



NTAA Weekly Update

Happy Earth Day!!

Week of April 20-April 24, 2020

[If you have difficulty reading this, click here to view it online.](#)

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PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD

Indian Country Today - [A cleaner and wilder planet on this Earth Day](#)



In this April 21, 2020 photo, people walk past an Earth globe sculpture at Thea's Park in Tacoma, Wash., with the West Rock Paper Mill in the background. Wednesday is the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, and observance that helped spur activism against air and water pollution and disappearing plants and animals, but ongoing challenges remain throughout the world. (AP Photo/Ted S. Warren)

TOP STORIES

American Lung Association - [Remembering Janice Nolen](#)

A nationally recognized air quality expert and author of key air quality reports has died. Janice Nolen, a longtime American Lung Association official, died at her home on April 15, 2020. Ms. Nolen directed the Lung Association's actions in air quality regulatory advocacy and litigation. Her work in this area resulted in the strengthening of the national air quality standards for ozone and particle pollution. She led the National Radon Action Plan Leadership



Council that developed the U.S. National Radon Action Plan to reduce radon risk in five million homes. She formerly served on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Air Act Advisory Committee.

Editor's note: The NTAA is deeply saddened by the loss of Janice Nolen. She was a great advocate for clean air and friend of the NTAA. If you would like to offer well-wishes and condolences to Janice's family, please consider the following sites:

- [Joseph Gawler's Sons Funeral Home](#)
- [Everhere: Janice Nolen](#)

To honor Janice's memory, the American Lung Association has created the [Janice E. Nolen Healthy Air Internship](#), ensuring younger professionals continue the important work of protecting our nation's air quality. If you would like to make a donation in memory of Janice Nolen, your gift will continue Janice's legacy with this dedicated internship to mentor young advocates.

The American Lung Association has released the 2020 [State of the Air Report](#).

According to ALA, "This report is dedicated to Janice E. Nolen, the leading force behind the history of this report and a tireless champion of lung health and healthy air." This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Clean Air Act, which is responsible for dramatic improvements in air quality. Despite this, a new report from the American Lung Association finds nearly half of the nation's population – 150 million people – lived with and breathed polluted air, placing their health and lives at risk. The 21st annual "State of the Air" report finds that climate change continues to make air pollution worse, with many western communities again experiencing record-breaking spikes in particle pollution due to wildfires. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the impact of air pollution on lung health is of heightened concern. The 2020 "State of the Air" report analyzed data from 2016, 2017 and 2018, the three years with the most recent quality-assured air pollution data. Notably, those three years were among the five hottest recorded in global history.

Coronavirus Virtual Town Hall: Improving Health within Our Communities, Wednesday, April 22, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM, Eastern Time

The Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health and Indian Health Service will hold a virtual town hall meeting on April 22 and 29 from 2-3 pm EDT. Target audience: Public health nurses, community health representatives (CHR), health educators, and others working on the frontlines of COVID-19 prevention in Indian Country. Objectives include:

- Understand the current state of COVID-19 disease
- Highlight community-based response activities
- Provide information on key resources

With an opportunity for Q & A with the experts. [Register for the webinar here.](#)

The National Association of Clean Air Agencies releases a “Clean Air Educational Activities and Resources” document

In response to COVID-19 and the closure of schools across America, federal, state, local and Tribal clean air agencies are making available educational activities and resources to teachers, parents and students providing opportunities for continued learning while staying safe at home. [This document lists](#) some of the outstanding educational resources that have been made available. We will continue to update this list as we learn about more educational resources.

HEADLINES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

New York Times - [50 Years of Earth Day: What’s Better Today, and what’s worse](#)

Indian Country Today – [EPA rejects Obama-era rules on air quality; critics cite COVID-19 link](#)

Safety and Health Magazine - [Amid COVID-19 pandemic, lawmakers urge EPA to extend comment periods](#)

Medium – [The Most Quiet of Killers](#)

EPA – [EPA Finalizes MATS Supplemental Cost Finding and “Risk and Technology Review”](#)

NY Times – [E.P.A. Weakens Controls on Mercury](#)

The Hill – [Green groups, coal companies push to have EPA power plant rollback scrapped](#)

AP – [‘They’re killing us,’ Texas residents say of Trump rollbacks](#)

NPR – [10 Years after Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, Industry Says It’s Better Prepared](#)

Anchorage Daily News - [Pebble mine opponents lose court case over 2014 EPA report](#)

Reuters – [A breath of fresh air](#)

NPR – [Climate Change Undercuts Air Pollution Improvements](#)

EPA – [Children’s Healthy Learning Environments Grant Initiative RFA June 2020](#)

EPA – [EPA Announces Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Resources for State, Local, and Tribal Governments](#)

Indianz – [Indigenous celebrate victory against Dakota Access Pipeline, but remain wary of Judge Boasberg](#)

Utility Dive – [14 states press EPA to rescind coronavirus-driven enforcement policy as NGOs file lawsuit](#)

National Association of Clean Air Agencies – [Washington Update](#)

Climate Change/Energy

NY Times – [A crash course on climate change, 50 years after the first Earth Day](#)

Reuters – [Coronavirus crisis threatens to cut off clean electricity lifeline for poor](#)

The New Yorker – [The Coronavirus and Climate Change, the Great Crises of Our Time](#)

