

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. 16, No. 1 — January 2007

<> CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS <>

January

- 9-12 **Management of Tribal Air Programs and Grants** (Level 1), Davis, CA. For information: <http://www.nau.edu/tams>
- 22-23 **R10 Tribal Operations Committee Qrtly. Meeting**, EPA Offices, Seattle, WA. For information: gwenc@nezperce.org or clark.marybeth@epa.gov
- 1/30-2/2 **Tribal Transfer Station Operation Training**, Reno, NV. Info: Elizabeth Forsyth, 415-972-3380 or forsyth.elizabeth@epa.gov

February

- 5-9 **Underground Storage Tank Training**, Suquamish Tribe Clearwater Casino & Resort, Poulsbo, WA. Info: Charlotte Boulind-Yeung: 206-553-6315, boulind-yeung.charlotte@epa.gov (see p.2)
- 6-7 **DCI America Better Governance**, Anchorage. Info: <http://www.dciamerica.com>
- 6-8 **ITEP: Advanced Air Program Management Course**, Seattle, WA Info: www.nau.edu/itep
- 12-16 **Alaska Forum on the Environment**, Anchorage. For information: <http://akforum.com>
- 19-21 **Benefits & Risks of Diet in Rural Alaska**, Anchorage. Info: meaganh@apia.org (see p.9)
- 21-22 **AK Collaborative Leadership Training**, Anchorage. <http://resourcesolutions.uaa.alaska.edu> (p.9)

April

- 26-28 **24th Annual Gathering of Nations Powwow**, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque. For information: <http://www.gatheringofnations.com/powwow/index.htm>



<> FUNDING <>

Pesticides Program Invites Projects

EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs, in coordination with the EPA Regional Offices, has announced the availability of up to an estimated \$509,000 in FY2007 State and Tribal Assistance Grant monies to further the pesticide risk-reduction goals of the Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program.

The Agency expects to fund about ten projects, one per EPA Region, with a maximum funding level of about \$50,900 per project. All federally recognized tribes are eligible. Proposed projects must address implementation of integrated pest management

approaches that reduce the risks associated with pesticide use in agricultural or non-agricultural settings.

Proposals are due to the Agency not later than January 12, 2007.

For more information, visit the website: http://www.epa.gov/oppbppd1/PESP/regional_grants/2007announcement.htm

Correction: The December issue of the newsletter indicated that getting written approval before spending \$5,000 for equipment was a new requirement. It is not new. It's a newly emphasized requirement.

Mining & Indigenous Communities

The Indigenous Environmental Network and the Western Mining Action Network request proposals for the Indigenous Communities Mining Mini-Grant Program. This program supports capacity building efforts of mining-impacted indigenous communities, to assure that mining projects do not adversely affect human, cultural, and ecological health within their traditional territories. Individual grants are not to exceed \$4,000.

Responses are due February 1, 2007 and June 1, 2007. For more information: <http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/10004782/nativephilanthropy>



Capacity Building Grants

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All federally recognized tribes, including tribes in Alaska, are eligible to request funding under the *Brownfields State and Tribal Response Program*. **Requests will be accepted until February 15th.**

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The goal of this funding is to ensure that tribal response programs include certain elements that help build program capacity to address and manage contaminated lands. About \$50 million will be available nationally. Individual requests may be made up to \$1.5 million to cover a one-year project period. In Region 10, which covers

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Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, last year tribal requests ranged from \$27,000 to \$400,000. To learn more, read the guidance available at: <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields> then talk with your regional Brownfields Coordinator for details on how to apply.

Contact: Susan Morales, Region 10 Brownfields Coordinator, at 206-553-7299 or morales.susan@epa.gov

Tribal Energy Program

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As an implementing arm of the Tribal Energy Program, the Golden, Colorado Field Office solicits, awards, administers, and manages financial assistance agreements for renewal energy and energy efficiency on tribal lands.

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The U.S. Department of Energy Tribal Energy Program is seeking applications for funding from federally recognized tribes, Alaskan Native villages, and Alaskan Native corporations for two funding opportunities: Feasibility of Renewable Energy Projects on Tribal Lands, and First Steps Toward Developing Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency on Tribal Lands.

Submission deadlines are February 6, 2007 and January 23, 2007, respectively. For more information about Department of Energy grants, visit: <http://www.eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/financial.html>

Lead Poisoning Proposals

EPA is accepting proposals from federally recognized Indian tribes and tribal consortia to support tribal education outreach and to conduct a baseline assessment of tribal children's existing and potential exposure to lead-based paint and related lead-based paint hazards.

