

## NEWS

*The Tribal Newsletter*  
is published free monthly.  
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## LETTER

# Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



<http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/TRIBAL.NSF/Newsletter/Issues> Vol. 15, No. 12 — December 2006

### <> CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS <>

(For Alaska events, see page 6)

#### December

- 5-7 **Idaho Environmental Summit**, Boise, ID Info: <http://www.idahosummit.org>
- 7-8 **Northwest Environmental Conference**, Red Lion, Jantzen Beach, Portland, OR  
Conference and Trade show (Improving the Environment) <http://www.nwec.org/>

#### January

- 1/30-2/2 **Tribal Transfer Station Operation Training**, Reno, NV. Info: Elizabeth Forsyth, 415-972-3380  
or [forsyth.elizabeth@epa.gov](mailto:forsyth.elizabeth@epa.gov)

- 23-26 **Introduction to Tribal Air Quality** (Level 1), Lawrence, KS **App. deadline Dec. 13** (See page 7)

#### February

- 5-7 **EPA Tribal 106 Guidance Training**, Seattle, WA (a draft agenda will go out in mid-December;  
for more info before then, contact your tribal coordinator)
- 6-7 **DCI America Better Governance: Strengthening Your Organization from Within**, Anchorage, AK.
- 6-8 **ITEP: Advanced Air Program Mgmt. Course**, Seattle, WA **App. deadline Dec. 13** (See page 7)

### <> FUNDING <>



#### Brownfields Applications

A reminder about the Brownfields deadline, which is coming up fast: Proposals for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields grants are **due December 8, 2006**.

For complete information, check *Proposal Guidelines for Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants* at <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicat.htm>

#### IGAP Reminder

**Due date for  
fiscal year 2007:  
GAP Proposal due  
December 15, 2006**

#### Sustainability Competition

EPA has invited applications for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual P3 Awards: A National Student Design Competition for Sustainability Focusing on People, Prosperity, and the Planet. The competition supports teams of college students to research, develop, and design solutions to challenges to sustainability.

About \$1,250,000 total is expected to be available for up to 60 awards. **Responses are due December 21, 2006**. For more information: Tom Barnwell at [barnwell.thomas@epa.gov](mailto:barnwell.thomas@epa.gov) or [http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2007/2007\\_p3\\_4thannual.html](http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2007/2007_p3_4thannual.html)

#### Solid Waste Grant Apps Due

The U.S. Department of Agriculture requests applications for the Solid Waste Management Grant Program. The program supports projects to improve planning and management of solid waste sites in rural areas, and to reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources in rural areas.

About \$3.5 million is expected to be available for up to 30 awards. **Responses are due by December 31, 2006**. For information: LaVonda Pernell at 202-720-9635 or: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/SWVG.htm>. Refer to Sol# USDA-GRANTS-SWM-092906-001.

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### A Revisited Requirement for EPA Grants

**F** No matter what kind of grant is involved, written approval from the EPA Award Official must be obtained **before** the purchase of any equipment costing \$5,000 or more.

**U** Usually equipment items are included in the original assistance application budget and approved with the initial award of the assistance agreement. Occasionally, in an unexpected situation, a grant recipient might need to request an equipment purchase after the assistance agreement has been awarded. In that case, approval is obtained through a formal grant amendment, which includes a new condition for disposition of the equipment. Grantees should not go ahead with equipment purchases until they receive this grant amendment. The costs could be disallowed.

**I**

**N** If more funding is not being added to the agreement for the equipment, and the existing budget is being revised, the prior approval can be requested by letter and should include a revised SF424A showing the budget revisions.

**G** The letter should include:

- a list of each equipment item, cost, and justification of need;

- estimated cost of each item;
- lease versus purchase analysis;
- justification of each item (why it's needed to accomplish Workplan);
- requested disposition of the equipment, and justification explanation of budget and Workplan revisions to be able to buy the equipment.

The information may be submitted electronically. The request should be submitted to the EPA Project Officer with a copy to the Grants Specialist.

Project Officers are not authorized to give verbal or written approval for equipment to recipients. The Grants Unit will review and process the request, and the Award Official will either sign a grant amendment approving the equipment purchase or notify the recipient of a disapproval.

Equipment purchased near the end of a grant period is often a "red flag" to auditors and inspectors. Requests will be handled on a case-by-case basis, but generally for project grants, untimely requests will not be approved. In any case, equipment should not be purchased simply to expend the grant funds.

For more information on disposition options contact your EPA tribal coordinator.

### Environmental Stressors

EPA invites applications for *Issues in Tribal Environmental Research and Health Promotion: Novel Approaches for Assessing and Managing Cumulative Risks and Impacts of Global Climate Change*. Areas of interest include:

- Impacts of Global Climate change on the Cultural and Physical Health of Tribal Populations
- Tribal Cumulative Exposure and Risks from Multiple Environmental Stressors.