NBC News – [Is fungus the answer to climate change? Student who grew a mushroom canoe says yes.](#)

Grist – [Can ‘carbon-smart’ farming play a key role in taking on climate change?](#)

Reuters – [With bees on decline, mechanical pollination may be solution](#)

Huffpost – [The Fight to Stop Fossil Fuel Financing Is Poised To Get Some Powerful New Allies](#)

Ensia – [How Can We Best Protect Our Global Life-Support System In Times Like These?](#)

Ensia – [Three Workable Strategies for Putting a Big Dent in Methane, the “Other” Greenhouse Gas](#)

E&E News – [CEO: Oil drilling, fracking could drop another 60%](#)

E&E News – [BLM reviews CO2 pipelines, but will anyone build them?](#)

E&E News – [How the pandemic upended climate politics](#)

NY Times – [The ‘Profoundly Radical’ Message of Earth Day’s First Organizer](#)

ENN – [Stanford Researchers Find Methane Lakes from U.S. Water Heaters Are High, But Fixable](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Santa Maria Times – [Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians named Waste Wise 'Partner of the Year' by EPA](#)

BBC – [Climate change: ‘Bath sponge’ breakthrough could boost cleaner cars](#)

Bloomberg – [Electric Vehicles Buoyed by a Backlog and Fresh Air](#)

E&E News – [Economic toll endangers key climate goal: Cleaner cars](#)

High Country News – [Uranium mining threatens our home, the Grand Canyon](#)

Indoor Air Quality

Inhabitant – [How clean is your indoor air?](#)

Be sure to subscribe to [EPA's IAQ Bulletins](#)

UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

The NTAA Requests Photos of Air Quality Work from Member Tribes

The NTAA is putting out a request for Member Tribes to send in photos to use on the cover of the 2020 Status of Tribal Air Report (STAR) that highlight work being done to improve air quality. Photos may include air monitoring equipment, staff completing assessments, education/outreach, clean energy development, clean mobility efforts, or any other air quality related image. Please include photo credit and send images to Dara.Marks-Marino@nau.edu by April 23.

EPA’s EnviroAtlas Training Webinar:

Helping Users Capture Nature’s Benefits, Map a Sustainable Future

April 28, 2020 at 2:00 to 3:30 PM ET

As follow-up to the [January EPA Tools & Resources Webinar on EnviroAtlas](#), EPA’s Office of Research and Development will provide a more in-depth training webinar on EnviroAtlas. [Register and join the webinar](#). If you do not have an EPA ID, please register as a guest. How do environmental managers and public health officials identify the benefits that local forests, parks, wetlands and other natural

areas provide to their local communities? One way is through EnviroAtlas. [EPA's EnviroAtlas](#) provides users with a host of interactive tools, geospatial data and resources for exploring the benefits people derive from nature and potential stressors that might impede their provision.

AirNow's 2020 Air Quality Awareness Week

May 4-8, 2020

The theme for this year is Better Air, Better Health! Our goal is to promote events that increase air quality awareness and encourage people to check the Air Quality Index (AQI) daily. We plan to focus on the following daily topics this year, featuring one each day on the AQAW website (which will be released on May 4, the first day of AQAW):

- Monday - Wildfires & Smoke
- Tuesday - Asthma & Your Health
- Wednesday - Where's Your AQI Coming From?
- Thursday - Air Quality Around the World
- Friday - Shout-out of state and local events (Send us yours! See examples at the link below.)

[Stay tuned here for more information!](#)

U.S. EPA would like to share with you a new student engagement activity that was developed this year, [Why I Care about Clean Air](#) (instructions found in link), that can easily be distributed and completed from home. With **Air Quality Awareness Week** coming up soon **May 4-8**, they hope this activity will prompt students of all ages to express themselves creatively as well as think about how air quality issues impact their own lives on a personal level.

Draft Guidance: Interpretation of "Begin Action Construction" Under the NSR Preconstruction Permitting Regulations

Comments due: May 11, 2020

EPA is providing an opportunity for interested stakeholders to review and comment on the draft guidance titled, *Interpretation of "Begin Actual Construction" Under the New Source Review Preconstruction Permitting Regulations*. This guidance addresses EPA's interpretation of "begin actual construction" under the regulations implementing the New Source Review (NSR) permitting program. In this draft guidance, EPA is adopting a revised interpretation that is more consistent with the regulatory text. Under this revised interpretation, a source owner or operator may, prior to obtaining an NSR permit, undertake physical on-site activities – including activities that may be costly, that may significantly alter the site, and/or are permanent in nature – provided that those activities do not constitute physical construction on an emissions unit. EPA will accept comment on this draft guidance through Monday, May 11, 2020. The draft

guidance, and a link for submitting comments, is available at:

<https://www.epa.gov/nsr>.

E-Enterprise National Meeting: Envisioning the Future of Environmental Protection

EE2020 is the latest in a long-running series of meetings sponsored by [E-Enterprise for the Environment](#) and the [National Environmental Information Exchange Network](#). On May 12-14, 2020, EE2020 will bring together a broad community of attendees from state, tribal, and local environmental agencies, U.S. EPA, vendors, and other stakeholders with an interest in improving the productivity and responsiveness of the environmental protection enterprise. The meeting integrates content on information technology, program modernization, and process improvement. [Click here to learn more about EE2020](#), the benefits of attending, and ways to get involved.