Activities eligible for funding include educational outreach, data gathering, inspections, risk assessments, training, and development of new and innovative approaches to identifying or reducing lead poisoning.

The closing date for proposal applications is January 12, 2007. If submitted via e-mail through grants.gov, they must be received by 5 pm EST. More info at http://www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/tribal_rfp_2006.pdf

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Inspector Training

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The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) will offer Tribal Basic Inspector Training in San Diego, CA from **January 23 to 26, 2007**. The course is designed for employees of federally recognized tribes or consortia with a functioning environmental compliance program, or who plan on developing one.

Several other program courses will be offered in 2007. Tentative plans are to offer the Tribal Basic Inspector Training again in Portland, Oregon later in the spring. For information: www.nau.edu/itep

EPA Underground Storage Tank Training

EPA Region 10 and the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA), are hosting a 5-day Underground Storage Tank (UST) Operation and Maintenance training during **the week of February 5th** at the Suquamish Indian Tribe's Clearwater Casino and Resort in WA. Designed for tribal representatives responsible for USTs on tribal lands, it will include all the main elements of the federal UST program.

For information: Carl Jeffries of ITCA, 602-258-4822, Carl.Jeffries@itcaonline.com or at EPA, Charlotte Boulind-Yeung: 206-553-6315, boulind-yeung.charlotte@epa.gov.

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CWA 106 Tribal Guidance Training

EPA Clean Water Act 106 Guidance training will be held in Seattle, WA, from **February 5 to 7, 2007**.

The training will include:

- An overview of new guidelines, including the fundamental, intermediate, mature tier system;
- Monitoring requirements, monitoring strategy, and water quality standards;
- Data input into a STORET-compatible database;
- Assessment reports; and
- 106 Funding.

For registration information, contact Alan Moomaw: 360-753-8071, moomaw.alan@epa.gov or Jenny Wu: 206-553-6328, wu.jennifer@epa.gov

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The Nunakuyarmiut Tribe received a Level 1 CARE cooperative agreement.
Back row, from left: EPA Regional Administrator, Elin Miller, Katherine Ellanak, Henry Friday, EPA Tribal Coordinator Tami Fordham, Noah Lincoln, John Carl, Jessica Lewis; front row: Andrew George, EPA Administrator, Steve Johnson, Theresa Abraham.

Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) Level 1

The Nunakuyarmiut Tribe is the federally recognized tribal government in Toksook Bay, Alaska, which is one of the members of the Nelson Island Consortium (NIC) of Caninermiut and Qaluyaak Communities. The closest translation from Yup'ik to English is "Working Together to Keep the Coastal and Nelson Island Communities and Environment Clean." In addition to Toksook Bay, the NIC consists of six other tribal communities: Chefnak, Newtok, Nightmute, Umkumiut, Tununak, and Kipnuk. Objectives include: reduction of exposure to toxic risks through collaborative action by communities; comprehensive identification of all toxic sources and the communities' priorities in addressing them; community-oriented effective partnerships with internal stakeholders (community members

and groups) and external partners. External partners will be sought to provide technical help in answering questions about Arctic Sink contaminants; effect of local utilities emissions on human health; global source pollution (such as Asian dust); permafrost melt and tundra degradation; toxics involved in subsistence practices; garbage burning in the village or at the open dumpsite; and how to minimize exposure to contaminants in subsistence practices. For more information about this project, please contact Tami Fordham at 907-271-1484. Information about the CARE program can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/care/>

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TEACH Covers Children's Health

The Toxicity and Exposure Assessment for Children's Health (TEACH) website contains summaries of scientific literature and U.S. federal regulations relevant to children's environmental health. TEACH currently focuses on information that pertains to 18 chemicals of concern.

The goal of the TEACH project is to complement existing children's health resources. TEACH does not provide an evaluation or critique the validity of the relevant scientific studies; nor does it derive toxicity values. The purpose is to summarize and organize information from many sources into one online resource. TEACH supports various efforts throughout the country that target the protection of children's health. Visit <http://www.epa.gov/teach>

Handling Toxics Properly

Common household items, such as paints, cleaners, oils, batteries, and pesticides, contain hazardous components. Although we cannot completely stop using hazardous products, we can make sure that leftovers are managed properly. Many communities have set up collection programs to keep hazardous products out of landfills and combustors.

More than 3,000 Household Hazardous Waste collection programs exist in the United States. For more information, visit: epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/muncpl/buyrec.htm .