Three million dollars is expected to be available, and up to five awards are anticipated. **Responses are due January 23, 2007**. For more information contact Nigel Fields at [fields.nigel@epa.gov](mailto:fields.nigel@epa.gov) or go to: [http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2006/2006\\_star\\_tribal.html](http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2006/2006_star_tribal.html)

### Tribal Grants

EPA announces the availability of about one million dollars for Tribal Lead Grants. Information about the Tribal Lead Grant Program is posted at <http://www.grants.gov> and on the EPA Lead website. **The closing date is January 12, 2007.** <http://www.epa.gov/lead/new.htm> RFP: [http://www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/tribal\\_rfp\\_2006.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/tribal_rfp_2006.pdf)

### Education Adventure

This program rewards environmental activities among the decision makers of the future. Young people develop environmental projects to improve their local environment. The best projects will be selected for an all expenses paid trip to Göteborg, Sweden. Applicants must be from 10 to 16 years old. **The deadline for submitting projects is January 31**. For information, contact Wayne at WTA Education Services Ltd. [wayne@waeducationservices.com](mailto:wayne@waeducationservices.com) or go to: <http://www.volvoadventure.org> .

### Public Comment Period Extended on Source Permitting Rule Update

**E** The public comment period for two proposed New  
**N** Source Review (NSR) regulations for Indian  
Country initially had a 90-day comment period  
that would have closed on November 20. That  
comment period closing has been extended to  
**January 19, 2007.**

**V** The proposed rules address small sources  
located anywhere in Indian Country and large  
sources of air pollution located in non-attainment  
areas of Indian Country. They are designed to  
**I** address significant regulatory gaps in the  
protection of Indian country air quality. They  
also aim to clarify jurisdiction where states are  
**R** issuing permits in Indian country, and to provide  
a level playing field for economic development  
in Indian country.

**O** Groups affected by the rules would be new or  
existing businesses making changes in equip

ment and operations that would result in emissions,  
or existing businesses making changes in equip-  
ment and operations that would result in emission  
increases.

There are several ways to submit comments. Any  
comments you submit about these proposed rules  
must be identified by the **Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-  
OAR-2003-0076.** You can submit comments on the  
Internet, using the Federal eRulemaking Portal at:  
**<http://www.regulations.gov>** ; by e-mail: **[a-and-r-  
docket@epa.gov](mailto:a-and-r-docket@epa.gov)**; or by mail: U.S. Environmental  
Protection Agency, EPA West (Air Docket), 1200  
Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest, Mailcode:  
6102T, Washington, DC 20460.

For information or with questions about the com-  
ment period, contact Jessica Montanez at 919-541-  
3407 or via email: **[montanez.jessica@epa.gov](mailto:montanez.jessica@epa.gov)**

### **N** FARR Non-Title V Permit Issues

**E** EPA Region 10 has developed the second Non-  
Title V permit through a provision available for  
sources in the new Federal Air Rules for Reserva-  
tions. This provision in the FARR, makes it  
**W** possible for sources to obtain synthetic minor  
limits that keep emissions below the thresholds  
for other permitting programs, such as Title V.  
**S** This levels the playing field by providing a minor-  
source permitting program (similar to what is  
available through state permits) to sources  
outside of reservations in Washington, Oregon,  
and Idaho.

This most recent Non-Title V permit, another  
success of the FARR regulations, was issued to

the Pace International LLC facility located in  
Wapato, WA, on the Yakama Reservation. Pace,  
which manufactures agricultural post harvest  
coatings, has requested limits that will cap their  
potential to emit to less than 80 tons per year for  
criteria pollutants, less than 8 tons per year for all  
Hazardous Air Pollutants, and requires the use of  
low-sulfur fuel in their boilers.

A public comment period for the Non Title V permit  
was held through November 24, 2006. The permit  
will be finalized in December of 2006. Contact  
Heather Valdez at **[valdez.heather@epa.gov](mailto:valdez.heather@epa.gov)** or 206-  
553-6220 for more info on this permit or on the Non-  
Title V Permitting program in general.

### U.S. Recycling Up — Trash Down

Americans are recycling more and throwing away less according to a new report. EPA Administrator Stephen L. Johnson, speaking at the National Recycling coalition Conference in Atlanta, announced that the U.S. recycled 32% of its waste in 2005. Including composting, Americans recycled 79 million tons, a 2% increase from 2004 and a huge jump from 16% in 1990.

