



# NTAA Weekly Update

Week of October 19 - 23, 2020

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## PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD

The Guardian—[Big oil's answer to melting Arctic: cooling the ground so it can keep drilling](#)



*An oil pipeline stretches across the landscape outside Prudhoe Bay in North Slope borough, Alaska. Photograph: Bonnie Jo Mount/The Washington Post via Getty Images  
Technology is keeping patches of Alaska permafrost frozen to preserve energy infrastructure even as indigenous residents' world is transformed by the climate crisis*

## TOP STORIES

On October 14, 2020, [NTAA submitted a letter](#) to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) to comment on the Proposed Consent Decree Between the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the California Air Resources Board and Daimler-Chrysler to Settle Complaint for Civil Penalties and Injunctive Relief for Violations of the Clean Air Act, Civil Action No.: 1:20-cv-2564 (D. D.C). NTAA's comments urge better Tribal consultation by DOJ to provide better mitigation actions as part of the settlement. You can find the [consent decree here](#). California's Air Resources Board has filed a separate consent decree that applies only in California that [can be found here](#).

On October 19, 2020, [NTAA commented](#) on EPA's proposed standards for greenhouse gas emissions for certain new commercial airplanes. The proposed standards would match the standards that were adopted by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in 2017.

USA Today—[Ventilation and air filtration play a key role in preventing the spread of COVID-19 indoors](#)

Reuters—[Eleven U.S. states urge EPA to toughen planned airplane emissions rules](#)

EPA—[EPA Appoints New Members to the Science Advisory Board and Subcommittees](#)

The Hill—[Shuffle of EPA's science advisers elevates those with industry ties](#)

E&E News - [Emails reveal industry's revolving door at EPA air office](#)

## **HEADLINES**

### ***Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes***

ProPublica - [The EPA Refuses to Reduce Pollutants Linked to Coronavirus Deaths](#)

Pew Charitable Trust—[Emissions Exposure May Increase COVID-19 Mortality](#)

The Hill—[EPA may violate courts with new rule extending life of unlined coal ash ponds](#)

High Country News—[The Alaska Native village of Kake defends their right to hunt](#)

The Hill—[Trump reverses course, approving assistance for California wildfires](#)

NBC News—[Decades of mismanagement led to choked forests – now it's time to clear them out, fire experts say](#)

The Hill—[Judge Tosses land management plans after ousting Pendley from role](#)

Newsweek - [Air Pollution Kills Almost Half a Million Babies Around the World](#)

KUPR—[School Absences Linked To Air Pollution Have a High Cost](#)

Phys.org—[Study reveals severe air pollution drives food delivery consumption and plastic waste](#)

Science Tech Daily—[Significant Link Found Between Air Pollution and Neurological Disorders in U.S.](#)

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

### ***Climate Change/Energy***

Washington Post—[China delivers diatribe against U.S. climate policies](#)

Gizmodo—[Here Are 10 of the Best Climate Change Podcasts Out Right Now](#)

Indian Country Today—[Alaska Natives divided on Arctic refuge drilling](#)

Indian Country Today—[Latest discussions at the Alaska Federation of Natives convention focus on energy, national security and this year's census](#)

The Guardian—[Alaska's new climate threat: tsunamis linked to melting permafrost](#)

NPR—[How Americans Feel About Climate Change and Disasters That Affect the U.S.](#)

Washington Post—[Colorado wildfire erupts amid deepening drought, forcing evacuations in Boulder County](#)

Outside Online—[The Environment Is Being Weaponized for Hate](#)

Smithsonian Mag—[NOAA Predicts Droughts Gripping Nearly Half of Continental U.S. Will Intensify This Winter](#)

### ***Toxics/Mobile Sources***

Reuters - [Researchers find elevated radiation near U.S. fracking sites](#)

New York Times—[Oil Industry Turns to Mergers and Acquisitions to Survive](#)

Bloomberg—[Conoco to Buy Concho for \\$9.7 Billion to Create Shale Giant](#)

Colorado Times Recorder—[Oil & Gas Industry Groups' Legal Filings Belie Their Companies' Public Support of Methane Limits](#)

Public News Service—[WV Land Polluted by Coal Mines Transforms into Recreational Area](#)

### ***Indoor Air Quality***

USA Today—[Ventilation and air filtration play a key role in preventing the spread of COVID-19 indoors](#)

Great Bend Tribune—[October is Indoor Air Quality Awareness month](#)

EIN Presswire - [Indoor Air Quality \(IAQ\) and Integrated Pest Management \(IPM\) Strategies for Covid-19](#)

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

## **UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES**

### ***Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes***

#### **NEW! Virtual Air Sensors International Conference**

*Thursday, October 22; 8am PT / [Register Here](#)*

Jessa Ellenburg will give a short presentation on the 2B Tech outreach and education programs. Jessa will be there live to answer questions from the audience. Highlights include student air monitoring with AQTreks and the Personal Air Monitor (PAM) and Mobile air monitoring with the PAM on the City of Denver vehicles.

