

UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

NTAA is partnering with the California Air Resources Board to host an informational webinar for Tribe on EPA's Proposed NAAQS Review of Ground Level Ozone

Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 2 pm ET

To register, listen in and view documents discussed on the webinar, [click here](#). This 1 ½ hour informational webinar is part of NTAA's Policy Resource Kit to respond to EPA Proposed Updates to the NAAQS for Ground Level Ozone. On July 13, 2020, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed to retain, without revision the primary and secondary ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The standards, established in 2015, are currently set at 70 parts per billion (ppb), in terms of a 3-year average of the annual fourth-highest daily maximum 8-hour average ozone concentrations. EPA's proposal is based on its judgement that the current NAAQS protect the public health, including the health of at-risk populations with asthma, and protect the public welfare from adverse effects. This informational webinar will provide an overview of the NAAQS standards and review the comments being submitted to EPA by both NTAA and CARB. Comments are due into EPA by October 1, 2020. Contact andy.bessler@nau.edu for more information.

NTAA is hosting the 2nd webinar in a series for Tribes to discuss IAQ Considerations to Assist Tribes in Re-Opening Tribal Buildings during COVID: No Silver Bullets, Practical Guidance and Messaging on Reopening Tribal Buildings

Thursday, September 17th at 3:30 ET [Click here](#) to register. This 2-hour webinar will include presentations by:

- ***Dr. Richard Corsi, Dean of the Maseeh College of Engineering and Computer Science at Portland State University*** on the fundamentals of aerosol transport and Practical Layered Risk Reduction for indoor environments.
- ***Drs. Andrew Persily and Lisa Ng of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)*** on Practical Guidance for Reopening Tribal Buildings on:
 - Building ventilation and filtration in the context of indoor aerosol exposure
 - Summary of Current HVAC Recommendations for Re-Opening Buildings
 - Simulation of Controls for Reducing Aerosol Exposure in Educational Spaces
- ***April Hale of the National Indian Health Board (NIHB)*** on Messaging Guidance on Reopening to Different Tribal Audiences

- There will also be time for discussion and questions with *Gillian Mittelstaedt of Tribal Healthy Homes Network*. Please contact Andy.bessler@nau.edu for more information.

NEW! Webinar—ITEP Research Education on Air and Cardiovascular Health (REACH)

Tuesday, September 22; 10am PDT

[Register Here](#)

Improved Air Quality can result in better health outcomes for your community. Do you have community members with asthma? Are you concerned about SARS-CoV-2 exposure? Do you have elders or young children in your community? Do you use wood stoves to heat your homes? Do you experience dust in your community? Develop and implement new inquiry-based curriculum modules within the classroom focused on research methods design, environmental health, and population health. Incorporate novel PM2.5 air sampling technologies into the classroom. Share data across a network of schools focused on data quality and data sharing.

This is a courtesy announcement that the U.S. EPA intends to consult with tribal governments on the action mentioned below:

- Consultation Title: Update of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Environmental Information Quality System Policy and Procedure
- EPA Lead Organization: EPA Office of Mission Support (OMS)/Office of Environmental Information (OEI)
 - Start Date: 09/02/2020
 - End Date: 11/06/2020

To obtain additional information about this action and other EPA consultations ongoing or planned, please visit EPA's Tribal Consultation Opportunities Tracking System (TCOTS) at <http://tcots.epa.gov>.

Eldercare in the Time of COVID

Wednesday, September 9; 3-4pm ET

[Register Here](#)

The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) is hosting a webinar on eldercare during the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) the risk for severe illness from coronavirus infection increase with age. Join us to hear presenters who will discuss topics ranging from caring for elders during the pandemic, preventing infection among this vulnerable population and tips for caregivers. Learn more about helping and protecting elders in your community.

