

NEWS

The Tribal Newsletter
is published free monthly.

To receive a copy, call:
AK, Carlos 907-271-3422
ID, Jim . . 208-378-5691
OR, Don . . 503-326-5015
WA, Alison . 360-753-8185

LETTER

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



<http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/TRIBAL.NSF/Newsletter/Issues>

Vol. 17, No. 6 — June 2008

<> CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS <>

June

- 5-6 **Clean Water and Stormwater Conference, Seattle, WA.**
Regulations and Compliance Strategies, Law Seminars International. Info: 800-854-8009
- 19-22 **Thinking Through Nature: Philosophy for an Endangered World, Eugene, OR.**
International Association for Environmental Philosophy.
Info: www.uoregon.edu/~toadvine/IAEP/ThinkingThroughNature.html
- 23-27 **Nurturing Mother Earth-Our People's Destiny, 8th National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management, Billings, MT.**
Hosted by the Montana/Wyoming Tribal Leaders Council and Co-sponsored by EPA.
For information visit: www.mtwytlc.com or contact Allyson Kelly at: 406-252-2550

August

- 4-7 **Air Toxics Summit 2008, Boise, ID.** Info: Ashley Zanolli 206-553-4452
- 25-28 **Native Health Research, Portland, OR.** See first item below.

September

- 15-19, **Wetlands Symposium, Portland, OR.** See second item below.

Native Health Research Conference on August 25 - 28, 2008 in Portland OR

Exploring the Interface between Science and Tradition in Native Health Research--The 20th Annual Native Health Research Conference will be held August 25 - 28, 2008 in Portland Oregon at the Red Lion on the River, 909 N. Hayden Island Dr. Portland, OR 97217 For more information, call 503-283-4466, fax 503-283-4743 or go to www.redlion.com/jantzenbeach

Wetlands Symposium

Wetlands 2008: Wetlands and Global Climate Change will be held September 15-19, 2008, in Portland, OR. The overall goal of this conference is to help wetland professionals in the public and private sectors 1) gain a better understanding of the challenges created by climate change and 2) identify discrete activities and actions to take to reduce and mitigate impacts on wetlands and water resources as well as communities. The conference will also address ongoing changes and challenges in wetlands and water resources management. For more information, please click on: www.aswm.org/calendar/wetlands2008/index.htm

Meth Lab Training for Tribes - June 16 - 18 in Seattle

The Tribal Solid Waste Advisory Network (TSWAN) and the University of Washington presents a three day Meth Lab training for tribal representatives. The training includes classroom and hands-on mock mobile methamphetamine scenes set up by the Washington State Patrol Drug Task Force. **Registration is due ASAP.** For further information contact Kami Snowden at TSWAN 509-235-6007.

>>>>>

T
R
A
I
N
I
N
G
F
U
N
D
I
N
G

Conferences, Workshops and Meetings

EPA has issued a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) for conferences, workshops, and/or meetings. Through this BAA, EPA seeks proposals for planning, arranging, administering and/or conducting conferences, workshops, and/or meetings that focus on research to protect human health and safeguard the environment. Subject areas include, but are not limited to: Economics and sustainability; and air and global climate change. \$500, 000 is expected to be available and up to 15 awards are anticipated.

Responses are due June 8, 2008 and December 9, 2008. For more information, contact Bernice Smith at *smith.bernice@epa.gov* or go to: es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2008/2008_baa.html.

Energy Grants

USDA request proposals for Renewable energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements Grants and Guaranteed Loans. This initiative supports the purchase of renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements for agriculture producers and rural small businesses in eligible rural areas. \$15 million is expected to be available and 250 awards are anticipated.

Applications are due June 16, 2008. Online, write to *lyris-confirm-829887L@lists.epa.gov* or go to www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=41021 for more information.

Computer Training Course for Watershed Management

The Key EPA Internet-Based Tools for Watershed Management is a comprehensive, two-part course designed to familiarize users with powerful watershed management tools provided online by US EPA.

