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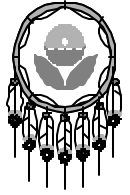
EPA Homepage Website

<http://www.epa.gov/r10earth>

then click on *tribes*

L E T T E R

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



Vol. X | No. 1
January 1, 2003

Work Shops and Conferences

February 8-13 2003, ATNI Winter Conference, Portland, OR. Info 503/249-5779 or www.atnitribes.org

February 22-26 2003, National Congress of American Indians, Washington, DC. 202/466-7767

April 21-25, Northwest Indian Youth Conference, Doubletree Hotel, SeaTac, WA. Sherry Pardilla

May 22, Region 10 Operator Certification Training, Lucky Eagle Casino, WA. 541/928-5211

July 13-15, Turning Science to Service of Native Communities, Fairbanks Alaska. For information on this Conference look under ALASKA.

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter is published

monthly at no charge

To receive a copy call:

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ext. 4011

Gates Scholarship Available

Nomination Materials for the Gates Millennium Scholars program are now available for the 2003-2004 Gates Millennium Scholars (GMS) awards. Principals, teachers, guidance counselors, tribal higher education representatives, and other professional educators are invited to nominate students with outstanding academic records, strong leadership potential and commitment to community service. Nominators must act in their personal capacity. Institutional nominations will not be accepted. All applications materials

must be postmarked or submitted online no later than February 1, 2003.

The Gates Millennium Scholars program was established in 1999 through a grant provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to provide Asian Pacific Islander Americans, African Americans, American Indians/Alaska Natives, or Hispanic Americans with an opportunity to complete a college education. The goal of GMS is to promote academic excellence and to provide an opportunity for thousands of outstanding students with significant financial need, particularly those intending to study mathematics, science, engineering, education or library science, to reach their fullest potential.

To request Nomination Materials or for more information contact: Neel Saxena, Outreach Coordinator, GMS/APIA, Email: gmspinfo@ocanatl.org Phone: 202/530-8894 x 2.

Geographic Initiative Grants

It's almost time to apply for

Regional Geographic Initiative grants. These are generally small grants which fund broad based, cooperative efforts to address environmental problems at the local level. Watch the EPA Region 10 Web Page for further information in early 2003. Contact: Dan Phalen, Tel: 206/553-8578, Email: phalen.dan@epa.gov

Tribal Science Council

Consistent with the EPA Indian Policy and the agency's trust responsibility to Tribes, the mission of the Tribal Science Council is to provide a forum for interaction between Tribal and Agency representatives to work collaboratively on environmental scientific issues. The Council will also address a wide range of scientific issues including research, monitoring, modeling, information, technology, and training in Indian Country. It will develop a better understanding of the priority science issues of Tribes from

across the nation, and the Agency's ability to address these issues and consider them as a part of its formal scientific issues. The relationship between the Tribes and EPA in the Tribal Science Council will not substitute for, but rather augment, the government to government relationship between EPA and Tribal governments. For information: Chris Gannon at 541/553-2020, Bobby Smith at 415/972-3735 or Kesner Flores at 530/473-3318 or corwepa@hotmail.com

Superfund Minority

The EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD), Nation Center for Environmental Research (NCER), is seeking applications for Superfund Minority Institutions Program that will provide extramural funding to minority institutions via grants to conduct research on Superfund-related topics. Appropriate projects include research on risk-assessment and risk-management issues associated with contaminated sites, as well as related subjects such as community assessment and involvement, susceptible populations, and tribal-specific topics. For more information contact Nora Savage at 202/564-8228 or savage.nora@epa.gov

Tribal and State Inspectors

EPA is currently working with representatives of tribal and state governments to draft national procedures for authorizing tribal and state environmental inspectors. The draft procedures establish the process EPA regions will use when deciding whether to authorize tribal and state inspectors to conduct environmental compliance inspections with a federal credential on behalf of EPA. A major part of the draft procedures are minimum training standards in three areas: (1) basic training on EPA inspection policies and procedures;

(2) program-specific inspector training; and (3) health and safety training. Other important elements include the need for a written agreement between EPA and tribes or states covering authorization and the use of federal credentials, and the need for some inspectors to participate in medical monitoring programs and to use personal protective equipment. EPA distributed a first draft of the procedures to all tribes and states in June 1999. Please contact Jonathan Binder at EPA Headquarters at 202/564-2516, or e-mail binder.jonathan@epa.gov for additional information.