#### **NEW! Superfund at 40 (Part 1): Superfund Reform Efforts, Past and Present**

*Monday, October 26; 11-12:30pm ET / [Register Here](#)*

On December 11, 1980, President Jimmy Carter signed into law the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, aka “Superfund.” Forty years later, Superfund cleanups continue in full stride across the country. To commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Superfund program, the Environmental Law Institute and Beveridge & Diamond are organizing two in-depth panel discussions of the past, present, and future of the Superfund program with former EPA and DOJ officials and private practitioners. Join us for the first panel discussion on *October 23*, featuring the lead EPA and U.S. DOJ staff for the 1986 Superfund amendments and covering both past CERCLA reform efforts and the current status of CERCLA at 40 years.

#### **NEW! Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Strategies in Response to COVID-19**

*Wednesday, October 28; 2-3pm ET / [Register Here](#)*

What facility heating, ventilation, and air conditioning strategies are needed to prevent or mitigate the spread of COVID-19? Join the National Academies’ [Federal Facilities Council](#) for a new webinar, *HVAC Strategies in Response to COVID-19*. This webinar will address guidance from the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) on HVAC

strategies, system and facility design, and practical experience for preparing existing federal facilities for occupancy.

### **Recording Available: Planning an Air Quality Monitoring Project**

September 29, 2020 / [Recording Available Here](#)

This webinar series is intended for environmental professionals seeking introductory information on a wide range of tribal air quality programming topics. We feature tribal case studies as a teaching tool to provide examples of how different tribes have developed and implemented successful air quality programs & projects. Webinar #4 will introduce the important role of systematic planning using the Data Quality Objectives process as a foundation to project planning for developing a successful tribal air monitoring project.

### **Empowering Tribal Culture, Ecology, and Food Systems: Free 2020 Webinar Series**

Weekly each Wednesday Sept. 30 – Oct. 28 / [Register Here](#)

- **OCT 21 WEBINAR**, Episode 4: *Community Benefits and Challenges of Tribal Greenhouse Management* – Jeremy Pinto (Dine’), PhD, Research Plant Physiologist/Tribal Nursery Specialist, Rocky Mountain Research Station, USDA Forest Service
- **OCT 28 WEBINAR**, Episode 5: *AIMing for SOS: FBIC/BLM/SER Native Seed and Grassland Restoration Program: The Tribal Nursery Program on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation* – Cristina Eisenberg, PHD, FBIC/BLM/SER Native Seed and Grassland Restoration Program Director, Oregon State University, and Wendy Velman, Botany Program Lead, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

### **Webinar to Ask the Experts: Wildfire Smoke, Mental Health and Green Cleaning-Sanitizing-Disinfecting on October 20th 2:00-3:30 PM (Pacific)**

Mensaje en español sigue a continuación. With a record-breaking fire season and a global pandemic, parents and other caregivers have urgent questions about how to keep their families safe.

In recognition of Children’s Health Month and Binational Health Month in October, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Pacific Southwest Region (Region 9), and North American Development Bank (NADB) are co-sponsoring an Ask the Public Health Expert webinar with featured speakers from the Western States Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (WSPEHSU) for parents and caregivers.

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided through Border 2020 Program. To find more about Border 2020 please visit our webpage:

<https://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder>. [Register for the webinar here.](#)

## **Meeting Current School Health Challenges and Beyond: New Tools to Assess and Address IAQ Health and Safety**

*Thursday, October 22, 2020; 1-2:30pm ET*

[Register Here](#)

Join the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for a webinar highlighting risk reduction strategies and resources for a safer return to school that are applicable both before reopening and throughout the academic year. This webinar will focus on how to use indoor air quality (IAQ) management best practices and strategies to reduce exposure to viruses in schools and apply findings from a study to help decision makers select changes to HVAC operation that can reduce aerosol exposure.

