

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. 11 — November 2006

<> CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS <>

November

- 2-5 **28th Annual AISES Conference**, Detroit, MI <http://www.aises.org/>
- 6-7 **Region 10/NWIFCA, 4th EPA/Washington Tribes Environmental Symposium**
LaConner, WA. Info: Marlies Wierenga 360-754-7644
- 6-9 **2006 National Air Monitoring Conference**, Las Vegas, NV. For info: Kevin Cavender:
cavender.kevin@epa.gov or Pete Babich: pete.babich@po.state.ct.us
- 13-15 **11th Annual Brownfields Conference**, Boston, MA. Info: Cynthia Greene: 617-918-1431 or
greenec.chynthia@epa.gov visit: <http://www.brownfields2006.org>. Conference is free.
- 13-16 **Water System Operator Training/Small Water System Op. & Maint**, Baronqa Casino,
Lakeside, CA. Info: David Robbins, 760-735-6891
- 14-15 **Collaborative Leadership Training**, UAA, Anchorage, AK (See page 6 for details)
- 14-16 **STORET/WebSIM training**, Seattle, WA Info: Jim Hileman: 206-553-1640
hileman.james@epa.gov
- 14-17 **Air Monitoring Data Management (Level 3)** Flagstaff, AZ. Info: 701-784-8264 or
<http://www.nau.edu/tams>
- 15-17 **Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE), 2nd National Training Workshop**,
Seattle, WA. For information: <http://www.cleanairinfo.com/care>

December

- 5-7 **Idaho Environmental Summit**, Boise, ID (Info: 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

Since 1993, November has officially been
designated National Indian Heritage Month



<> FUNDING <>

Exchange Network Grants

The new solicitation for grants closes on **November 20, 2006** at midnight (EST). For the 2007 year, about 10 percent of the total funding has been set aside for tribes. The notice is available at <http://www.epa.gov/exchangenetwork>

Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program provides funding for cleanup under its "Methfields" program. For information, visit: http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/policy/initiatives_co.htm#meth

or call Nuria Muniz at: 415-972-3811. For a brochure on EPA's methfields funding go to: http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/policy/methlab_brochure.pdf. For general Brownfields info, see page 2.

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Brownfields Applications

Proposals for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields grants are **due December 8, 2006**. For complete information on how to apply, eligibility, and other grant requirements, view or download the *Proposal Guidelines for Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants* at <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicat.htm>

Financial Funding

The U.S. Department of Treasury requests applications for the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund. The Fund provides financial and technical assistance to community-based organizations, known as community development financial institutions, that provide financing and related service to communities and populations that lack access to credit, capital and financial services. CDFI supports economic development, affordable housing and community development services. \$26 million is expected to be available and 75 awards are anticipated. **Responses are due November 14, 2006**. For more information: <http://www.cdfifund.gov/> or http://www.cdfifund.gov/what_we_do/

Sustainability Competition

EPA requests applications for the 4th Annual P3 Awards: A National Student Design Competition for Sustainability Focusing on People, Prosperity, and the Planet. This competition supports teams of college students to research, develop, and design solutions to challenges to sustainability. Areas of interest include: Energy, Agriculture, the Built Environment, Water, Materials and Chemicals, and Information Technology.

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

Undergraduate Fellowships

EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) requests proposals for Undergraduate Fellowships for bachelor level students in environmental fields of study. Seven areas of interest identified include, but are not limited to, Environmental Science and Economics. ORD expects to award 15 fellowships totaling \$622,000. **Responses are due November 29, 2006**. For more info: Georgette Boddie at: boddie.georgette@epa.gov or go to: http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2007/2007_star_gro_undergrad.html



IGAP Timelines

IGAP funding announcements were sent out on October 18th. These are the due dates for fiscal year 2007.

GAP Proposal due	Dec. 15, 2006
Project Officer contact	Feb. 23, 2007 (no later)
Negotiate work plan	Feb 23 — June 1, 2007
Submit Approved App.	Preferred date Apr. 15th
Grant Awards Issued	No later than Sept. 30th

Solid Waste Grants

The U.S. Department of Agriculture requests applications for the Solid Waste Management Grant Program. This program supports projects that seek to improve planning and management of solid waste sites in rural areas, and to reduce or eliminate pollution of water resources in rural areas. \$3.5 million is expected to be available, up to 30 awards are anticipated. **Responses are due by December 31, 2006**. For more information: LaVonda Pernel at 202-720-9635 or: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/SWMG.htm>

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	800-424-8802	National (EPA)	800-424-8301
Oregon	800-452-0311		

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AIEO Information Website

EPA’s Office of Water’s American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO) has launched two applications for sharing tribal information. First is the *Tribal Windows to the Environment*, on the Web at: <http://oaspub.epa.gov/tims/twe.html> . This site is a complement to the EPA window to *My Environment* application and includes all the information from that site, organized by federally recognized tribes.