US EPA Informational Webinar for Tribes, Construction General Permit 2022 Re-Issuance

Wednesday, September 16; 11-12:30pm MST

[Register Here](#)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is initiating consultation and coordination with federally recognized Indian tribes to inform the proposed renewal of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit (CGP) issued pursuant to the Clean Water Act (CWA). EPA renews this permit every five years. The CGP authorizes stormwater discharges from construction activities (including, but not limited to: clearing, grading, excavating, and stockpiling) that disturb one or more acres, or smaller sites that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale that disturb one or more acres. These consultation materials are also available on EPA's Tribal Consultation Opportunities Tracking System (TCOTS) website located at: <https://tcots.epa.gov>.

EPA finalized minor amendments to the 2004 National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for the Plywood and Composite Wood Products (PCWP) source category.

The PCWP source category includes 230 facilities: 93 PCWP facilities, 121 lumber mills and 16 facilities that produce both PCWP and lumber. EPA identified acetaldehyde, acrolein, formaldehyde, methanol, phenol and propionaldehyde as the main pollutants emitted from this sector. Based on the results of required residual risk review, EPA determined that risks from the source category are acceptable. In addition, based on the results of the technology review, the agency identified no developments in practices, processes or control technologies that would further reduce emissions of air toxics from the emission units regulated under the PCWP NESHAP. EPA is finalizing no significant changes to the original NESHAP for this source category and concludes that the standards continue to provide an ample margin of safety to protect public health and the environment. A fact sheet and pre-publication version of the final rule are [available here](#).

Course APTI SI-470, Quality Assurance for Air Pollution Measurement Systems.

[Register Here](#)

This is a new comprehensive online course covering aspects of quality assurance for air pollution measurement systems. It provides essential information staff need to be able to carry out ambient air monitoring QA responsibilities. It is a new online version of a course that has been taught in the classroom for many years; it covers the same procedures and information. It consists of 12 modules, is narrated, and includes knowledge checks and exams for each module.

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.

Wood Smoke Work Group: Join this work group every other month to address wood smoke issues in Indian Country.	Thursday, September 17, 2pm ET
EPA Policy Call: Call in to hear updates from EPA on policies, actions, and tools relevant to Indian Country and Air Quality.	Thursday, September 24, 2pm ET
Mobile Sources Work Group: This monthly work group addresses all mobile source pollution issues.	Thursday, October 8, 2pm ET
Indoor Air Quality Work Group: Join this work group every other month to help support IAQ work throughout Indian Country.	Thursday, October 22, 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
<p><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></p>			

Climate Change / Energy

ITEP's *Virtual National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference* September 14 – 17, 2020 (NTICC)! There is no cost for attendance. Registration is now closed.

Listen and learn from various partners who will be joining us to share their knowledge and stories about the work they are doing to address the climate crisis occurring in our communities. The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals is honored to feature many amazing speakers including our warriors, Winona LaDuke of [Honor the Earth](#) and [Xiuhtezcatl Martinez](#) of [Earth Guardians](#), Melanie Goodchild of Canada's [Turtle Island Institute](#), Janene Yazzie of Diné Nation & [International Indian Treaty Council](#), and many more. For more information, please see attached PDF or view the announcement [here](#).

Attention California Tribes!

California tribal governments can receive funds to help fight climate change while addressing community needs for clean transportation, clean air, land conservation, agricultural equipment, and more.

- ***New!*** California Climate Investments has a [new webpage](#) that lists California Climate Investments Programs that California Tribal Governments are eligible to receive funding from.
- ***Upcoming!*** California Climate Investments Webinars- Agency and grantee speakers will highlight resources and share pathways to success in an upcoming webinar series. You can request updates for more information as it becomes available [on our website](#).
- [California Climate Investments](#) is a statewide initiative that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment — particularly in disadvantaged communities in California.