Clean Water Act Guidance on 106 Grants

A new EPA publication will help Indian tribes design and implement successful water quality programs. The *Guidance on Awards of Grants to Indian Tribes* sets goals and requirements for grant recipients and provides a framework for evaluating program results. The guidelines will help redefine how tribes implement the Clean Water Act to protect, restore and maintain the integrity of the nation's waters. For information, contact Lena Ferris: 202-564-8831 or visit: <http://www.epa.gov/owm/cwfinance/>

Water Efficiency

Which activity uses less water, a five-minute shower or a full bath? How can you test whether your toilet has a leak? How much of the Earth's water is available for human use? You can find the answers to these questions and more at EPA's new interactive quiz, "Test Your Water Sense." The quiz, created by EPA's WaterSense program, provides an entertaining way for adults and children to learn more about why it is important to save water and how to be more water efficient in your home. WaterSense Quiz: <http://www.epa.gov/watersense/water/test.htm>

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission unveiled its new online blog, in December, as part of its Celilo Legacy project. The [we]blog will serve as a clearinghouse for public discourse, information, events, activities, and memorials in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the inundation of Celilo Falls on March 10, 1957.

The blog can be accessed by going to www.critfc.org and clicking on the "Celilo Legacy blog" image, or simply entering www.critfc.org/celilo

Tribal Environmental Research Grant Information

Information about a wide variety of environmental research grants is available at EPA's research funding website. One science grant of interest to tribes **closes on January 23, 2007**. The topic is *Issues in Tribal Environmental Research and Health Promotion: Novel Approaches for Assessing and Managing Cumulative Risks and Impacts of Global Climate Change*.

For more information, see the 2007 STAR research grants list at: <http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa>

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ALASKA

Alaska Office Welcomes Tribal Coordinator

The Anchorage Office has a new Tribal Coordinator. Sherry Kimmons, enthusiastic and already busy, took over work formerly managed by Fred Matsuno. She has been engaged in the Indian General Assistance (IGAP) program, working mainly with tribes in the Yukon/Eastern Interior Alaska, and is currently reviewing IGAP proposals received for the current funding period.

Sherry has been “very happy” since starting with the Tribal Trust and Assistance Unit in September. Asked about the busy pace of her work, she says, “I love it!”

Sherry can be reached at kimmons.sherry@epa.gov or 907-271-6322.

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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.

Members serve as community educators and role models while organizing projects, recruiting volunteers and mentoring youth.

RAVEN AmeriCorps members receive a living allowance of \$1,200 per month, health insurance (and/or child care if eligible), and free training, as well as an education award of \$4,725 following one year of service (1700 hours).

Twenty RAVEN AmeriCorps members will be employed to identify ways to improve the environmental conditions in their community.

For an application packet or if you have questions, please contact RurAL CAP at 800-478-7227, e-mail comdev@ruralcap.com or visit: <http://www.ruralcap.com>.

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OREGON

Umatilla Tribes Have Air Quality Authority

EPA has delegated authority for open burning to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) to regulate air quality on the reservation. Antone Minthorn, chairman of the CTUIR Board of Trustees, and Ronald Kreizenbeck, Acting Administrator for EPA Region 10, signed an agreement August, 21 2006. CTUIR is the second tribe in the United States to gain this authority.

quality issues on the reservation, the tribes, with EPA support, have formed an Office of Air Quality in the tribal Department of Science and Engineering.

Beginning January 1, 2007, the tribes now issue burn permits for agriculture, forest and residential burns, including burn barrels. All permits will be free. People will be required to call the tribes in order to find if the day has been designated as a burn day.

To administer Federal Air Rules for Reservations (FARR) and take a larger role in air

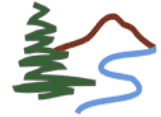


U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Alaska Operations Office

ALASKA NEWS

ALASKA FORUM ON THE ENVIRONMENT

The premier conference on northern environmental topics of concern — **February 12 to 16**



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About Alaska Forum on the Environment (AFE)

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The 2007 Forum will be held in Anchorage, Alaska. AFE is an annual event that brings together scientists, tribal leaders, government representatives, community members, Native and environmental organizations, industry, and other sectors to focus on important and timely environmental issues. It is a forum for the latest research and information on subjects such as solid waste, drinking water, oil & gas, alternative energy, environmental justice, contaminants, subsistence/traditional food, rural sanitation, and more.