Save the Date: Tribal Lands and Environment Forum on August 17-20, 2020

This year's Tribal Lands and Environment Forum: A National Conversation on Waste and Response Strategies, will take place in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 17-20, 2020. Registration, session proposal forms, travel information, and field trip announcements will all be coming soon. Stay tuned! www.nau.edu/TLEF

Tribal Grants Education and Technical Assistance Webinar Series Second Wednesday of Every Month at 1pm ET

[For more information, click here!](#)

NTAA Upcoming Calls. The toll-free number is 1-800-309-2350. If you do not need to call toll free, or would like to help conserve NTAA funding, you can call 1-805-309-2350. Both numbers use code 928-523-0526#. Contact Andy.Bessler@nau.edu if you have any questions about any call! ***Registration instructions*** When you register for the GoToWebinar, please remember to include your Tribe, Region, or Organization in parenthesis after your last name. This allows you to see everyone on the call and prevents us from conducting a roll-call, ultimately saving everyone's time.

<p>STAR Planning Call: The NTAA Status of Tribal Air Report (STAR) helps tell the story of Tribal Air Programs, why additional funding for Tribes is critical to advance air quality, and is a great resource for Tribes.</p>	<p>Wednesday, April 22, 2 pm ET</p>
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EPA Policy Call: Call in to hear updates from EPA on policies, actions, and tools relevant to Indian Country and Air Quality.	Thursday, April 30, 2pm ET
Mobile Sources Work Group: This monthly work group addresses all mobile source pollution issues.	Thursday, May 7, 2pm ET
Wood Smoke Work Group: Join this work group every other month to address wood smoke issues in Indian Country.	Thursday, May 21, 2pm ET
Indoor Air Quality Work Group: Join this work group every other month to help support IAQ work throughout Indian Country.	Thursday, June 18, 2pm ET

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professional's (ITEP's) [Tribes and Climate Change Calendar](#) includes conferences, trainings, webinars and other events related to tribes and climate change.

[Click here](#) for ITEP's other trainings and events.

[Click here](#) for ITEP's new Tribal Environmental Management and Planning Online Courses. New courses have been added, so check it out!

ITEP's [FY20 AIAQTP Course Schedule](#)

Course Title	Dates	Location	Course Level
	2020		
Air Pollution Technology (<i>Postponed!</i>)	TBD	Flagstaff, AZ	2
Meteorological Monitoring (<i>Postponed!</i>)	Fall 2020	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	3
Air Pollution Modeling	Fall 2020	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	3
Air Quality Outreach	TBD	TBD	1
National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTFAQ) (<i>Postponed!</i>)	May 2021	Tulsa, OK	n/a
Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke	Anytime	Series of 6 recorded webinars	n/a
Indoor Air Quality - Independent Study	Anytime	Independent Study	1
Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Cold Climates	Open	Online	1

Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Warm Climates	In development	Online	1
Residential Building Science Review	Open	Online	1
Radon Fundamentals	Open	Online	1
Quality Assurance Fundamentals (QA 101)	Open	Online	1
Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) (QA 201-209)	Open	Online	2
Emissions Inventory Fundamentals	Open	Online	2
Emissions Inventory Advanced	Open	Online	3
<i>Note: This schedule is subject to change. For up-to-date information, course descriptions, and applications please visit http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air/</i>			

Climate Change / Energy

April 22 and 29, Noon (ET) – Ask the Expert

Every Wednesday ENERGY STAR holds a Portfolio Manager "Ask the Expert" session. It's a live webinar that gives all users an opportunity to ask their questions directly to EPA experts in an open forum. Want to talk to a "real" person? Have a question about how Portfolio Manager calculates your score? Want to learn more about entering Green Power? Join ENERGY STAR, and they'll answer all your questions about ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager in this public forum.

[Register](#)

Women of Renewable Industries and Sustainable Energy (WRISE): Dealing with Burnout and Mental Health in the Workplace

April 23, 2020, 2pm-3pm ET. [Register here.](#)

If you feel like sometimes life is moving at hyper-speed and you aren't always able to keep up – you are not alone. Now more than ever, we each need to unlock our capacity to remain resilient and flourish in the face of uncertainty and great challenge. Join us for an interactive discussion on understanding the impact of climate change on mental health, recognizing the signs of burnout, and cultivating resilience. In these uncertain times, learn ways to build your personal resiliency by fostering a positive attitude, practicing healthy habits and using self-care to stay mindful.

April 29, 11 AM (MT) – Developing your energy vision: what do you want your tribe's energy vision to be?

Once the low-hanging fruit of energy efficiency has been addressed, longer-term planning on future energy needs and energy options is needed. If you don't identify where you want to go, you can't plot the course to get there. This webinar will explore how tribes can develop a vision for their energy future.