Call for Community Engagement Workshop Participants and Papers for a Special Issue

Workshop Series: Winter/Spring 2021

[Apply Here](#)

This USDA NIFA funded and professionally facilitated Engagement Workshop Series will convene a multidisciplinary group of researchers, community stakeholders, practitioners, students, funders, and policy makers to discuss the design and impacts of stakeholder engagement to address socio-environmental problems in working landscapes. The workshop series includes virtual meetings in winter/spring 2021 and a two-day in-person workshop at Penn State University, US in June 2021. Intended outcomes include 1) a special issue of a journal on workshop themes, 2) a collaboratively defined and co-produced research agenda on the “science of engagement,” and 3) formation of a new collaborative research network. Among the questions to be addressed are: *What risks does engagement entail and for whom? What challenges and risks are posed to indigenous and underrepresented communities through engagement? Which approaches effectively and equitably engage underrepresented stakeholders?* [Apply here to participate](#) in the virtual meetings and/or to submit a paper. Funding is available for travel to the June 2021 conference on a competitive basis. More information available at the [workshop website](#). Questions or a request for more information can be sent to Georgia Hart-Fredeluces at hartgeo2@jsu.edu.

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

Disclosure Exposure: Exploring GHG Disclosure & Attorney Ethics Rules (ELI Master Class)

Tuesday, September 15; 12-2pm ET

[Registration Required](#)

This event is open to the public but registration/payment is required by September 11, 2020. Registration fees: ELI members \$100-\$65; non-members \$150-\$100. The United Nations reports that roughly 100,000 people around the globe die each year due to human-induced climate change. In the United States, attorney ethics rules require or allow lawyers to disclose of client actions if doing so could prevent death or substantial bodily harm. As such, attorneys representing GHG-releasing industries could find themselves unexpectedly accused of breaching ethical responsibilities if they fail to disclose such activities under certain circumstances. With climate-related litigation on the rise, the legal profession must confront the ethics surrounding the disclosure of greenhouse gas emissions.

USEPA: Signed New Source Performance Standards and Emission Guidelines for Other Solid Waste Incineration (OSWI) Units

On August 10, 2020, the Administrator signed amendments to the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) and Emission Guidelines (EG) for Other Solid Waste Incineration (OSWI) Units. The OSWI NSPS and EG was promulgated pursuant to section 129 of the Clean Air Act (CAA) in 2005. A fact sheet and pre-publication version of the final rule may be accessed [here](#).

EPA Issues Final Policy and Technical Amendments to the New Source Performance Standards for the Oil and Natural Gas Industry

On August 13, 2020, EPA issued two final rules that will make it simpler and less burdensome for the oil and natural gas industry to comply with the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) for the Oil and Natural Gas Industry. Combined, the two rules combined are expected to save the industry millions of dollars in compliance costs each year. The rules can be found [here](#).

Serious Adverse Health Events Associated with Methanol-based Hand Sanitizers

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) issued the following Health Alert Network (HAN) Health Advisory on July 5, 2020. On June 19, 2020, the [U.S. Food and Drug Administration](#) (FDA) advised consumers not to use any hand sanitizer manufactured by “Eskbiochem SA de CV” in Mexico, due to the potential presence of methanol, a “toxic alcohol”, as an active ingredient, which can cause blindness and/or death when absorbed through the skin or when swallowed. Since then, [FDA](#) has identified additional ABHSR products that contain methanol and is working with manufacturers and distributors on a voluntary recall of these products. [Read more.](#)

The recent additions to OTAQ's website in August 2020 is listed below. [You can access these additions as well as new press releases and Federal Register notices related to OTAQ on our website.](#)

- August 20, 2020: [EPA requests comment on data sources and analytical approaches on which to base an EPA determination of an updated weighting factor \(F-factor\) for E85 flexible fuel vehicles for model years 2021 and later.](#)
- August 20, 2020: [EPA announces a virtual public hearing to be held on September 17, 2020, on its proposed greenhouse gas \(GHG\) emission standards for airplanes and airplane engines, which was published on August 20, 2020.](#)
- August 19, 2020: [EPA amends the national marine diesel engine program to provide relief provisions to address concerns associated with obtaining and installing certified Tier 4 marine diesel engines in certain high-speed commercial vessels.](#)