These tools are a powerful resource for novice and master watershed planners alike. Presented in a readable, section-based format, the course tutorials are now available below for self-paced study. Info:

www.epa.gov/watershed/news.html

TMDLs Clearinghouse

Virginia Techs Center for Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Watershed Studies has a new on-line database of TMDL-related information in one central location. The searchable clearinghouse contains three types of resources:

- TMDL guidance documents,
- reviews and summaries of TMDL-related technical and trade literature and,
- state-by-state summaries of TMDL programs.

State summaries are updated regularly for all 50 states and include the approach to develop TMDLs in those states. About 500 documents are available in the database, funded in part by an EPA grant. The TMDL knowledgebase Clearinghouse can be accessed at:

www.ext.vt.edu/cgi-bin/WebObjects/TMDL.woa

Scholarships for Minority Students Going Unclaimed

A large amount of scholarship money that has been set aside by companies for deserving minority students are either collecting dust or being returned to businesses because of a lack of interest. For more information, please go to:

www.tapartnership.org/cc/docs/minority_scholarships.pdf or www.tapartnership.org/cc/career_funding.asp

Tribal Solid Waste Management Assistance Project

This notice announces the availability of funds and solicits proposals from eligible entities for the Tribal Solid Waste Management Assistance Project. The Project helps tribes close or cleanup open dumps, develop alternative disposal options, and establish integrated solid waste management programs. Eligible entities may apply for funding under one of four categories:

- (1) proposals to characterize/assess open dumps;
- (2) proposals to develop integrated solid waste management (ISWM) plans and tribal codes and regulations;
- (3) proposals to develop and implement alternative solid waste management activities/facilities (including equipment acquisition); and
- (4) proposals to develop and implement cleanup, closure, and post-closure programs for open dumps in Indian Country. The Solicitation is available on the national EPA Tribal Solid Waste Funding website at: www.epa.gov/oswer/grants-funding.htm#EPA-OSWER-OSW-08-03

F
U
N
D
I
N
G

E
N
V
I
R
O
N
M
E
N
T
A
L

T
O
O
L
S

EPA funding for Environmental Justice

The EPA is seeking grant applications for projects to assist low-income and minority communities to develop locally-based solutions to their sometimes disproportionate share of environmental and public health issues. Nationally, up to \$800,000 is available to non-profit organizations, a city, township, county government, or Native American tribal government through EPA's Office of Environmental Justice. Grants will be awarded through the Environmental Justice Small Grants Programs (EJSG).

www.webwire.com/ViewPressRel.asp?ald=63126

Elder Care Initiative Long-Term Care Grant Program

The Indian Health Service announces the availability of grants to support planning and implementation of sustainable long-term care services for American Indians and Alaska Native elders. **Deadline: June 20, 2008.** Info: www.ihs.gov/NonMedicalPrograms/gogp/index.cfm?module=HHS-2008-IHS

New Lead Rules

In order to better protect children from lead-based paint hazards, EPA issued its new rules for home improvement contractors and maintenance professionals that renovate or repair pre-1978 housing, child-care facilities or schools that contain lead-based paint. Under the new rules, workers must follow lead-safe work practice standards to reduce potential exposure to occupants to dangerous levels of lead resulting from renovation and repair activities.

The new requirements are key components of a comprehensive Federal effort to eliminate childhood lead poisoning. These include programs to educate parents and caregivers to keep their housing clean and well-maintained, to make sure their young children wash their hands frequently and eat nutritious food, and to talk to their doctor about testing young children for lead poisoning. For more information or to obtain copies of the rule and supporting materials, please see: www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/renovation.htm

If you have any questions, please give Russell Clausen a call at 206-553-1171.

Free CD-ROM Toolkit: Balancing Water Quality and Smart Growth

The "Balancing Water Quality and Smart Growth Goals Toolkit" CD-ROM is a compilation of valuable resources and ideas, including a new webcast called Protecting Water Quality While Meeting Smart Growth Goals. The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) has brought these resources together to help local government managers and planning and environmental professionals determine how they can connect their efforts to reach important community goals.

The CD-ROM toolkit includes more than 50 resources, including webcasts, presentations, fact sheets, publications, case studies, and Web links to online resource collections and news articles and sources.