## **EPA's Tribal & Indigenous EJ Policy, EJ Financial Assistance Programs, and Tribal & Indigenous Experiences Using the EJ Financial Programs Webinar Series**

*Tuesday, November 10; 2:30pm ET / [Register Here](#)*

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is initiating a webinar series to build the capacity of tribal government, indigenous peoples, federal and other interested environmental justice practitioners. This is the first webinar in the series.

Specifically, the webinar will discuss:

1. [EPA Policy on Environmental Justice for Working with Federally Recognized Tribes and Indigenous Peoples](#)
2. EPA environmental justice financial assistance programs:
  - a. [EJ Small Grants Program](#)
  - b. [EJ Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreements Program](#)
  - c. [EJ State \(Tribal and US Territories\) EJ Cooperative Agreements Program](#)
3. Grantee experiences:
  - a. [Kawerak, Inc.](#) and Zender Environmental Health and Research Group – [Backhaul Alaska](#), removing hazardous waste from rural Alaska through partnership with tribes, tribal communities, agencies, and industry stakeholders.
  - b. Tewa Women United - [Española Healing Foods Oasis](#), community transformation of a barren slope in downtown Española into an edible food garden utilizing traditional dry-land farming techniques and permaculture principles.

For more information, please contact Danny Gogal ([gogal.danny@epa.gov](mailto:gogal.danny@epa.gov)) or Ericka Farrell ([farrell.ericka@epa.gov](mailto:farrell.ericka@epa.gov)).

## **Study Links HAP Exposure to 9-Percent Increase in COVID Death Rate**

**(September 11, 2020)** – Authors of a peer-reviewed study published in the journal *Environmental Research Letters* found that exposure to hazardous air pollutants

(HAPs) could be associated with a 9-percent increase in COVID-related mortality. Specifically, the study focused on the combined hazard index and individual respiratory hazard quotient from the EPA 2014 National Air Toxics Assessment for five HAPs: formaldehyde, acetaldehyde, acrolein, naphthalene and diesel particulate matter (PM). The researchers controlled for socioeconomic status, population health indicators and exposure to PM2.5 and ozone and determined that “an increase in the respiratory hazard index is associated with a 9% increase in COVID-19 mortality. Although differing in magnitude, this association holds for individual HAPs acetaldehyde, and diesel PM.” Previous studies relating COVID outcomes with air pollution have focused on criteria pollutants. For further information, [click here](#).

**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>.

**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](mailto: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.

<b>EPA Policy Call:</b> Call in to hear updates from EPA on policies, actions, and tools relevant to Indian Country and Air Quality.	Thursday, October 29, 2pm ET
<b>Mobile Sources Work Group:</b> This monthly work group addresses all mobile source pollution issues.	Thursday, November 12, 2pm ET



<b>Indoor Air Quality Work Group:</b> Join this work group every other month to help support IAQ work throughout Indian Country.	Thursday, November 19, 2pm ET
<b>Wood Smoke Work Group:</b> Join this work group every other month to address wood smoke issues in Indian Country.	Thursday, November 19, 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
	<b>2020</b>		
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 <a href="http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air/">http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air/</a></i></p>			

### **Climate Change / Energy**

#### **Swept Away: Safeguarding Tribal Cultural Heritage from the Impacts of Climate Change**

October 21, 2020; 12-1:30pm / More info [here](#)

**This event is free and open to the public but you must register.** Note: there is **no** in-person availability for this event.

- Please **[REGISTER HERE](#)** by **OCTOBER 19**.
- Webinar information will be emailed one business day prior to the event. If you are unsure if you can access the webinar via the GoToMeeting platform, please go **[HERE](#)** to view system requirements prior to registering.
- **All times noted are EASTERN Time. The webinar will begin at 12 noon Eastern, 11 AM Central, 10 AM Mountain, and 9 AM Pacific.**
- There is **no CLE** for this course.

#### **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.**

- California Climate Investments has a [new webpage](#) that lists California Climate Investments Programs that California Tribal Governments are eligible to receive funding from.
- 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@isu.edu](mailto:hartgeo2@isu.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](http://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**

#### **NEW! Road Dust Management – Sharing Community Experiences (Part II) (Webinar #4)**

*Thursday, November 5; 10am AKST / [Register Here](#)*

Road dust from unpaved roads is a major air quality concern in many tribal communities. Dust (also called Particulate Matter (PM)) has negative impacts on health, road safety and quality of life. This webinar is the final webinar in a series

of four webinars to help tribal environmental and transportation staff managing road dust, resulting in improved air quality. Recordings for webinars 1-3, are available [here](#).