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The Climate Change Track will feature the latest on: *Polar Bears, Ocean Acidification, Permafrost Thaw and Carbon Release, Aviation Impacts, the intersection of Science/Economics /Policy, Impacts to Subsistence Resources, and Techniques to Reduce Emissions.* It brings together perspectives from the **Scientific, Native, Religious, and Governmental Communities.**

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Speakers include:

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- Elaine Abraham* - Alaska Native Elder, Yakutat
- Robert W. Corell* - Amer. Meteorological Soc., Affiliate, Washington Advisory Group
- Rabbi Warren G. Stone*, Chair, Central Conference of American Rabbis Committee on the Environment
- Joel Scheraga* - Manager, Global Change Research Program, U.S. EPA
- Steve Amstrup* - Biological Sciences Division, USGS
- Richard Feely* - Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory
- Katey Walter* - Institute of Arctic Biology, UAF
- Terry Tamminen* - Author of "Lives per Gallon" and former Secretary of Cal. EPA and Cabinet Secretary to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger
- Fran Ulmer* - Director, Institute for Social and Economic Research, UAA
- Clarence Pautzke*, Director North Pacific Research Board

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Because changing climate in the North remains a critical concern, 3 days will be devoted to the subject. The track will run Monday through Wednesday. Alaska has become the focal point in the U.S. for this critical issue, as the consequences have been devastating and well documented. The Arctic and sub-Arctic are warming and thawing; causing significant impact to ecosystems, cultures, infrastructure, and economies here, and worldwide. Alaskans are joining forces, one-by-one, with those already poised to examine our domestic resource usage and renewable energy options, foundations for forging a path forward. Alaska has 229 federally recognized tribes. Native leaders have weighed prominently in this issue and have demonstrated that they have a powerful voice.

The conference is hosted by a non-profit organization, AK Forum Inc., with support from a diverse group of agencies, industry, and non-profits. Alaskan Natives comprise a majority of the attendees, which presents a unique opportunity for networking. A number of high-ranking military officials will also be present for meetings that take place in conjunction with the event. More than 1,200 participants attended the 2006 conference.

Climate Change

*Is it Affecting **You** and **Your** Community? What can we learn? What can we do?*

Plan to attend for a series of informative sessions on various issues pertinent to your community. In response to increasing concern throughout the state, there will be Climate Change sessions

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AFE — Climate Change *continued*

running Monday through Thursday. Hear the latest reports on this important topic. Speakers will focus on the impacts to our oceans and marine life, to communities threatened by erosion and flooding, to wildlife and other subsistence resources, to the economy, and more. Learn how businesses and rural communities can conserve and become part of the solution.

Join in the Climate Change sessions and help make sense of what to do in light of the devastating consequences of a warming North. For more on AFE and a look at the agenda, please visit <http://akforum.com/>
The deadline for early registration is January 12, 2007.

EPA IGAP Sessions

IGAP sessions will be held on **February 15 and 16**. The opening plenary session will feature tribal representatives who will speak about IGAP Successes and Challenges. Small working groups of area tribes will discuss successes and challenges they have encountered and will report out to share this information statewide. It will be compiled into a resource list of tribes working on specific issues, and shared among IGAP recipients.

Nomination forms for individual environmental achievement awards are available on the website. For more information about these award, please see: <http://akforum.com/>

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2007 Alaska Private Stewardship Grant Program Proposals

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Alaska Region, is soliciting proposals for funding under Private Stewardship Grant Program. Sonja Jahrsdoerfer is coordinating the program, which provides funding for projects carried out by individuals and groups to conserve imperiled or at-risk species on private lands.

Since 2003, this program has funded 18 projects across Alaska, including providing bear-proof garbage containers to minimize human interactions with Kenai brown bears, also stabilizing degraded trails to protect significant salmon-producing watersheds on the Kenai Peninsula, as well as reducing deposition of lead shot on private land habitats on the Yukon Delta to protect spectacled eiders and other migratory waterfowl. Alaskan grant awards have ranged from \$18,000 to \$176,000.

To be eligible, projects must be voluntary conservation efforts carried out on private lands, including lands owned by Alaskan

Native Corporations. The projects must benefit imperiled species or species of concern, such as, but not limited to, species listed or being considered for listing under the federal or state Endangered Species Acts. A minimum of 10 percent of the cost of the project must be provided by non-federal sources.

Proposals must be received at FWS's Anchorage Regional Office **by February 14, 2007**. For more information on the program, contact Sonja Jahrsdoerfer at 907-786-3323, by email, or write to Endangered Species Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1011 E. Tudor Rd., Anchorage, Alaska 99503.

For more information about this grant opportunity and how and where to submit proposals, please visit the FWS Private Stewardship Grants website: http://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/private_stewardship/index.html

(The Private Stewardship Grants Program number in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance is 15.632.)