People generated nearly 246 million tons of municipal solid waste in 2005, a decrease of nearly 2 million tons from 2004. In addition to generating less waste, individuals recycled nearly 1.5 pounds per person, per day. See the report summary: **<http://www.epa.gov/msw/msw99.htm>**

## Water Monitoring Tools

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EPA has released a set of user-friendly multi-media products to help small drinking water utilities determine federal monitoring requirements and prepare water compliance samples under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

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The tool kit features an interactive *Rule Wizard* website that provides a complete list of all of the federal monitoring requirements for a selected type and size of public drinking water system, such as a community water system serving 3,300 people using groundwater as a source of supply.

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### EPA Environmental Publications

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EPA's National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP) has new digital services available through on website: <http://nepis.epa.gov>

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More than 13,000 environmental publications are kept in the center's archive. You can now:

- search the full text of documents online and locate specific and related publications,
- use a new bookshelf feature to recall saved links to online documents for future visits, and
- scan PDFs for downloading and printing.

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Environmental publications can also be ordered from NSCEP in paper copy, DVD, CD-ROM, and video by calling 800-490-9198

### National Environmental Health

The National Environmental Health Association's (NEHA) mission to "advance the environmental health . . . professional for the purpose of providing a healthful environment" for everyone is as relevant today as it was when first created 70 years ago. NEHA's membership includes professionals in the public and private sectors, academics, and uniformed services.

Because of its diverse membership, NEHA offers a forum for discussing issues from many viewpoints. The site has information about continuing education, credential renewals, jobs and also offers a series of Web-based courses. Articles from its *Journal of Environmental Health* may be purchased online at <http://www.neha.org>

A companion tool, *Interactive Sampling Guide for Drinking Water Operators*, features a CD-ROM with a video and a slide presentation that illustrates proper sampling procedures, which users can download to their local computer. Case studies are also presented on the CD-ROM to help public water system owners and operators work with state and local agencies when contaminants are detected.

For *The Rule Wizard*: <http://www.RuleWizard.org>  
For a copy of the CD-Rom: 800-490-9198.

### Surf Your Watershed

EPA provides the *Surf Your Watershed* website: <http://www.epa.gov/surf>. On the site, you will find tools to help locate your watershed, a database of watershed groups across the nation, information about wetlands restoration projects, a directory of agencies, and links to additional information.

### Watershed Coalition

The National Watershed Coalition is a membership organization made up of national, regional, state, and local organizations, associations, and individuals that advocate dealing with natural resource problems and issues using watersheds as the planning and implementation units. Their website provides information about watersheds, legislation affecting watersheds, and various brochures and reports. Visit: <http://www.watershedcoalition.org>

### Tribal Schools Notebook

EPA Region 10 has compiled materials to assist tribal school districts and tribal schools in complying with federal laws and regulations and in maintaining school facilities that are safe and healthy for students and staff.

To access these materials: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/TRIBAL.NSF/Programs/Tribal+Schools> or call Catherine Tunis at 202-564-0476.

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### Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

NRCS, formerly the Soil Conservation Service, provides a wealth of information for anyone involved in watershed planning and source water protection. According to their website, “communities and local governments work with NRCS state offices and local USDA Service centers to help them protect their natural resources. NRCS also provides information on climatology, water management, watershed planning, and flood control.”

The National Association of State Conservation Agencies provides useful information and guidance. NRCS also awards grants for “land conservation, water management, community development, and environmental needs in designated areas.”

Visit their website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>

### Pesticide Application

EPA has issued a final rule clarifying two specific circumstances in which a Clean Water Act permit is not required before pesticides are applied. The two situations are 1) when pesticides are applied directly to water to control pests . . . and 2) when pesticides are applied to control pests that are present over or near water where a portion of the pesticide will unavoidably be deposited to the water in order to target the pests effectively

The Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) requires that pesticides be registered by EPA before they can be sold or distributed. Before they are registered, they undergo extensive study and review to ensure that, when properly used, they do not cause unreasonable adverse effects on human health and the environment. Applications of pesticides that violate the FIFRA labels are subject to enforcement.

After considering two rounds of public comments, EPA concluded that the Clean Water Act does **not** require permits in these two situations. “This clean water rule strengthens and streamlines efforts of public health officials and communities to control pests and invasive species while maintaining important environmental safeguards,” said EPA Assistant Administrator for Water Benjamin H. Grumbles.

The final rule replaces EPA’s *Interpretive Statement on the Application of Pesticides to Waters of the United States in Compliance with FIFRA (2/1/05)*. Final rule: <http://www.epa.gov/npdes/agriculture> FIFRA and pesticides: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides>

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### Tribal Compliance an EPA Priority

EPA selected tribal compliance as a national enforcement and compliance priority for fiscal years 2005 through 2007. It was the first time EPA selected tribal environmental issues as a national priority. EPA is working with tribes to build capacity and increase direct implementation in Indian Country around three initial focus areas: drinking water, schools, and solid waste.