Second is the *Tribal Contacts Data System*, at: https://oasint.rtpnc.epa.gov/TIMS/contact_ro.htm . This site provides mailing labels for addresses of Tribal Environmental Leaders, Tribal Environmental Program Managers, and members of the EPA Tribal Caucus. Addresses can be updated on a real-time basis.

Users guides for the two applications will be made available upon request by sending an e-mail to: liu.ed@epa.gov .

Tribal 106 Guidance

The Final Section 106 Tribal Guidance has been published in the Federal Register. A copy of the Guidance, Federal Register Notice, Response to Comments document, etc., can be found at this website: <http://www.epa.gov/owm/cwfinance/106tgg07.htm>

Waterborne Diseases

EPA’s Office of Research and Development and the Office of Water have published a series of papers summarizing research conducted on waterborne disease in the last 10 years. The work includes research supported by EPA and others and is limited to gastrointestinal illnesses as the health effect of concern.

ATSDR

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) has an Office of Tribal Affairs. The mission statement of ATSDR “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 and the Office of Tribal affairs are committed to assisting tribal governments in meeting the environmental health needs of their people.

ATSDR’s policy is to: • Respect and honor the sovereignty of the tribes, the responsibilities and rights to self-governance, and the difference between tribal nations and individuals; • Consult with tribal governments to ensure that community concerns and impacts are carefully considered before the Agency takes action or makes decisions affecting tribal communities; • Maintain government-to-government relationships with tribal governments; • Ensure ongoing communication with tribal governments, communities, and individual tribal members to define concerns about possible health impacts from exposure to hazardous substances.

For more information, visit the ATSDR website: <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/tribal>

EPA, CDC and others produced a series of papers reviewing the state of the science, methods for a national estimate of waterborne diseases, models that estimate waterborne illnesses and recommendations to fill existing gaps. Copies of the papers may be downloaded in PDF from the EPA website at: http://www.epa.gov/nheerl/articles/2006/waterborne_disease.html

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Sanitation Deficiency System

Indian Health Service selects tribal drinking water, wastewater, and solid waste construction projects for funding every year from their Sanitation Deficiency System (SDS) list. This list is accessible on the Internet at: <https://wstars.ihs.gov>. To review a list of tribal projects on the SDS list, including their relative ranking, select an HIS Area and run a report of the SDS on-line-listing. If you know of a tribal infrastructure need that should be included on the SDS list, but is not, contact your local HIS Office of Environmental Health to learn how the list is updated for your tribe.

Particulate Standards

EPA has announced that it is strengthening the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) that address fine and coarse particle pollution, also known as particulate matter (PM). The standards address two categories of particle pollution: fine particles and inhalable coarse particles. The final action significantly strengthens EPA's prior daily standard from 65 micrograms of particles per cubic meter to 35 micrograms of particles per cubic meter of air. This standard increase protection of the public from short-term exposure to fine particles. States must meet the revised standards by 2015, with a possible extension to 2020, depending on local conditions and the availability of controls. More: <http://epa.gov/pm/naaqsrev2006.html>.

Got Water?

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The U.S. Government Accountability Office survey, reported that 36 states anticipate local, regional or statewide water shortages, even without drought conditions, by 2013. In addition, the wastewater and drinking water systems are aging. Some system components have not been replaced in more than a century. EPA's 2002 Clean Water and Drinking Water Infrastructure Gap Analysis estimates that the potential funding shortfall for drinking water and waste water infrastructure could exceed \$500 billion by 2020.

In response, EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson announced the WaterSense program. This new, voluntary partnership program promotes water efficiency and primes the market for water-efficient products and services just as the market has embraced energy-efficient products.

The WaterSense program is part of EPA's broader sustainable water infrastructure initiative that emphasizes public and private partnerships. The objective is to rethink the way the nation manages water resources and infrastructure. For more info: <http://www.epa.gov/watersense>.

TMDL Terminology

Bonita Best-Wong, Director of EPA Assessment and Watershed Protection Division, has issued a memo clarifying the Guidance for Water Quality-Based Decisions: the TMDL Process, issued in 1991.

She explains EPA's interpretation of the term *phased TMDL* as used in EPA guidance, and the distinction between *phased TMDL*, *staged*

implementation, and *adaptive implementation*. *Phased TMDLs* are a matter of TMDL development, while *staged implementation* and *adaptive implementation* are post-development concepts.