[Register](#)

Deadline Extended! Call for Proposals: National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference August 31-September 3, 2020, St. Paul, Minnesota

Proposals now due: May 1, 2020

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) is honored to host the United States' first [Biennial National Tribal and Indigenous Climate Conference \(NTICC\)](#) along with support from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Tribal Resilience Program. The NTICC is open to all US tribal nations and Indigenous Peoples from throughout the world, with an emphasis on including our Elders and Youth. The NTICC will convene experts on climate change and will include a balance of Traditional Indigenous Knowledges and Western Science. We invite people to [submit proposals](#) discussing climate-related impacts, assessments, tools, adaptation planning, mitigation and actions in one or more of the following tracks:

- Indigenous Knowledges
- Air, Health & Well-Being
- Land
- Water
- Relocation
- Infrastructure
- Energy Systems
- Food Sovereignty
- Ecosystems and Biodiversity

CC 202 Online Course: Tribal Hazard Mitigation Planning, application deadline extended to May 1

Course dates: October 2020-September 2021

Course goal: To support Tribe's hazard mitigation planning through peer-to-peer learning and knowledge exchanges in a facilitated cohort focused on the process of developing or updating a Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan, which looks "at natural hazards that may affect tribal governments and suggests actions to reduce losses from those hazards" (FEMA Tribal Mitigation Planning Resources). The course will be based around FEMA's hazard mitigation plan requirements and will connect participants to resources, tools, information, and additional specialized expertise on a variety of topics including, but not limited to, various natural hazards, climate change in the context of natural hazards, FEMA's four-phases of emergency management (mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery), cultural considerations, Tribal/Indigenous Knowledges, community outreach and engagement, hazard identification and risk assessment, asset inventorying, and developing and implementing an action plan. [Follow this link to find out more information and to register](#). Contact Karen.Cozzetto@nau.edu with questions.

South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center: Earth to Sky Workshop

Earth to Sky is a partnership between NASA, NPS, and USFWS that enables and encourages informal educators to access and use relevant NASA science, data, and educational and outreach products in their work. The partnership's focus is on climate change science and communication. Join us for three days of training with

native informal educators from across the South Central region who recognize the importance of teaching climate change. The workshop will take place July 15-17 in Sulphur, OK. [Learn more here.](#)

Save the Date: Southwest Tribal Climate Resilience Camp

Date: July 26-31, 2020

Location: Navajo Technical University – Crownpoint, NM

The Tribal Climate Resilience Camp will support teams of Tribal Leaders, climate change coordinators, planners, and program managers to build skills, gather information, and develop Tribal policies and plans needed for Tribal Nations to address climate change impacts. Information about travel, lodging, and registration will be available soon. You may contact Althea Walker, Tribal Climate Science Liaison, at AWalker@aihec.org or (480) 258-3963 with questions.

SEEKING TRIBAL DELEGATES

We are currently recruiting 10 Southwest Tribes to participate in the 2020 Camp. Each Tribe should identify three delegates per Tribe. The delegates must participate for the entire week curriculum. Delegates may include climate change staff, tribal policy leaders, Tribal Council, natural resource and environmental managers and staff, administrators, department staff from health, public works, education, housing, and other relevant departments that should engage in climate change planning. FOR APPLICATIONS [Visit this link.](#)

Save the Date: Shifting Seasons Summit 3, October 6-8, 2020, Keshena, WI

Contingency dates: March 2021

The Shifting Seasons Summit is a gathering that focuses on climate resilience planning and implementation within Tribes and across Tribal ceded territories in the Northeast Region. This summit will also include network-building opportunities and initiatives developed outside of the Northeast by capacity building organizations, academic institutions and Tribes. Visit www.NICRN.org for more details.

ITEP's Climate Change Adaptation Training Courses registration is online!

[Learn more about the courses and register here.](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

EPA is postponing the Toxic Substances Control Act Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals (SACC) peer review virtual meeting scheduled for April 27-30, 2020, due to recent changes in the availability of members for this peer review. While the Agency does not anticipate extending the written public comment period on the draft risk evaluation past the June 2, 2020, due date, as needs arise EPA will review and respond appropriately. All written comments

received by June 2nd will be provided to the SACC for their review prior to the meeting. Once EPA has selected a new date for the meeting, the Agency will provide an update on public commenting, including registering to provide oral public comments during the SACC meeting. EPA remains committed to completing this process as expeditiously as possible. To find information about the SACC meeting, and links to related documents, visit the TSCA SACC website at <https://www.epa.gov/tsca-peer-review/peer-review-draft-risk-evaluation-asbestos>.

Postponed: Green Transportation Summit & Expo and the West Coast Collaborative Partners Meeting has been postponed until August 24-26, 2020

After careful consideration of the growing public health concerns associated with the coronavirus (COVID-19), the Green Transportation Summit & Expo and the US EPA West Coast Collaborative is postponing our GTSE | WCCPM event until August 24 – 26, 2020, at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center in Tacoma, WA.

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) and the Green Transportation Summit & Expo (GTSE) have partnered to provide 25 complimentary full-conference passes to the Green Transportation Summit & Expo. The GTSE is the Pacific Northwest's premier clean fleet and transportation event, focusing on fleets, fuels, technologies, policy & practice, with a regional focus and a national scope. We will provide you the opportunity to see, touch, drive, and learn about new transportation technologies firsthand, such as electric, hydrogen, natural gas and propane-powered heavy-duty vehicles, off-road utility vehicles, generators, and others. Workshops on DERA, VW funding, other federal funding opportunities, and alternative fuels will be presented. Please join us at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center for the 10th annual GTSE to learn about clean transportation, how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, pollutants, and costs in your fleet operations. To learn more about the conference, [check out our website](#). To receive the code for the complimentary passes, please contact ITEP's Dara Marks Marino at Dara.Marks-Marino@nau.edu.

Indoor Air Quality

Be sure to subscribe to [CodeTalk](#), HUD's Office of Native American Programs newsletter, for webinars and opportunities!