To order your free copy of the CD-ROM, send a request by email to lgean@icma.org

Be sure to include your name, mailing address, and phone number. Please reference the "Balancing Water Quality and Smart Growth Toolkit" in your subject line.

To download toolkit's content list: icma.org/main/ld.asp?from=search&ldid=20380&hsid=1&t=0

EPA Launches Environmental Indicators Gateway

EPA launched the Environmental Indicators Gateway Web site to provide enhanced public access to environmental and health information generated by EPA. Information is presented in the context of "environmental indicators," numerical values that provide insights into the status and trends of environmental and public health conditions over time. The Gateway establishes a single catalog of EPA's indicator work that allows browsing and searching among existing EPA Web sites and indicator materials. The site allows users to browse EPA's environmental indicator reports by geography, topic area, or time period. For each report featured on the site, users can find information on key details of the project including geography, project purpose, contact information, and data quality considerations.

Gateway: www.epa.gov/indicators

E
N
V
I
R
O
N
M
E
N
T

Carbon Footprint

Carbon Footprint is a “measure of the impact human activities have on the environment in terms of the amount of green house gases produced, measured in units of “carbon dioxide”. It is meant to be useful for individuals and organizations to conceptualize their personal (or organizational) impact in contributing to global warming. A conceptual tool in response to carbon footprints are carbon offsets, or the mitigation of carbon emissions through the development of alternative projects such as solar or wind energy or reforestation. A carbon footprint can be seen as a subset of earlier uses of the concept of ecological footprints. A carbon calculator can be found at: www.carboncounter.org

(From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)

Tribal Access to Safe Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

In June 2007, EPA, IHS, USDA, HUD, and DOI signed two MOUs designed in part to assist tribes in improving quality of life through the delivery of quality infrastructure services in support of tribal housing and tribal communities, and to encourage parties to coordinate execution of existing drinking water and sanitation improvement programs in Indian country with a full understanding of each party’s programs.

The interagency Task Force established the Access Subgroup to develop an implementation plan that strives to reduce by 50 percent the number of homes lacking access to safe drinking water and safe waste water disposal by 2015. The implementation plan is under development, and subgroup representatives would be pleased to discuss with tribes, the scope and status of the recommended actions. For more information, contact: Elin Betanzo 202-564-1807 or betanzo.elin@epa.gov

Reuse

Take reusable bags on shopping trips. Keep them in your car or near your door to remember. You can also reuse paper or plastic shopping bags. Get more tips for shopping.

www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/specials/funfacts/shopping.htm

Want more tips? Visit EPA’s Earth Day site to learn more about Earth Day, the EPA, and what you can do to help protect human health and the environment.

www.epa.gov/earthday/tips2.htm

Salmon ESA Recovery Plans in Progress

Salmon Endangered Species Act (ESA) recovery planning is underway throughout the entire Northwest region. Various recovery planning products are becoming available, and are being posted. These documents collectively referred to as “draft recovery plans,” though more specific definitions of the types of products are provided at:

www.nwr.noaa.gov/Salmon-Recovery-Planning/Recovery-Domains/Interior-Columbia/Upper-Columbia/Upper-Col-Plan.cfm

Wastewater Treatment and In-Plant Wet Weather Management

EPA is releasing the third in a series of reports on municipal wastewater collection and treatment technologies. “Emerging Technologies for Wastewater Treatment and In-Plant Wet Weather Management” provides municipal wastewater treatment system owners and operators with the latest information on emerging wastewater treatment and in-plant wet weather management technology options. It identifies cost effective, innovative and embryonic technologies as well as established technologies with innovative applications. Technical and cost data for more than 60 innovative technologies and more than 25 embryonic technologies are provided. The technologies featured in the report can provide more efficient or advanced wastewater treatment or better management of wet weather flows at the treatment plant.