The complete memorandum has been posted on EPA's website at: http://www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/tmdl_clarification_letter.html.

NETI

EPA's National Enforcement Training Institute (NETI) online training resource provides access to course registration, training products, online classrooms, and e-mail updates. If you have any questions, call Arthur Totten at 202-564-7164 or totten.arthur@epa.gov or <http://www.envirofieldschool.com> for the most up-to-date list of enforcement and compliance courses offered by EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance.

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R10 Regional Administrator

Elin Miller has been appointed as Regional Administrator for EPA Region 10. Ms. Miller holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agronomy/Plant Protection from the University of Arizona, where she was a Rhodes Scholarship finalist. She once headed a California environmental agency. Ms. Miller believes this region “offers a remarkable blend of diversity, beauty, and challenge deserving our highest ethic of stewardship and service.”

Energy and Minerals Projects Invited

The Division of Energy and Mineral Development (DEMD) is now soliciting request from Tribes for energy and mineral assessment and development projects for the 2007 fiscal year. DEMD provides funds for tribal energy and mineral projects each year under a program previously named *Mineral Assessment Program* or MAP.

The deadline for submitting a proposal is December 15, 2006. On or before that date, the tribe must submit a complete proposal to the Agency and Regional Office. At the same time, a copy must be sent to the Division of Energy and Mineral Development at:
Indian Affairs, Division of Energy & Mineral Development, Attn: Mineral Assmt. Program, 12136 West Bayaud Ave., Suite 300, Lakewood, Colorado 80228.

This year the program has a new name and a new emphasis. It is now *Energy and mineral Development Program* (EMDP). The word “energy” was added to indicate all of the resources eligible for funding (oil, gas, coal, biomass, wind, solar, geothermal), while the word “development” replaces “assessment” to emphasize the commitment to tribal economic development through the use of the tribe’s own energy and mineral resources.

If you would like copies of the EMDP Proposal Writing Guidelines manual, please contact Wanda Merritt at 303-969-5270 x365. If you have questions concerning the EMDP proposal submission process, please contact Robert Anderson, DEMD’s EMDP Coordinator at 303-969-5270 x227.

Compliance Outside Indian Country

EPA is interested in learning if you know of violations of environmental compliance at regulated facilities outside of Indian Country that may impact human health and the environment inside Indian Country.

To help ensure compliance, EPA would like you to send any information you think might be useful for the Agency in addressing non-compliance issues outside Indian Country.

EPA welcomes your input on compliance issues at any time through its online Tips and Complaints at: www.epa.gov/compliance/data/planning/priorities/tribal.html Your input will help improve an understanding of compliance issues at federally regulated facilities outside Indian Country.

Indian Country Modifications

EPA has proposed a Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) that would put into effect New Source Review (NSR) requirements in areas under tribal jurisdiction. In these areas, often referred to as Indian Country, new or modified industrial facilities and large facilities in areas not meeting national clean air standards would be subject to air permitting requirements.

For more details and a fact sheet, go to: <http://epa.gov/nsr/actions.html>. EPA is conducting outreach on these proposed rules, both nationally and regionally. For information, contact Raj Rao at 919-541-5344, rao.raj@epa.gov or Jessica Montanez at 919-541-3407, montanez.jessica@epa.gov.



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Alaska Operations Office

ALASKA NEWS

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EPA IGAP Training

The EPA Indian General Assistance Program (IGAP) Training was held on October 12 and 13 at the Anchorage Downtown Marriott. The program focused on “**The Lifecycle of a Grant**” training concept to better assist tribes in grants management. About 283 people attended the two-day training provided by the EPA Alaska Tribal staff. Certificates were awarded and will be mailed out to those who completed all four sessions.

The Alaska EPA Tribal staff is looking forward to seeing all of you at the 9th annual Alaska Forum on the Environment (AFE) in **February 2007**. Next year’s AFE event will again deliver nationally recognized speakers and breakout sessions to provide you with educational opportunities and the latest research information on Alaska’s Environment.

Alaska Collaborative Leadership Training Building Sustainable Partnerships, November 14-15

This workshop covers a watershed approach to creating successful partnerships and implementing effective work projects. Participants will learn the steps in organizing a partnership and carrying out a work project. 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 at right 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. If you have questions, please call Jane Oakley, Resource Solutions Training Coordinator, at 907-257-2717, or e-mail her at anjeo@uaa.alaska.edu. Registration info and forms are on the university’s website: <http://resourcesolutions.uaa.alaska.edu> Please fax completed registrations to 907-257-2754.