RESOURCES & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Now Hiring!

GS-12 and GS-13 Tribal Coordinator Positions in Region 10

Region 10 is announcing open positions in the Tribal Trust and Assistance Branch to serve as a Tribal Coordinator (Seattle, WA and Boise, ID). Both postings can be found on USAJOBS. The closing date for both is April 24, 2020.

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/564565500>

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/564600700>

EPA is offering the following job opportunity within the Office of Air and Radiation (OAR), Office of Radiation and Indoor Air (ORIA), National Center for Radiation Field Operations (NCRFO). To view the specifics of this announcement, please click the following link:

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/565967000>

Title	Environmental Protection Specialist - Air
Series & Grades Announced	GS-0028; Grade 13
Full Performance Level	13
Location of Position	Las Vegas, NV
This job is open to:	The public: U.S. citizens, nationals or those who owe allegiance to the U.S.
Position Type	Full-Time, Permanent
Opening Date	Friday, April 17, 2020
Closing Date	Thursday, April 24, 2020
Number of Vacancies:	One

To be considered for this position, applicants must apply on-line at the [USAJOBS.gov](https://www.usajobs.gov) website by the closing date of the announcement and follow the vacancy announcement instructions for providing any applicable supplemental information.

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Indigenous Environmental Network's COVID-19 Emergency Mutual Aid Fund

IEN has launched a COVID-19 Emergency Mutual Aid Fund to quickly mobilize resources to our frontline communities and groups that have a demonstrated need experiencing financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Community-based Indigenous peoples and organizations from the U.S. and Canada are [eligible to apply](#). Small grants up to \$2,000 are being offered to assist with either of the following three situations:

1. Purchase of essential provisions: food, water, medication, diapers, cleaning supplies, pet food, etc.

2. Support with transportation for essential needs and provisions, such as medical appointments and clinic/hospital visits, medication, groceries etc. This includes deliveries, gas money, local transport and getting a ride from your relatives, so long as everyone is practicing precautionary measures to avoid transmission of the virus. In some situations, this can also support getting/leaving home from long distances to care for family members as long as all legal guidelines around travel restrictions are recognized and "Stay in Place" mandates, curfews, etc. are observed.
3. Home business slowdowns in sales and other cash flow difficulties (maybe your supplier is shut down, or a big order for an event is canceled). For this support "home business" is referring to things like quilting, regalia making, bead and quillwork, moccasin making, basket making, pottery, silversmithing, etc.

In line with the Principles of Respect and the Consciousness of Caring for our Relatives, IEN invites those in need, to apply for support. [This is the link to the Application Form.](#)

NEW! DOI BLM Alaska Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program Activities - \$200 thousand

Applications Due: April 30, 2020

Eligible Entities: special district governments, city or township governments, state governments, county governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has an opportunity to work with partner organizations to assist with fuels management and community fire assistance program activities to reduce the risk and impact of catastrophic wildfires to local communities through coordination, reducing the amount of hazardous fuels, and furthering the education of landowners about wildfire prevention and mitigation. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

USDA Forest Service's *Wildfire Risk to Communities*

Wildfire Risk to Communities is a website with interactive maps, charts, and resources to help communities understand, explore, and reduce wildfire risk. A project of the USDA Forest Service, this is the first time wildfire risk to communities has been mapped nationwide. [Learn more here!](#)

EPA OAR Community-Scale Air Toxics Ambient Monitoring - \$5 million

Applications Due: May 1, 2020

Eligible Entities: A state, interstate, local, or tribal air pollution control agency
EPA's Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) is soliciting applications from eligible entities for projects designed to assist state, local, and tribal air agencies in

identifying and characterizing air toxics, also known as hazardous air pollutants (HAPs), through work that falls into one of four categories. Those categories are:

1. characterizing the impacts of air toxics in a community (community-scale monitoring);
2. assessing impacts of toxics emissions from specific sources (near-source monitoring);
3. evaluating new and emerging testing methods for air toxics; and,
4. analyzing existing air toxics data and developing or enhancing analytical, modeling, and/or implementation tools.

Air toxins of particular interest to EPA in this solicitation include ethylene oxide, chloroprene, benzene, 1,3-butadiene, and metals such as hexavalent chromium, nickel, and arsenic. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

NEW! DOI OSM Science and Technology Projects Related to Coal Mining and Reclamation - \$1.5 million

Applications Due: May 25, 2020

Eligible Entities: tribal governments, state governments

The United States Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) is requesting Applied Science proposals for projects that develop and demonstrate improved science and technologies related to the mining of coal and the reclamation of the land after mining. Funded projects will help address important OSMRE issues related to implementation of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA). Applicants may request funding up to \$200,000. The award will be by cooperative agreement (or as an Interagency Agreement if another Federal Agency is involved). Each cooperative agreement will be for a period of time consistent with the proposal but not to exceed two years from date of award. Each cooperative agreement grantee may apply for and be granted non-funded extensions of time only as necessary to complete the project. OSMRE will only grant extensions if the delays are beyond the control of the Principle Investigator (PI). Included in this document are instructions for preparing the proposal including a list of eligible issues and a description of the proposal review process. OSMRE will only accept proposals that address the specific list of eligible issues. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

NEW! EPA Children's Healthy Learning Environments Grant Initiative - \$315 thousand