Community Planning

April 1-2, 2003, USDA 1385 Black Lake Blvd, Olympia, WA. This workshop will provide the opportunity for Tribes to meet state and Federal funding agencies to learn more about financial and technical resources that are available and how to access this assistance. Agency technical assistance teams will meet to review specific project proposals and develop plans for implementation. For information: Kelly Titensor at 503/326-3155 or Joanne Rosenthal at 509/664-0211.

Danger at the Pump

Static electricity related incidents at retail gasoline outlets are extremely unusual, but the potential for them to happen appears to be the highest during cool or cold and dry climate conditions. In rare circumstances, these static related incidents have resulted in a brief flash fire occurring at the fill point. Consumers can take steps to minimize these and other potential fueling hazards by following safe refueling procedures.

Most important, they should not get back into their vehicles during

refueling even when using the nozzle's hold-open latch. This will greatly reduce and minimize the likelihood of any build up of static electricity.

A build up of static electricity can be caused by re-entering a vehicle during fueling, particularly in cool or cold and dry climate conditions. If the motorist then returns to the vehicle fill pipe when refueling is completed, the static may discharge at the fill point, causing a brief flash fire with gasoline refueling vapors.

Motorist who cannot avoid getting back into the vehicle, should always first touch a metal part of the vehicle, such as the door, or some other metal surface, away from the fill point upon exiting the vehicle while they are standing on the ground.

Wastewater Set-Aside

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Wastewater Management provides financial and technical assistance to aid Native Americans in the construction and operation of wastewater facilities. Help can be obtained by contacting Sylvia Bell, Office of Water, HQ, Mail Code 4204, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460, or 202/564-0621.

CTD

Catching The Dream (CTD) formerly Native Americans Scholarship Fund, inc. (NASF) has published the first-ever comprehensive directory of grants to Indians. The book, called "The National Indian Grant Directory" or NIGD, is a 600-page description of grants. It details some 548 foundations, corporations, federal government

agencies and religious organizations that make grants to Indian tribes and non-profit organizations. The book is available from CTD for **\$99.95** plus **\$3.50** shipping and handling. The CTD address is 8200 Mountain Road, NE, Suite 203, Albuquerque, NM 87110, or 505/262-2351.

Wastewater Manual

The manual contains information on new types of septic systems, and reviews wastewater renovation and performance, siting, design, management, etc. The new manual updates reviews on septic systems literature, overviews new alternative and innovative types of systems, and introduces the performance-based approach. It also provides the latest information about monitoring and replacement of decentralized wastewater systems (commonly known as septic systems). Order a free copy by sending a request to: USEPA/NSCEP, P.O. Box 42419, Cincinnati, Ohio 45242-0419 or call 800/490-9198. You may also download the manual from EPA's website:

<http://www.epa.gov/ORC/NRMRL/Pubs/625R00008/625R00008.htm>

Protect Water Quality

The EPA Office of Water's Nonpoint Source Control Branch has developed a reference tool for local government officials to help them craft local ordinances to protect water quality. Governing officials can customize their existing or new ordinances using the examples on this web-page: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/ordinance>

Hazardous Chemical Report

The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) were enacted by Congress

to provide citizens with information on chemicals and their uses and releases at facilities across the nation, and to provide the government with immediate notice to appropriately respond to releases. Most importantly, these laws are intended to ensure that federal, state and local emergency responders have vital information that will help them to prepare for emergencies and protect the public by managing chemical risks. The laws require facilities to immediately notify emergency responders about accidental chemical releases so that agencies and government can respond to the situation. EPA actively takes enforcement actions against non-compliers.

Environmental Health

Montana State University's Extension Program entitled "Connected to the Earth" is a series of fact sheets designed to address the environmental health concerns of Native American families. Its goal is to provide a simple, step-by-step process to help people assess and if necessary, correct a variety of environmental and health hazards that may exist on their property. The 11 fact sheets cover water quality, watershed protection, wastewater treatment, hazardous household products, lead in and around the home, yard and garden care, safe use of fuels, indoor air quality, heating systems, and household waste. To order a packet, contact the MSU Extension Housing Program at 109 Taylor Hall, Bozeman, Montana 59717, or call 406/994-3451. The price of the publication is \$7.50 per packet.

Kids and Groundwater

The Groundwater foundation's Kids Corner teaches children about groundwater, and how they can protect it and conserve it. The site

also provides plenty of cool activities, such as puzzles, mazes, and ideas for festivals.

The site: www.groundwater.org/KidsCorner/kidscorner.htm.

For more information contact the Groundwater Foundation at P.O. box 22558, Lincoln, NE 68542-2558. You may also call them at 800/858-4844. Or e-mail: info@groundwater.org.

