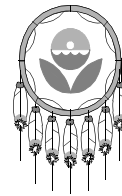


Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



Vol. XI No. III
March 1, 2002

Work Shops and Conferences

March 19-21, Tribal Utility Managers Development, Reno, NV. See text below

March 26-28, 26th Annual Water Environmental School, Clackamas Community College, Oregon City, OR. For information: Dick Parker-Resnic 503/823-2665.

May 15-17, Pesticide Conference, San Diego, CA. For information see below **

June 4-5-7, 2002, Water Quality Workshops for Tribal Environmental Managers, Worley, ID. For information contact Lillian Wilmore at 617/232-5742 or NAEcology@aol.com.

**Region 10 Tribal
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monthly at no charge**

To receive a copy call:

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WA..Alison.....360/753-8185
Tribal Office. Evelyn. 800/424-4372 ext. 4011

Tribal Environmental Management Conference

The Sixth National Tribal environmental Management conference will be co-sponsored by the Pyramid Lake Paiute tribe, June 3-7, 2002, at the Nugget Casino and Hotel, 1100 Nugget Avenue, Sparks Nevada (89431). The Environmental Protection Agency is pleased to co-sponsor this important event. Since 1992, this bi-annual conference has provided a forum for tribes to develop environmental capacity, share and discuss environmental issues affecting their communities, and find solutions to environmental problems in Indian Country. To broaden and

strengthen the multi-media focus for the conference, other Federal agencies and Tribal organizations are invited and encouraged to hold their own independently-sponsored meetings around this conference. Primary EPA contacts are Felicia Wright, 202/260-4410 and Tonya Hawkins 703/308-8278; Caren Rothstein-Robinson, 202/260-0065; Claudia Walters, 202/564-6762; and Clara Mickles, 202/260-7519.

Environmental Conference

National Tribal Environmental Council, Ninth National Conference hosted by the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of Nevada June 2, 3, 4, 2002 at the John Ascuaga's Nugget, Reno, NV
Contact: www.ntec.org or call 505/242-2175

Innovation Awards

Localities Eligible for Awards Recognizing Environmental Innovation The Institute for Government Innovation at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University is accepting applications for the 2002 Innovations in American

Government Awards. The Innovations Award are given annually to programs that serve as examples of creative and effective government at its best. During the past 15 years, 295 innovative programs have been recognized as winners or finalists and have received \$17.9 million in grants. For more information, click on: <http://www.innovations.harvard.edu>

Tribal Utility Managers

EPA Region 10 and the Portland Area Indian Health Service are cosponsoring a workshop, entitled Tribal Utility Development on March 19-21 at the Atlantis Casino Resort in Reno, Nevada. This 3-day course is designed to assist tribes and tribal utility managers, including tribal leaders and key professional staff, in developing and maintaining tribal utility organizations for drinking water and wastewater. Principal subject areas will include ① key components of viable tribal utility organizations and how to develop them, ② principles of effective utility management, ③ proper operation and maintenance of

fluoridation systems,^④ new EPA drinking water rules and their impact on small water systems, ^⑤emergency response plans, ^⑥how sampling plans, work order systems, PM programs, and proper operation and maintenance of disinfection systems improve utility operations, and ^⑦changes in EPA jurisdiction in Indian Country and potential impacts upon tribes and tribal water systems. There will be 2 CEUs awarded for completion of this workshop for maintaining water operator certification.

The workshop will use open discussion, demonstrations, and group activities to accomplish these goals. Lodging reservations may be made by calling the Atlantis Casino Resort at 800/723-6500; identify yourself with the Indian Health Service to receive the block room rate of \$55 single/double occupancy plus tax. Block room rates will be held through March 4. Space is limited so you must register for this workshop. Call Robin Dalton, Indian Health Service, 2201 Sixth Ave., Room 300, Seattle, WA 98121, telephone 206/615-2793, fax 206/615-2797.

EPA Position

The EPA's Office of Research and Development and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry are seeking applications for research on lifestyle and cultural practices of Tribal populations and risks from toxic substances in the environment. Tribal populations may be at especially high risk for environmentally-caused diseases

and health outcomes as a result of their subsistence lifestyles, occupations and customs, and/or environmental releases impacting tribal lands. This solicitation invites applications in two areas of current interest, the development of: ^① exposure and effects assessment methods that can be broadly applied across geographic regions and Tribal populations and ^② risk management strategies and options that will lead to reduction of risk from exposure. Closing Date: 07/10/2002 Info: http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/02trib_risk.html

Bioterrorism

A new survey of county public health directors, conducted by the National Association of Counties (NACo), reveals that many local governments nationwide are unprepared for a bioterrorism or chemical warfare crisis within their communities. The survey further identifies a number of local government obstacles to bioterrorism and chemical warfare response preparedness. For more: <http://www.naco.org/pubs/surveys/publichealth/index.cfm>