Applications Due: June 1, 2020

Eligible Entities: state or state agencies, local governments, city or township governments, county governments, and federally recognized tribes

The purpose of the Children's Healthy Learning Environments Grant Initiative is to provide capacity building to address children's environmental health in school and childcare settings. The Children's Healthy Learning Environments Grant Initiative provides funding directly to organizations to support school- and/or childcare center-based capacity building projects that help school communities understand and address local environmental and public health issues that affect children. EPA anticipates awarding two grants of approximately \$145,000 each for up to a two-year funding period. Grant applications should reflect multi-media and holistic approaches for reducing environmental exposures in schools and childcare settings through capacity building, trainings, and technical assistance. Proposals should also demonstrate a broad reach and collaborative problem-solving with appropriate partners. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

NEW! DOI BLM National Threatened and Endangered Species Funding Opportunity - \$2 million

Application Due: June 01, 2020

Eligible Entities: City or township governments, State governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), special district governments, County governments

This funding opportunity is to work with partner organizations at a national level to assist with the conservation of various species, to include federally-listed, candidate and Bureau sensitive species across state boundaries. Conservation includes, but is not limited to, gaining knowledge about species and their habitats, providing for protection or management of species and their habitats, augmenting species, restoring, and enhancing rare species habitat. This program is in support of creating a conservation stewardship legacy second to only Teddy Roosevelt by providing an opportunity to strengthen state and local partnerships, implement priority species and habitat monitoring, support restoration activities that enhance habitat connectivity and resiliency, and enhances opportunities for volunteer service and youth engagement on public lands. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

Native American Agricultural Fund (NAAF) Request for Applications Open

Today we announce our 2020 Request for Applications (RFA), the second application cycle to date. Since NAAF was launched in 2018, our Board of Trustees and staff have taken steps to craft a strategy that can begin to realize the promise we knew was possible when NAAF was created. Agriculture across Indian Country is as diverse as our Native nations and we hope the applications for funding will reflect that diversity. Native farmers and ranchers are key to the success of Native food systems and diversification of our agriculture economies. We look forward to the next step on this journey. Even in the face of

the COVID-19 crisis, we know that it is important to keep moving forward and ensure that Native farmers, ranchers, fishers and food champions are provided support. Prospective applicants are encouraged to view the RFA at NativeAmericanAgricultureFund.org/2020-RFA. The request for applications opened on Wednesday, April 1, 2020. Eligible applicants must submit a complete application no later than **Monday, June 1, 2020 by 11:59 pm CT**. NAAF will provide flexibility for applicants with hardships applying due to COVID-19. Please visit our website, email or call for further details.

Grants are available to eligible grant recipients in the mission areas of business assistance, agricultural education, technical support and advocacy services. We are also accepting applications across four special emphasis areas listed below:

- Traditional Foods and Food Sovereignty
- Advocacy
- Agriculture Extension
- Youth (available in a separate application process)

Prospective applicants may register for informational RFA webinars at NativeAmericanAgricultureFund.org/grants-webinar. Technical assistance relating to the application process is available by emailing grants@NativeAmericanAgricultureFund.org or calling 479-445-6226.

NEW! Two New Funding Opportunities Available Through Engagement Opportunities in NASA’s Minority University Research and Education Project for American Indian and Alaska Native STEM Engagement – NASA MAIANSE

This National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Research Announcement (NRA), entitled *Engagement Opportunities in NASA STEM (EONS) – 2020*, solicits proposals for competitive funding opportunities in support of the Minority University Research and Education Project (MUREP) administered by NASA’s Office of STEM Engagement. EONS 2020 is an omnibus announcement that includes a wide range of NASA science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) Engagement opportunities for basic and applied science and technology research and education. Specific opportunities will be issued periodically throughout the year as Appendices to this solicitation with individual requirements and milestones. For more information regarding the following opportunities and scheduled information sessions, please visit the [ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN NASA STEM \(EONS-2020\)](#) page on the NASA Solicitation and Proposal Integrated Review and Evaluation System ([NSPIRES](#)) website and click on ‘List of Open Program Elements’.

First Funding Opportunity: APPENDIX I: MUREP Space Technology Artemis Research (M-STAR) Planning Grant

Proposals due: June 15, 2020

In support of [NASA's Artemis program](#), the MUREP Space Technology Artemis Research (M-STAR) activity is established, to strengthen and develop the research capacity and infrastructure of U.S. Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) in areas of strategic importance and value to NASA's mission and national priorities. Overall, M-STAR awards act as planning grants with the goals of promoting literacy in STEM and enhancing the capability of institutions to participate in [NASA's Space Technology Mission Directorate \(STMD\)](#) opportunities. Awards are up to \$40k for a maximum duration of four months. For general inquiries, contact: NASAMSTAR@nasaprs.com.

If you are interested please attend the pre-proposal webinar Wednesday April 22, 2020.

Pre-proposal Webinar for the EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES IN NASA STEM 2020 MUREP Space Technology Artemis Research (M-STAR) Planning Grant
Wednesday, April 22, 2020, 4:00 – 5:00 pm Eastern Time

The MUREP Space Technology Artemis Research (M-STAR) Planning Grant Pre-proposal webinar will give an in-depth overview of the opportunity. During the session, information regarding proposal preparation, guidelines and requirements will be provided. For complete information regarding this NASA opportunity, go to the [M-STAR solicitation page](#) in NSPIRES. You must be registered to participate in the webinar, and [pre-registration](#) is available now.