Sitka Tribe of Alaska

Sea Otter Hunter Mentor

Funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will provide support for a unique training opportunity pairing experimental tribal hunters with young or new sea otter hunters. The training will take place after school and on weekends over a 4- to 6-week schedule. Mentor responsibilities include participating with youth in hunter and gun-safety, training regarding applicable laws, regulations, and traditional artwork courses. Mentors will lead training on the non-wasteful take of sea otters, proper care of sea otter skins, and classroom-based hunting training. Mentors must have a

flexible schedule and be able to participate in evening and weekend training. Please contact: Kathy Miller at kmiller@sitkatribes.org or 907-747-3207.

Videographer

The same program is seeking a project videographer who will use a video camera provided by the Sitka Tribe to tape the hunter training. The project videographer will then use the footage to prepare a hunter training video that will become the property of the Sitka Tribe of Alaska. Please contact: Kathy Miller at the number above.

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Public Transit Driver

The Sitka Tribe of Alaska needs an on-call Public Transit (Community Ride) Driver. This is a non-benefited, \$12-per-hour position that will remain open until filled. Please contact: Kathy Miller kmiller@sitkatribes.org or 907-747-3207.

Outreach Coordinator

Alaska Youth for Environmental Action (AYEA) is seeking a full-time Outreach Coordinator. AYE is a dynamic network of youth leaders throughout the state who tackle pressing environmental health, justice, and conservation issues through leadership training, action projects and civic engagement opportunities.

AYEA needs someone to help expand their network and increase their capacity to cultivate youth leaders in rural Alaska and urban Anchorage neighborhoods. The Coordinator will work alongside the AYE Program Manager and volunteer youth leaders. The right person will enjoy working with teens, understand how to empower and support young people, and have experience organizing youth on campaigns and projects. The right person will also be familiar with Alaska's many cultures, and help represent the diverse youth membership. Please call (907) 339-3907 or carp@nwf.org.

RurAL CAP AmeriCorps and VISTA

RurAL CAP is now recruiting members for its 2007 — 2008 BIRCH, RAVEN and VISTA teams. Request information at 800-478-7227 or comdev@ruralcap.com Download the forms at www.ruralcap.com.

AmeriCorps and VISTA members are recruited locally and work to address community needs. Past projects have included: beach clean-ups, health fairs, recycling, community gardens, cultural activities, youth groups, community planning, computer training and education.

The program year begins in January 2007 and requires a one-year commitment to service. Members receive living stipends, an education award of \$4,725, on the job training and much more. If you know someone who is a self-starter looking to make a difference, call RurAL CAP today.

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Alaskan Tribes and Climate Change

EPA recognizes that Alaskan tribes are experiencing many effects of global climate change. Climate change is a priority in the EPA Region 10 Strategic Plan.

We ask your assistance to create a publication, tentatively titled "Climate Change in Our World, In Our Words: Reports from Alaskan Tribes." This is an opportunity for Alaskan Tribes to describe climate change effects in their traditional lands.

The stories should fall into three categories:

- Effects on our lands, waters, traditional foods and way of life.
- How we are taking action.
- Examples of alternative energy projects.

The reports should be 1-2 pages in length with pictures if possible. This request will also be mailed to all Alaskan tribal governments and will be e-mailed to GAP participants by their Tribal Coordinator.

EPA would like to have work completed on this project by the *Alaska Forum on the Environment* in February 2007. For more information, please contact Michelle Davis at 907-271-3434 or e-mail davis.michellev@epa.gov.

We would like to close with these words from a great leader: "So reality and the Natural Law will prevail; The Law of the Seed and Regeneration. We can still alter our course. It is NOT too late. We still have options. We need the courage to change our values to the regeneration of our families, the life that surrounds us. Given this opportunity, we can raise ourselves."

Haudenosaunee Faithkeeper, Chief Oren Lyons addressing delegates to the United Nations Organization, opened "The Year of the Indigenous Peoples" (1993) in the United Nations General Assembly Auditorium, United Nations Plaza, New York City, December 10, 1992.

[Article by Michelle Davis, EPA Alaska Tribal Coordinator].

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NPDES Permit Reissue

The EPA, Region 10 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits program plans to reissue the state-wide general permit for small suction dredging in 2007. The permit expires on June 4, 2007. The current permit covers small suction dredges with intake nozzles 6 inches or less.

EPA anticipates that the proposed general permit will be very similar to the current permit. Letters regarding interest in Tribal Consultation were sent out on October 12, 2006. If you have questions about this permitting issue, please contact Cindi Godsey in the Alaska Operations Office in Anchorage at 907-271-6561 or 800-781-0983.



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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