Habitat Restoration

NOAA is soliciting proposals for funding to implement community-based habitat restoration projects that will benefit living marine resources. Up to \$2 million will be available for community-based habitat restoration projects in FY 2002, and typical awards will range from \$50,000 to \$200,000 per recipient. For more information: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/funding.html>

Air Toxics

EPA has revised the list of industrial sources (known as source categories) for which it intends to develop regulations to control toxic air pollutants. Toxic air pollutants, also called air toxics, are those pollutants known or suspected to cause cancer and other serious health problems. EPA has made several changes to the list of source categories based on information that was not available when the Agency issued the initial list. For more information: <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-AIR/2002/February/Day-12/a334.htm>

Smart Growth

A new report by ICMA and the Smart Growth Network, "Getting to Smart Growth: 100 Policies for Implementation," highlights and describes techniques to help policymakers put smart growth principles into practice. The policies and guidelines presented in this primer have proven successful in communities across the United States, and range from formal legislative or regulatory efforts to informal approaches, plans, and programs. For more information: <http://www.smartgrowth.org/partpubliclist.asp?part=6&res=800>

Water Quality Funding

On March 14-15, 2002, EPA will host a public workshop in Washington, DC, to discuss the current status of water quality funding in the United States, provide an overview of funding programs and illustrate their use through case studies by practitioners from around the

country. The workshop will provide a forum to discuss how water quality funding programs can be managed and enhanced to achieve the greatest environmental benefit. For more information: <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-WATER/2002/February/Day-12w3364.htm>

Water System

The Montana University System Water Center has developed a computer-based training program for water system personnel. The training is available on both the Internet and CD-ROM.

"Operator Basics" is available on the web at: <http://water.montanana.edu/training>

To obtain a free copy of the CD, contact the National Drinking Water Clearinghouse at 800/624-8301 or 304/293-4191 and request item #DW CDTR18.

Energy Efficiency Workshop

On June 2-5, 2002, the U.S. Department of Energy will sponsor the Energy 2002: Hot Challenges, Cool Solutions - Energy Efficiency Workshop and Exposition in Palm Springs, California. This national energy management workshop and trade show will provide an opportunity for attendees to learn about the latest cost-effective energy-saving, renewable energy, and water efficiency products and equipment. Info: <http://www.energy2002.ee.doe.gov>

Small Communities

In 1995, the EPA established its Policy on Flexible State Enforcement Responses to Small Community Violations ("the Small

Communities Policy") to ease the environmental compliance burdens on local governments under 2,500 in population. During the past six years, few states have elected to establish programs to provide comprehensive environmental compliance assistance to small communities. EPA is considering several revisions to the Small Communities Policy to make the policy more useful and to promote more widespread implementation of the policy among states, and is soliciting public comment through April 23, 2002. Comments may be submitted at:

<http://www.docket.oeca@epa.gov>

MOBILE6 Emissions

MOBILE6, an EPA model for estimating pollution from highway vehicles, is now available online. MOBILE6 calculates emissions of hydrocarbons (HC), oxides of nitrogen (NOx), and carbon monoxide (CO) from passenger cars, motorcycles, light- and heavy-duty trucks. The model accounts for the emission impacts of factors such as changes in vehicle emission standards, changes in vehicle populations and activity, and variation in local conditions such as temperature, humidity, and fuel quality. To download click on:

<http://www@epa.gov/otaq/m6htm>

Water Quality Standards

On March 11-15, 2002, EPA is offering its 5-day introduction to water quality standards course in Washington, DC. The course is a comprehensive and highly structured course that introduces participants to all aspects of the water quality standards program,

including the interpretation and application of the water quality standards regulation; policies and program guidance; and the development of water quality criteria (human health, aquatic life, sediment, nutrient, and biological). The course is designed for those with fewer than six months of experience with water quality standards.

For more: <http://www.epa.gov/ost/standards/academy.html>

Academic Scholarships

The Indian Health Service Scholarship Program applications for the academic year 2002-03 awards cycle are now available. Full-time and part-time academic scholarships will be funded for each of the following three scholarship programs: ① Health Professions Preparatory Scholarship, ② Health Professions Pre-graduate Scholarships, ③ Health Professional Scholarships.

Benefits include a monthly living stipend, full tuition, reasonable educational expenses, and tutorial expenses.