Second Funding Opportunity: APPENDIX J: NASA MUREP INCLUDES Planning Grant

Proposals due: June 15, 2020

In response to the [Federal STEM Education Strategic Plan](#), MUREP is working with the NSF to expand the [NSF INCLUDES \(Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science\) National Network](#) of partners. This NRA invites planning grant proposals to assist in the formulation and convening of MSI-led coalitions in support of broadening participation in engineering. This is a novel and strategic partnership initiative, enabling MSIs to assemble and lead coalitions comprised of multiple organizations, institutions and agencies. The planning grant enables applicants to prepare for response to a full solicitation, tentatively scheduled to be released in Fall 2020. Awards are up to \$50k for a maximum duration of four months. For general inquiries, contact: NASAMUREP-INCLUDES@nasaprs.com.

DOI BOR Native American Affairs: Technical Assistance to Tribes for FY20 and FY21 – \$1 million

Applications Due: October 28, 2020 for FY21

Eligible Entities: federally recognized tribes or tribal organizations of the 17 Western States identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902

The objective of this opportunity is to invite federally recognized Indian tribes and tribal organizations to submit proposals for financial assistance for projects and

activities that develop, manage, and protect tribal water and related resources. Through this opportunity, Reclamation provides funding for projects that increase water reliability consistent with sections 3 and 4 of the October 19, 2018, Presidential Memorandum on Promoting the Reliable Supply and Delivery of Water in the West. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

Explore the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's newly designed and updated online [Air Sensor Toolbox](#). The toolbox offers easier navigation and more information on what EPA is doing to advance and support the development of air sensors for measuring local air quality.

- Learn about air sensor performance, evaluation and use
- Understand your air sensor readings
- Explore EPA's air sensor research projects and activities
- Find resources for your air sensor project

[Sign up for alerts](#) about newly released publications, events and other air sensor announcements.

To view and/or receive ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program newsletter, [Native Voices, click here!](#)

Climate Change/Energy

USDA RUS Assistance to High Energy Cost Communities - \$10 million

Applications Due: April 27, 2020

Eligible Entities: Native American tribal organizations (other than federally recognized tribal governments), City or township governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), Special district governments, County governments, State governments

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), announces the availability of up to \$10 million in competitive grants to assist communities with extremely high energy costs. The grant funds may be used to acquire, construct, or improve energy generation, transmission, or distribution facilities serving communities where the average annual residential expenditure for home energy exceeds 275% of the national average. Eligible projects also include on-grid and off-grid renewable energy projects and the implementation of energy efficiency and energy conservation projects for eligible communities. Projects cannot be for the primary benefit of a single household or business. Grant funds may not be used for the preparation of the grant application, operating costs, or for the purchase of any equipment, structures, or real estate not directly associated with the provision of community energy services. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

NEW! DOE GFO Solar Energy Technologies Office Fiscal Year 2020 Funding Program - \$125.5 million

Applications Due: May 21, 2020

Eligible Entities: unrestricted

This funding opportunity is being issued by the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO). SETO supports solar energy research and development (R&D) in three technology areas—photovoltaics (PV), concentrating solar-thermal power (CSP), and systems integration—with the goal of improving the affordability, reliability, and performance of solar technologies on the grid. This section describes the overall goals of the Solar Energy Technologies Office Fiscal Year 2020 (SETO 2020) funding program and the types of projects being solicited for funding support through this FOA.

The SETO 2020 funding program seeks to advance R&D of solar technologies that reduce the cost of solar, increase the competitiveness of American manufacturing and businesses, and improve the reliability of the grid. These projects will advance R&D in PV, CSP, and energy management technologies, while also working to improve cyber security, expand solar to new applications like agricultural solar, integrate solar and storage, and utilize artificial intelligence to address research challenges. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

DOE Announces Up To \$15 Million for Tribes to Deploy Energy Technology

Deadline to Apply: July 1, 2020

DOE is soliciting applications to install energy technology on tribal lands. Specifically, the Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs is soliciting applications to:

- Install energy generating systems and energy efficiency measures for tribal buildings;
- Deploy community-scale energy generating systems or energy storage on tribal lands;
- Install integrated energy systems for autonomous operation (independent of the traditional centralized electric power grid) to power a single facility or multiple essential tribal facilities during emergency situations or for tribal community resilience; or
- Deploy energy infrastructure or integrated energy systems to electrify tribal buildings.

Applications may also be submitted on behalf of an Indian Tribe(s) by an authorized Tribal Organization, provided evidence of that authority is included as part of the application. [See the FOA](#) for all eligibility requirements. Applications are due **July 1, 2020**.

NEW! DOE BIA Offshore Wind Energy Atmospheric Science and Project Development - \$20 million

Applications Due: July 9, 2020

Eligible Entities: unrestricted

The Wind Energy Technologies Office (WETO) is within the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE). EERE advances America's leadership in science and technology through early-stage research and development in sustainable transportation, renewable power, and energy efficiency. This FOA has Two Topic Areas:

Topic Area 1: The overall goal of this Topic Area is to provide funding for a project that will improve wind resource modeling and predictions in offshore wind energy development areas. Using lessons-learned and information gained during the previous program work in complex-terrain wind resource modeling and prediction, this Topic Area will focus on improving wind resource model physics for foundational wind forecasts and other applications in offshore wind energy development areas.