For each of these areas, EPA will work with tribes to improve compliance through integrated use of compliance assistance, monitoring and enforcement, including addressing facilities in significant non-compliance. It also emphasizes increased training opportunities for tribal inspectors and other tribal environmental professionals. Visit <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/data/planning/priorities/tribal.html>

### Azinphos-methyl (AZM)

On November 16<sup>th</sup> EPA issued its final decision to phase out the 10 remaining uses of the organophosphate insecticide azinphos-methyl over the next few years. This phase-out will encourage and facilitate transition to safer alternatives and reduce the risks to farm workers, pesticide applicators, and aquatic ecosystems.



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### Introduction to Tribal Air Quality (Level 1)

This ITEP course will be held **January 23-26, 2007** and in Lawrence, Kansas. This is a cooperative effort between Northern Arizona University and EPA. The American Indian Air Quality Training Program seeks to fulfill the mandate of the Clean Air Act to offer Native American tribes full partnership in the management of air quality on tribal lands.

This is an entry-level course to provide an understanding of the importance of clean air to

the total environment as well as human health. *Some Topics:* The concept of pH, Criteria pollutants, National Ambient Air Quality Standards, Particulate matter, Climate change, Clean Air Act application to tribes, and tribal air programs. This is a pre-requisite for several AIAQTP training courses. **Application deadline: December 13, 2006.**

For information or an application please contact Lydia Scheer, Training Coordinator at 928-523-6887 or at [Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu](mailto:Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu).

### Advanced Air Quality Program Management

This ITEP training course will be held in Seattle, Washington on **February 6-8, 2007**. This training course builds on earlier levels in air program management and delves more deeply into issues such as planning and grants management.

*Some topics:* Trend analysis, Strategic planning Treatment as a State, Participation in the policy process, Advanced grant management

The course is open to tribal air quality managers who have successfully completed ITEP's *Management of Tribal Air Programs and Grants* or have equivalent managerial experience. The **application deadline is December 13, 2006.**

For more information please contact Lydia Scheer at 928-523-6887 or [Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu](mailto:Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu).

### 7-Generations Training Opportunities

Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association, in partnership with Bill Stokes is proud to offer the 7-Generations course with funding from the EPA. IGAP grantees are encouraged to attend this valuable training opportunity. It is a way to build community strength by identifying and solving environmental problems. The process can lead to a healthier, more sustainable community. College credit is available.

The presenters are looking for Alaskan tribes interested in hosting this course in their communities. See contact information at the right.

The presenters will hold a 7-Generations class at their APIA office near downtown Anchorage during the week following the February Alaska Forum on the Environment. See contact information below.

Please contact Vanessa Philemonoff at [vanessap@apiai.org](mailto:vanessap@apiai.org) or Klaudia Klaudi 907-276-2700 or e-mail [klaudiak@apiai.org](mailto:klaudiak@apiai.org). With questions about the course, contact the instructor, Bill Stokes at [sevengenerations@matnet.com](mailto:sevengenerations@matnet.com) You can also visit <http://www.apiai.org> and click on "Environmental Education" in the Community Services Department section, or visit the website: <http://7generations.us/index.html>.

### RAVEN AmeriCorps Member Position

The Rural Alaska Village Environmental Network Youth Development AmeriCorps Program (RAVEN YDA) and EPA provide a community service and training program to help rural Alaskan communities address local environmental concerns and increase youth involvement in community projects. The RAVEN YDA Program year runs from January 2007 through January 2008.

Twenty RAVEN AmeriCorps members will be employed to identify ways to improve the environmental conditions in their community. Members serve as community educators and role models while organizing projects, recruiting volunteers and mentoring youth.

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### RAVEN AmeriCorps Member Position *continued*

RAVEN AmeriCorps members receive:

- Living allowance of \$1,200 per month.
- Health insurance and/or child care based on eligibility,
- Free training in pollution prevention, solid waste management, community leadership and youth mentoring,
- Education award of \$4,725 following completion of one year of service (1700 hours).

To obtain an **application packet** or if you have any questions about this program, please contact RurAL CAP 800-478-7227 or 907-279-2511 and speak to Alison Kulas (ext 338), Nils Andreassen (ext 380) or Rachel Amann (ext 323) or e-mail: [comdev@ruralcap.com](mailto:comdev@ruralcap.com) . You can also visit the RurAL CAP website at <http://www.ruralcap.com> .



#### Got E-mail?

**Make the choice to receive this newsletter electronically.** Send your e-mail address to Robb Woodman at: [woodman.robert@epa.gov](mailto:woodman.robert@epa.gov)

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

*Region 10 Tribal Newsletter  
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