Products Catalog

A new product catalog, the 2002-2003 Wastewater Products Catalog is now available in hard copy form or can be downloaded from the National Small Flows Clearinghouse (NSFC) Web site www.nsfrc.wvu.edu

The catalog lists more than 386 educational products about small community wastewater treatment. Included are design manuals, posters, videotapes, topical case studies, computer software, fact sheets, newsletters, and other materials. Along with each product's price, item number, and title, the customer is also provided with a summary of the product.

An index in the back of the guide enables customers to use 55 keywords to search for products by topic, and an order form that can be mailed or faxed to the NSFC also is included.

To order the NSFC's 2002-2003 Wastewater Products Catalog, call the NSFC at 800/624-8301 or 304/293-4191 and request Item # WWCAT. The catalog also is available on the NSFC's Web site <http://www.nsfrc.wvu.edu> on the site's "Products" page. Orders can also be placed via e-mail at: nsfc_orders@mail.wvu.edu

Food Service Facility

The Smithsonian Institutions is

seeking proposals for the management and operation of the food service facility located at the newly constructed National Museum of the American Indian, scheduled to open in Washington, D.C. in September 2004. The restaurant will provide high quality, competitively priced, authentic Native American food and beverages to museum visitors. Over 8,000 visitors per day (3 million per year) are expected to pass through the new museum, which will serve as the Smithsonian's primary venue for exhibition, performances, conferences, and other programs promoting public knowledge of, and respect for, the vital indigenous cultures of the Western Hemisphere.

The request for Proposals became available November 18, 2002 and may be obtained by contacting Joy Shepherd at 202/275-1231 or via e-mail at: jshpherd@retail.si.edu. Copies will also be available at Smithsonian Business Ventures, Victor Building Suite 7100, 750 9th ST., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20012.

One question and answer session for prospective offerors will be held on February 10, 2003. Written proposals for the National Museum of American Indian Food Service Facility will be due on Monday, March 24, 2003.

Clean Water

EPA released a report recently, stating 91 percent of people served by public water systems now drink water meeting all federal health based standards - up from 79 percent in 1993.

Over-application and abuse of pesticides and fertilizers contribute 67 million pounds of pesticides annually, huge volumes of animal waste - half a million animal factory farms produce

130 times the amount of waste of the human population, and careless activities at home, work and play contribute solvents, gasoline, detergents, and raw sewage that end up directly into waterways.

For more ideas and resource materials on protecting drinking water, see: www.epa.gov/safewater or call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800/426-4791. Also visit EPA's Year of Clean Water Website at: <http://www.epa.gov/water/yearofcleanwater>.

EPA Eases Air Regulations

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced that it has finalized a rule to change its New Source Review (NSR) Program. These changes will make it easier for utilities and refineries to modernize or expand their operations without installing new controls to capture the additional pollution produced. EPA claims that the changes will increase energy efficiency and reduce emissions reductions, by allowing industry greater flexibility when modernizing their operations and providing incentives to installing state-of-the-art pollution controls. For more: <http://www.epa.gov/nsr>

Acid Rain Emissions

According to a report recently released by the EPA, the Agency's Acid Rain Program is experiencing ongoing trends of significantly reduced emissions. The latest data available in the report confirm major reductions nationwide in two acid rain-causing emissions - sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides. The report is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/airmarkets/cmprpt/arp01/index.html>

Water Security Grants

EPA is soliciting applications from non-profit organizations that actively provide technical support and/or assistance to drinking water systems that serve populations of less than 50,000 people. Specifically, EPA is seeking to enhance the ability of non-profit organizations to provide support and training in the areas of vulnerability assessments, emergency response planning and preparation, and security enhancements. Info: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/security>

Brownfields Web Site

The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) has formally launched BrownfieldSource.org. The Web site provides instant access to news, events, research reports, and other published materials related to brownfields revitalization, focusing on the latest in community, economic, environmental, governmental, innovative, legal, and redevelopment issues. For more: <http://www.BrownfieldSource.org>

Online Compliance Records

EPA is releasing an innovative pilot information tool that provides the public and industry direct access to the current environmental compliance records of more than 800,000 regulated facilities nationwide. The Enforcement Compliance History Online (ECHO) can be found on line at: <http://www.epa.gov/echo>

Air Toxics Workshop

EPA, State, and Territorial Air Pollution Program Administrators and Association of Local Air Pollution Control Officials (STAPPA/ALAPCO) are co-sponsoring an Air Toxics Implementation Workshop from April 7-10, 2003 in Raleigh, NC. The workshop will be a forum for EPA, state, tribal, and local pollution control personnel to share ideas and exchange information on current and future air toxics programs. More information and online registration will be available at:

<http://www.scicomm.com>. If you have questions about the agenda call Lalit Banker at 919/541-5420. For registration information call Debbie Kemp at 301/652-1900.