The new report is available at www.epa.gov/owm/mtb/index.htm

The previous two reports, “Emerging Technologies for Biosolids Management,” and “Emerging Technologies for Conveyance Systems: New Installations and Rehabilitation Methods,” are also available on the website. www.epa.gov/owm/mtb/index.htm

Source Water Collaborative (SWC)

As part of this initiative, the SWC has developed a guide for community leaders and a toolkit for using the guide. The “Your Water. Your Decision.” guide is intended as a quick resource on local options for protecting drinking water, including development, stewardship, and budgeting. Using the theme, “how you govern can determine what you drink,” the guide can help local officials take action within their communities and with neighboring communities. Details can be found at www.ProtectDrinkingWater.org

E
N
V
I
R
O
N
M
E
N
T

AT School

Students, educators and school administrators can all play a key role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Here is a directory of some education and action planning resources to help you: Students can study links between everyday actions at their high school, greenhouse gas emissions, and climate change. Learn more at school from: www.epa.gov/climatechange/wycd/school.html

When properly composted, kitchen wastes can become natural soil additives for lawns, gardens, and even house plants. More on composting: www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/reduce/catbook/tip10.htm

Help EPA Save Paper: Sign Up For Electronic Receipt of the Region 10 Tribal Newsletter Today

Since at least 1991, The U.S. EPA Region 10 Alaska Tribal Newsletter has been mailed to all of its readers in a paper format. However, the desire to reduce the use of paper products to preserve the environment has prompted us to send this important request as part of the May Newsletter.

We would like to be respectful to those of you in rural communities who do not have reliable access to the Internet. With that thought in mind, we will continue to send out paper mailings to our readers only if you would like us to.

For those of you who wish to help us in our quest to preserve the environment, and can reliably receive our Tribal Newsletter electronically, please send your email address to lozano.carlos@epa.gov and say:

"Take me off the paper mailing list. I would like to only receive the Tribal Newsletter electronically."

EPA and our partners are always striving to look for efficient and environmentally-friendly ways of doing things. We appreciate all your efforts and assistance, be they contributions great or small.

Digital Television Transition and Potential Impacts to Tribal Governments

After February 17, 2009, all full-power television stations will broadcast only in digital, as required by the Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Act of 2005. Subscribers to TV services (e.g., cable or satellite) or televisions with a digital tuner will not be affected by the transition. EPA is encouraging consumers that receive over the air broadcasts, either through "rabbit ears" on their sets or a roof antenna, on analog TV sets to extend the life of their TV by purchasing a digital converter box. Many entities, including tribal governments, may experience higher rates of disposal and/or dumping of old televisions and related e-waste during this time.

Tribal governments can address this transition by providing e-waste recycling programs and by providing outreach to their communities to encourage reuse through the purchase of a digital converter box. For consumers that choose to buy a new digital TV, EPA recommends energy efficient sets with the ENERGY STAR label. For information on where to recycle unwanted TVs, where to find energy efficient TVs, and additional resources such as the TV Converter Box Coupon Program, visit our Web site:

www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/recycle/ecycling/tv-convert.htm.

Watershed Training

The EPA released training materials designed to help nonprofit watershed organizations develop and implement sustainable funding plans. The agency said the training materials outline the six key steps of funding plan development, introduce several different fundraising options, and provide case studies of successful financing mechanisms. According to EPA, the goal of the training materials is to give nonprofit watershed organizations an effective process for creating finance plans to ensure their own sustainability, which in turn will help protect water quality. The materials are available at www.epa.gov/watertrain/sustainablefinance/.

Carbon Dioxide, Methane Concentrations Increased in 2007

Carbon dioxide and methane, the most prevalent and most potent greenhouse gases, respectively, both increased in concentration in 2007, a greenhouse gas index maintained by the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration found. NOAA's greenhouse gas index, which is produced yearly, found that carbon dioxide levels rose by 19 billion tons in 2007, which is a 0.6 percent increase from 2006. The index update was released April 23. Info: www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/aggi



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10
Tribal Program
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, ETPA-085
Seattle, WA 98101-1128

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. Please submit articles to: Don Creek, EPA, 811 S.W. 6th Ave., Portland, OR 97204 or e-mail creek.don@epa.gov.

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter June 2008

To Report Spills and Accidents

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

Alaska	800-478-9300	Washington	800-258-5990
Idaho	800-632-8000	National (EPA)	800-424-8301
Oregon	800-452-0311		