Topic Area 2: The overall goal of this Topic Area is to provide funding for a project(s) that will enable demonstration of a novel technology and/or methodology that will advance the state-of-the-art of offshore wind energy in the United States. The proposed project must either implement an innovative technology at engineering/pilot or full-scale, and/or employ a novel methodology that has yet to be utilized commercially in the United States for offshore wind.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

NEW! DOE BIA Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development: National Tribal Broadband Grant (NTBG) - \$1.2 million

Applications Due: June 15, 2020

Eligible Entities: county governments, state governments, city or township governments, special district governments, Native American tribal governments (federally recognized and other than federally recognized)

The Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development (IEED), Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs is soliciting proposals from Indian Tribes, as defined at 25 U.S.C. § 5304(e), for grant funding to hire consultants to perform feasibility studies for deployment or expansion of high-speed internet (broadband) transmitted, variously, through digital subscriber line (DSL), cable modem, fiber, wireless, satellite and broadband over power lines (BPL).

TBG grants may be used to fund an assessment of the current broadband services, if any, that are available to an applicant's community; an engineering assessment of new or expanded broadband services; an estimate of the cost of building or expanding a broadband network; a determination of the transmission medium(s) that will be employed; identification of potential funding and/or financing for the network; and consideration of financial and practical risks

associated with developing a broadband network. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

Join NCAI's [Climate Action email listserv](#) here!

Sign up for the [Alliance for Green Heat](#)'s newsletter!

To view and/or receive ITEP's [Climate Change newsletter](#), [click here!](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

EPA Announces Community-Scale Air Toxics Monitoring Grant Competition

Deadline Extended to: May 1, 2020

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is accepting applications for funding for air toxics monitoring projects under the Community-Scale Air Toxics Ambient Monitoring grants competition. As part of the Agency's mission to protect human and environmental health, EPA periodically awards these grants to help state, local and tribal air agencies conduct air quality monitoring projects to address localized air toxics issues. EPA anticipates awarding up to \$5 million from this competition to fund projects that fall into four categories:

- Characterizing the impacts of air toxics in a community (community-scale monitoring);
- Assessing the impacts of air toxics emissions from specific sources (near-source monitoring);
- Evaluating new and emerging testing methods for air toxics; and
- Analyzing existing air toxics data and developing or enhancing analytical, modeling, and/or implementation tools.

Air toxics, also known as hazardous air pollutants, are linked to cancer or other serious health effects. Under the Clean Air Act, EPA regulates 187 listed air toxic pollutants. While grant applications may address any air toxic pollutant, air toxics of particular interest to EPA in this competition include ethylene oxide, chloroprene, benzene, 1,3-butadiene, and metals such as hexavalent chromium, nickel and arsenic.

To receive the grants, applicants must be air pollution control agencies as defined by Section 302(b) of the Clean Air Act that also are eligible to receive grants under Section 105 of the Clean Air Act. Funding for the grants comes from State and Tribal Assistance (STAG) funding. Congress appropriates STAG funds for state, local and tribal air agencies to use in implementing and maintaining environmental programs.

Agencies applying for the air toxics monitoring grants may partner with or provide "subgrants" to other organizations for their monitoring projects. The Agency expects to award grants for 10 to 20 projects, depending on funding availability and the quality of applications received. The amount for each grant

may vary; however, no grant may be for more than \$750,000. [Click here for additional information, and to download the Request for Application.](#)

EPA OAR 2020 Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Tribal Grants - \$2 million

Applications Due: July 9, 2020

Eligible Entities: Tribal governments (or intertribal consortia) and Alaska Native Villages, which have jurisdiction over transportation or air quality.

EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality is soliciting applications nationwide for projects that achieve significant reductions in diesel emissions in terms of tons of pollution produced by diesel engines and diesel emissions exposure, particularly from fleets located in areas designated as having poor air quality. DERA grants provide funding to eligible recipients so that they may implement programs which incentivize and accelerate the upgrading or retirement of the legacy diesel fleet. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#). Here are several helpful links as well:

- [2020 Request for Applications](#)
- [Important Dates](#)
- [Supporting Information for RFA](#)
- [Questions and Answers](#)
- [Eligible Applicants and Uses of Funding](#)
- [Grant Process](#)
- [Tool and Resources for Applicants](#)
- [Reporting Templates for Grantees](#)

Indoor Air Quality

THHN Webinar: Safe Cleaning - Follow-up Information

The PowerPoints from the webinar have been slow getting posted on the website, meanwhile you can download the webinar PowerPoints from [this temporary location](#). A [recording of the webinar is available here](#). The PowerPoints and other resources will be located on the [Tribal Healthy Homes Network website](#) in the near future. If you would like to make sure you get future announcements about Indoor Air Quality webinars, training, and information, join the IAQ listserv. You can also [access ITEP's newsletters and other list serves](#) you may find useful. Questions, contact mansel.nelson@nau.edu

Be sure to sign up for [EPA's Healthy Indoor Air newsletter](#).

The Tribal Healthy Homes Network (THHN) has a webpage dedicated to [Funding Opportunities!](#) Additionally, THHN has developed a [Funding Guide for American Indian and Alaska Native Communities](#).

Most Recent Listing: EPA Rules from the Federal Register can be [found here](#).

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