\$6.5 Million Available for Conservation

Funding Available to private landowners for Voluntary Conservation — Cost-Share Funds Help Alaskans Address Natural Resource Concerns

[Reprinted from the USDA National Resource Conservation Service website]

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Palmer, AK, November 20, 2006 — State Conservationist Bob Jones today announced that nearly \$6.5 million in cost-share assistance is expected to be available in fiscal year 2007 to help Alaska landowners address natural resource concerns, promote environmental quality, and protect valuable wetland ecosystems and wildlife habitat on property they own or control.

While the exact amount of funds available will not be known until a federal budget is signed into law, Jones says he estimates to make available nearly \$6.5 million — or about the same amount as last year.

The cost-share funds are available to Alaskans through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), two programs administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Signed EQIP and WHIP application forms for FY07 financial assistance are due in an NRCS field office **by January 31**. NRCS has field offices in Anchorage, Bethel, Copper Center, Delta Junction, Dillingham, Fairbanks, Homer, Juneau, Kenai, Kodiak, Nome, Palmer and Wasilla. Contact information for the 13 field offices in Alaska is available at <http://www.ak.nrcs.usda.gov/contact/fieldoffices.html> or by calling 907-761-7760.

WHIP helps landowners create, restore and enhance wildlife habitat on their land. WHIP

is expected to provide \$1.5 million in cost-share assistance in FY07. EQIP assists landowners in improving soil, air and water quality and other related resources on private, working lands. Working lands are those that are managed to produce food and/or fiber from eligible animal and plant sources. In FY07, the EQIP program is expected to provide \$5 million in available financial assistance.

Additional information on these conservation programs, including eligibility requirements, is available at <http://www.ak.nrcs.usda.gov/programs>. Landowners who want specific information regarding program participation or who want to apply for cost share programs are encouraged to contact their local NRCS Field Office.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service puts nearly 70 years of experience to work in assisting people to conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment. NRCS works in partnership with local conservation districts, serves almost every county in the nation, and U.S. lands in the Caribbean and Pacific Basin. Participation in our programs is voluntary.

Alaska Youth for Environmental Action

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The teens in Alaska Youth for Environmental Action (AYEA) are sponsoring a new campaign, called “3-2-1 Efficiency!” It focuses on taking individual actions at home to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The project asks individuals to sign a pledge and then implement the actions. The goal is to get at least 6,000 Alaskans (youth and adults) to sign the pledge.

The group is seeking a sponsor to help give each person who signs the pledge a new compact fluorescent bulb to install. AYEА will soon have educational materials for youth and teachers who want to start this project in their community. There will be a competition for schools to collect as many pledges as possible. The pledge can be taken online at <http://www.ayea.org>

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Understanding the Benefits and Risks of a Diet in Rural Alaska

The Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association Traditional Foods Program will be holding workshops in the spring of 2007. These 3-day workshops will address the questions many communities have about food safety and the process that communities can take to address these concerns. This process of research includes Community Based Participatory Research, human bio-monitoring, dietary surveys, sampling, analysis, interpretation, weighing the benefits and risks, and effective communication and education.

The first workshop will take place in Anchorage from **February 19 to 21**. Registration remains open until it is filled. Two additional workshops will be held in Anchorage and potentially one in Homer, also one in Sitka or Juneau between February and April.

For more information about these workshops, please contact Megan Holloway at meaganh@apia.org or Sue Unger at sueu@apia.org or call 800-478-2742.

Alaska Collaborative Leadership Training Facilitation Work Groups and Public Meetings February 21 and 22, 2007

During this workshop, participants acquire meeting facilitation skills through a variety of exercises to learn a step-by-step process for facilitation work groups and public meetings. They learn how to manage conflict and keep a meeting focused. Working in small groups, they plan, conduct and critique a simulated meeting on an Alaska issue. Travel funds are available for those who work outside the Anchorage area as part of a watershed effort. Contact the Resource Solutions Training Coordinator at the number below to inquire about eligibility and the required paperwork.

All workshops are conducted for two days in Anchorage and are held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at UAA, Anchorage, Alaska. If you have questions, please call Jane Oakley, Resource Solutions Training Coordinator, at 907-786-6374, or email her at anjeo@uaa.alaska.edu. Additional information and registration forms are on our website at: <http://resourcesolutions.uaa.alaska.edu>. Please fax completed registrations to 907-786-1700.

To Report Spills or Accidents

Note these emergency numbers to call in the event of hazardous material spills or accidents.

Alaska 800-478-9300
Idaho 800-424-8802
Oregon 800-452-0311

Washington 800-258-5990
National (EPA) 800-424-8301

Check out EPA's page of links for Web-savvy kids:
<http://www.epa.gov/indian/kidlinks.htm>



Got E-mail?

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

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

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