Green Transportation Summit & Expo (GTSE) and West Coast Collaborative Partners Meeting (WCCPM) Webinar Series

Amid rising concerns of the COVID-19 pandemic throughout Washington state, the Tacoma Convention Center will not be able to host the Green Transportation Summit and Expo / West Coast Collaborative Partners Meeting in August of 2020. The GTSE / WCCPM planning team has made the necessary decision to postpone the conference to take place May 24-26, 2021. In addition, they are converting a number of the planned sessions for 2020 into webinar format, and will be hosting 1-2 GTSE / WCCPM webinars per month from now through May of 2021. The webinar series will include the following subjects with exact dates to be confirmed:

- Medium & Heavy Duty Electrification—*TBD*
- Workforce Development—*TBD*

- Method to Create an SAE Certification for Technicians Working with High Voltage and High-Pressure Systems—*TBD*
- It Pays to Decarbonize: How Clean Fuel Programs are Rewarding Early Adopters—*TBD*
- Federal Funding: 2020 & Beyond—*TBD*

Indoor Air Quality

In August 2020, EPA held an informational webinar on COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for Field Activities. You can view the [slide show here.](#)

EPA’s Integrated Pest Management Program presents a webinar: The Future of Mosquito-Borne Illness and Pest Management Considerations on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 | 2 - 3 PM ET [Register Here](#)

From viruses to vectors, no one knows what the future will bring, but we can assess the threat and risk for new vector-borne pathogens nearing our borders. During this webinar we will evaluate the conducive conditions that lead to outbreaks, identify potential disease threats and address the role of private industry and public partners in mitigating these risks through IPM-based mosquito control. Attend this webinar to —

- Gain insight on the difference between threat and risk for vector-borne diseases.
- Hear about potential disease threats outside of mosquito-related illnesses.
- Discuss the role of industry partners and mosquito control districts in mosquito management and corresponding efforts to protect pollinators.
- Learn about the process the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is using to monitor and report on pathogen threats beyond U.S. borders.

Featured Presenters:

- Stanton Cope, PhD., Vice President of Technical Services, AP&G Co. / Inc., Catchmaster
- Ann Powers, PhD., Virology Team Lead, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Questions? If you have any questions about IPM or upcoming webinars, please contact us at ipm@epa.gov

Announcing EPA’s New Indoor Air and COVID-19 Webpage

COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly through close contact from person-to-person. However, some uncertainty remains about the relative importance of different routes of transmission of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). There are straightforward steps that can be taken to reduce potential airborne transmission of COVID-19 and the focus of this material is on those measures. EPA recommends precautions to reduce the potential for airborne transmission of the virus. These precautions include increasing ventilation

with outdoor air and air filtration as part of a larger strategy that includes social distancing, wearing cloth face coverings or masks, [surface cleaning and disinfecting](#), handwashing, and other precautions.

Topics Covered on [EPA's Indoor Air and COVID-19 webpage](#) include:

- [Indoor Air in Homes and Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Ventilation and Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Air Cleaners, HVAC Filters and Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Additional Measures to Address COVID-19 in Public Indoor Spaces](#)
- [COVID-19, Wildfires, and Indoor Air Quality](#)
- [Science and Technical Resources related to Indoor Air and Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
 - [Indoor Air and COVID-19 Key References and Publications](#)

Damp Buildings, Human Health, and HVAC Design

[Download Here](#)

This report summarizes dampness-related health risks in buildings as understood within ASHRAE. It provides simple-to-recognize symptoms of dampness, describes its capacity to increase the probability of negative health effects, and provides suggestions that HVAC system designers can apply to minimize such risks. The text also suggests monitoring instruments and threshold values that can provide early warning of trends that, if allowed to continue, could eventually result in health-relevant dampness.

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