ALASKA

■Seventh Generations Training: The Yukon-Koyukuk Intertribal Environmental Consortia will be hosting a training on the 21st of January, 2003 beginning at 9 am and ending on the 24th of January at 12 pm. Bill Stokes, ADEC, will be the trainer. More information on the 7th Generation curriculum can be found on the ADEC website: www.state.ak.us/akpages/ENV.CONSERV/dsps/compass7generations/7gen.htm

■International Environmental Education conference "Thinking Globally While Acting Culturally" will be held in Alaska in 2003 - Propose a session or workshop!

North American Association for Environmental Education - 32nd Annual Conference Anchorage, Alaska, October 7-11, 2003. Call for presentations!!! DUE: January 31, 2003.

Thinking globally has long been a tenet of EE. Acting culturally is the celebration of differences among all

of us and respecting how these differences can help us shape a more positive future. The following strands are offered as guiding themes for helping us in Thinking Globally While Acting Culturally - an appropriate theme for the rich variety of ecological, human, and cultural diversity of Alaska. Strands will feature workshops, concurrent sessions, poster and interact sessions. Keynote speakers will present constructs from the strands.

STRANDS: Global EE Sustainability and Futures Joining Together - Partnering in EE Moving the Field Forward: Research in EE Reaching Across Audiences - Diversity in EE Programs Urban Rural Interface in EE For more info: www.naaee.org

■Alaska Forum on the Environment 2/10-14, 2003 (<http://www.akforum.com>) The Alaska Forum on the Environment has lined up exciting new Keynote Events and over 70 breakout sessions for the 2003 landmark event. Register for the February 10-14, 2002, Alaska Forum on the Environment online by clicking on the blue "Register" tab. Preferred lunch service seating at keynote events is limited to the first 400 who registerso sign up early!

Early registration rates apply only until January 18, 2003. Our Online Agenda is also available and additional information about planned sessions is being added daily. As of Monday, November 25, about 60% of our planned sessions have been confirmed and announced. To view the Agenda, click on the blue "Agenda" tab.

■Sustainable Salmon Initiative: Invitation To Submit Research and Restoration Proposals to the AYK. The purpose of the AYK

Sustainable Salmon Initiative (SSI) is to foster expanded fishery research in order to help understand the causes of the decline of these stocks and to support sustainable salmon management in the region. This initiative will accomplish this through: 1. funding high quality research projects addressing pressing fisheries information needs in the region, and 2. facilitating coordination and cooperation among research and management institutions by developing a dynamic, comprehensive, long range Research and Restoration Plan for the region. Info: http://www.oilspill.state.ak.us/pdf/AYK_RFP_03.pdf

■Bronfields Seminar. We are pleased to announce our upcoming seminar on the New Brownfields Redevelopment Act, January 27 and 28, 2003 at the The Hotel Captain Cook in Anchorage. The newly enacted Brownsfields Bill is changing the way contaminated property is developed with particular significance for Alaska property management. A distinguished faculty of leading experts features US EPA Region X Administrator, John Iani.

For further information on the agenda, faculty, and tuition or to register: call 800/854-8009; or vi <http://www.lawseminars.com/htmls/seminars/03brnak/2.htm>

OREGON

Toxics in Oregon's Air. January 9th, 2003, 6-8 pm at the Multnomah Athletic Club 1849 SW Salmon, Portland, OR.

How Concerned Should We

Be? Hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) are pollutants known or suspected to cause serious health problems. While some are present because of natural sources such as forest fires, most originate from human sources such as diesel buses and trucks, industrial facilities, wood stoves or cars. In Oregon, at least 16 air toxics exceed human health benchmarks. Many of them are associated with increased lung cancer, harmful respiratory and cardiovascular effects. Dr. John

Froines, Ph.D., Professor and Director of the UCLA Center for Occupational and Environmental Health and former director of Toxic Substances and Standards at the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, will discuss the links between health outcomes and air toxics with a special emphasis on diesel emissions.

The series is designed for physicians and other health care providers, especially those in

Family Medicine and Pediatrics, and for environmental professionals.

For more information or to register, contact: Oregon Environmental Council 520 SW 6th Ave, Suite 940, Portland, OR 97204 -1535 Or call Cheryl at 503/222-1963 ext. 100 or email: [***cheryl@orcouncil.org***](mailto:cheryl@orcouncil.org) for reservations.

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