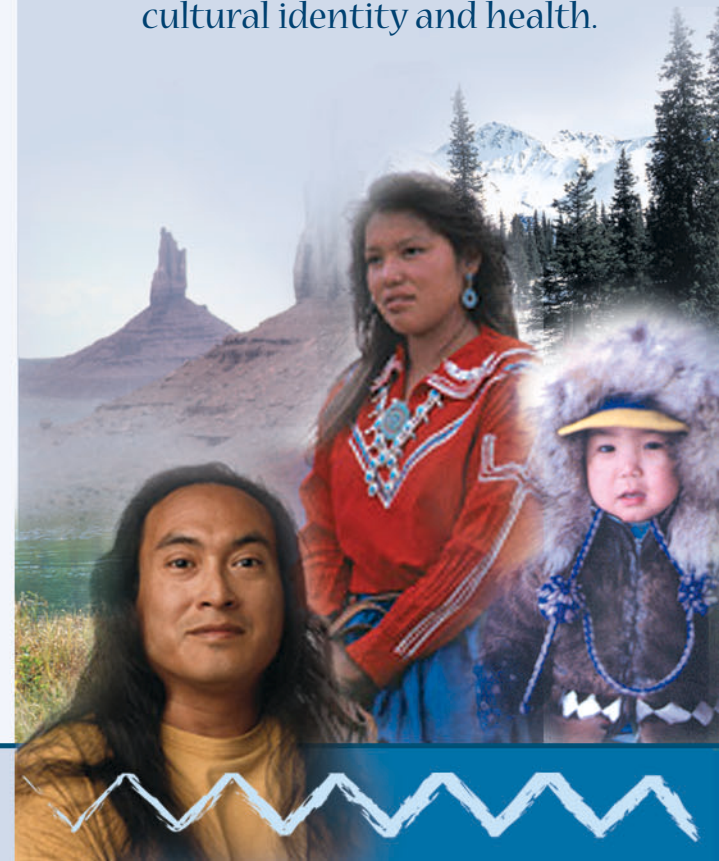


## Office of Tribal Affairs

Responding to environmental  
health needs unique to tribes.



Helping American Indian  
and Alaska Native nations  
strengthen their capacity to  
preserve the environment,  
which is at the core of  
cultural identity and health.





## Mission Statement

To support ATSDR in developing policies, procedures, funding, and research that address the environmental health needs of American Indian and Alaska Native populations.

## Vision Statement

To utilize the knowledge passed down from our ancestors and the advances of modern science to protect mother earth for future generations.

## Core Values

- To consult with tribes before taking action
- To form partnerships with tribes
- To be reliable in all ways
- To utilize the power of diversity
- To be an advocate of native culture, history, sovereignty, values, and principles
- To respect indigenous science, traditional knowledge, environmental balance, and the importance of observation

## Key Services

The Office of Tribal Affairs (OTA) provides:

- A point of contact for tribes to access ATSDR and its environmental public health programs.



- Trained staff to assist ATSDR in coordinating effectively with tribal governments.
- Environmental perspective that incorporates native culture and traditional values.
- Assistance to ATSDR management in responding to presidential executive orders and federal mandates impacting tribes.
- A vehicle for developing policy and programs for American Indian and Alaska Native governments, organizations, and communities.
- Coordination of activities to support tribal-specific public health needs.

## Examples of OTA Activities

- **Technical.** Works directly with tribal governments and representatives on site-specific work, responding to requests for information and evaluating environmental health data and community health concerns.
- **Education.** Provides training for tribal health and environmental professionals to capacity of tribal programs to better identify, prevent, and respond to health issues related to environmental pollutants. Develops environmental health education programs to address tribal concerns and meet tribal needs.
- **Tribal Colleges and Universities Support.** Through cooperative agreements, provides technical assistance and funding to support



environmental health science, education, and nursing curricula.

- **Program/Project Development.** Partners with others to develop environmental health programs/projects for the betterment of tribal populations.
- **Ad Hoc Tribal Workgroup.** Advises OTA on how to better serve American Indian and Alaska Native people and address tribal environmental health needs.

## ATSDR "Tribal Consultation Policy"

- Respects and honors the sovereignty of tribes, the responsibilities and rights to self-governance, and the differences between tribal nations and individuals.
- Consults with tribal governments to ensure community concerns and impacts are carefully considered before the agency takes action or makes decisions affecting tribal communities.
- Maintains government-to-government relationships with tribal governments.
- Ensures ongoing communication with tribal governments, communities, and individual tribal members to define concerns about possible health impacts from exposures to hazardous substances.