For additional information contact: Janelle Langland, Portland Area Indian Health Service, 1220 SW third Ave, Room 440, Portland Or 97204 or 503/326-2625 or e-mail: www.jlangland@pao.portland.ihs.gov

Fellowships

EPA's Science to Achieve Results (STAR) fellowship applications are out for graduate fellowships for master's and doctoral-level students in environmentally related fields of study. Approximately 100

fellowships are expected to be awarded at levels up to \$68,000 per fellowship. For details: <http://es.epa.gov/ncerqa> then click on "Fellowships"

Tribal Air Professionals

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP), at Northern Arizona University, invites tribal environmental professional and local, tribal, state and federal air quality agencies to participate in this year's professional exchange program. The program is funded by the EPA Office of Air and Radiation and is designed to help meet the training needs of tribal air quality professionals. It places tribal professionals in a one or two-week air quality placement with an appropriate tribal, federal, state, or local air quality office where the participant will train under the direction of an experienced professional in an area of interest selected by the participant. ITEP will award each participant a stipend to be used to pay for travel, lodging and subsistence costs. The participants regular employer is in excess of the stipend.

For information on the program contact Fonda Swimmer, Program Coordinator at 928/523-8785, or: fonda.swimmer@nau.edu

\$25 MILLION

EPA is providing \$25 million for data modernization and information integration efforts to further its working partnership with states and tribes. The National Environmental Information Exchange Grant Program is designed to address

several key government challenges: improve the quality of environmental data; make the flows of data between EPA, states, tribes and other partners more efficient; reduce reporting burden; and improve access to environmental data. The goal of the Exchange Grant Program is to advance the National Environmental Information Exchange Network which will transform and facilitate the exchange of information.

The types of grants being offered include: grants to enable states and tribes to re-engineer their environmental reporting; grants to demonstrate progress in validating the Network; and challenge grants that pursue state or multi-state or tribal collaborative efforts to integrate environmental information. A copy of the Federal Register Notice and further information on the Exchange Grant Program are at: www.epa.gov/neenprg. You can also contact Jon Schweiss at 206/ 553-1690 or schweiss.jon@epa.gov

Watershed Training

The EPA recently published an updated version of *EPA Watershed Training Opportunities*.

The booklet lists live training courses sponsored by EPA's Office of Water and EPA's Watershed Academy, web-based training opportunities, resource materials such as documents and videos, and watershed-related Web sites that are available to EPA staff and others.

The booklet is available on the Watershed Academy's Web site located at www.epa.gov/owow/

watershed/wacademy/wtopps.html

Copies are also available at no charge from the National Service Center for Environmental Publications at 800/490-9198. Ask for EPA document #841-B-01-002.

Tribal Training

The Office of Wastewater Management's Municipal Assistance Branch is in the process of establishing a pilot project Tribal training and technical assistance center, as authorized under Section 104(g) of the Clean Water Act. The center will assist Tribal communities with their wastewater needs. The primary objective of the Tribal training wastewater center is to provide information and no-cost, direct on-site training and technical assistance to Indian tribes and their wastewater treatment facilities. Consequently, EPA will be helping the Tribes to obtain new systems or maintain properly functioning treatment facilities, as a result, maximizing the community's public health investment in improving water quality. In a cooperative effort with EPA, Tribal communities, States, Municipalities, and Operators, this assistance endeavor will focus on issues such as, facility planning, technology selection, wastewater treatment plant capacity, operation training, maintenance, administrative management, financial management, trouble-shooting, and laboratory operations. Furthermore, the Tribal training center will function as a resource center or Clearinghouse for Tribes to access information via

publications, databases, and newsletters, and as a contact point for other organizations that might be able to provide other Tribal services and assistance.

The center will help to reduce the number of homes with inadequate wastewater systems by identifying wastewater concerns in tribal communities. This will be accomplished by characterizing the need to upgrade/replace existing/failing decentralized treatment systems and providing the operations and maintenance training to keep these systems working at peak performance. Furthermore, for those communities that discharge to a centralized treatment facility, the center will deal with operations and maintenance issues at these plants, to again ensure the proper operation and maintenance of these facilities, thereby maintaining/achieving long-term compliance. For additional information: Virgil Masayesva 928/523-9651.

Assistance Handbook

The Tribal environmental and Natural Resources assistance Handbook is available on line. This Handbook was developed by the Domestic Policy Council Working Group on American Indians and Alaska Natives. It is a compilation of the federal sources of financial and/or technical assistance programs available for tribal environmental management. The handbook benefits tribal environmental staff and informs federal, regional, state and local government employees about the sources of environmental assistance available in order to improve customer service to the tribes. A section on the EPA is included in the handbook. Sources of assistance span various environmental categories, including: air, water, plants and animals, toxic/hazardous waste, solid waste, pollution prevention emergency preparedness and response, and environmental education. The document is

available at: www.epa.gov/indian/tribhand.htm or contact the EPA American Indian Environmental Office, 401 M. Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20460 or call Tonya Fish at 202/260-0769, or fish.tonya@epa.gov

Wastewater Training

March 26-28,2002 Short course at Clackamas Community College, Oregon City. Info John Lewis 503/657-6958.

March 27-28, American Public Works Association 2002 Spring Conference at Skamania Lodge, Stevenson, WA. Info Marion Berge 503/665-5175.

End