### **2020 Virtual International Radon Symposium**

*November 9 – 13, 2020* | [Register Here](#)

The AARST and CRCPD planning committees recognize a very popular attraction to many attendees; the once-a-year informal opportunity to connect with you directly. Please reply with your interest in participating.

How does it work? Simple: ticketed attendees have access to all sessions. These are LIVE Google Meets so just hang out and connect as people come into your meeting! Lastly, please help us make sure EVERYONE knows about the symposium. **Registration is very affordable - only \$120.00** (Great for county health departments, and other groups who don't usually have the budget to travel) Please help us by distributing this info to everyone you know who will benefit from attending. Attached is our most recent email blast PDF which includes the link to the agenda and ticket page at <https://aarst.org/virtual-ticket-page/>

**NEW!** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) is initiating consultation and coordination with federally-recognized tribes regarding development of proposed actions under section 6(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) for conditions of use of methylene chloride and 1-bromopropane (1-BP) that EPA has determined present unreasonable risk. EPA is initiating these actions for methylene chloride and 1-BP so that those conditions of use no longer present an unreasonable risk.

EPA recognizes that decisions concerning TSCA Section 6(a) regulations have consequences for tribes. Tribes may be affected to the extent that individuals in tribes engage in the commercial or consumer uses of methylene chloride or 1-BP that EPA determined present an unreasonable risk or are exposed to others' commercial or consumers uses. Additionally, businesses in Indian country processing (formulating), selling, or using methylene chloride or 1-BP or products containing methylene chloride or 1-BP that EPA has determined present an unreasonable risk may be directly affected by any finalized regulations under TSCA Section 6(a).

This consultation and coordination process will be conducted in accordance with the EPA Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes (<https://www.epa.gov/tribal/forms/consultation-and-coordination-tribes>). EPA invites you and/or your designated consultation representative(s) to participate in this process. OCSPP's anticipated timeline for the consultation and coordination period for each chemical is expected to extend from October 13, 2020 – January 8, 2021.

During this period, two identical consultation sessions will be conducted, and both will cover both chemicals. To participate, OCSPP invites you and/or your designee to join us during one or more of the following consultation sessions:

- Thursday, November 12, 2020, Tribal Consultation 1 – Technical Briefing and Comment Period from 2:00-4:30 pm (ET). Conference Line: 1-833-376-0059; ID #8276606. [Adobe Connect Link here.](#)
- Tuesday, November 17, 2020, Tribal Consultation 2 – Technical Briefing and Comment Period from 1:00-3:30 pm (ET). Conference Line: 1-833-376-0559; ID #1361158 and the [Adobe Connect Link here.](#)

This information is available on EPA’s Tribal Consultation Opportunities Tracking System webpage: <https://tcots.epa.gov>. To learn more about the rulemaking for methylene chloride, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca/risk-management-methylene-chloride>. To learn more about the rulemaking for 1-BP, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca/risk-management-1-bromopropane>.

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

#### **October 2020**

- October 2, 2020: [EPA releases updated Port Emissions Inventory Guidance: Methodologies for Estimating Port-Related and Goods Movement Mobile Source Emissions.](#)

#### **September 2020**

- September 29, 2020: [EPA awards up to \\$73 million for Clean Diesel Projects.](#)
- September 14, 2020: [EPA denies petitions for small refinery exemptions for past compliance years, the so-called “gap-filling” petitions for the 2011-18 compliance years.](#)

### **Indoor Air Quality**

**NEW! Meeting Current School Health Challenges and Beyond: New Tools to Assess and Address IAQ Health and Safety**

*Thursday, October 22; 1-2:30pm ET / [Register Here](#)*

Discover practical strategies for improving the performance of HVAC systems in schools and reducing aerosol exposure. Learn how to implement risk reduction strategies to promote effective exposure controls (such as face coverings, outside air, filtration, and portable air cleaners) for a safer return to school.

**Four Steps to Becoming an IAQ Champion and Reducing the Spread of Viruses in Schools**

The latest on-demand webinars available to view on EPA's website outline a four-step process for implementing indoor air quality (IAQ) management strategies to reduce the spread of viruses and bacteria in schools. Identify the important steps for improving IAQ in your school or school district by viewing the webinars listed below.

- Step 1: Learn how [operating and maintaining efficient HVAC systems](#) in schools goes hand in hand with controlling the spread of airborne viruses and bacteria.
- Step 2: Learn how to [tailor your cleaning and maintenance plan](#) and procedures to help implement cleaning guidance in your school or school district.
- Step 3: Learn how to [identify additional key IAQ considerations](#) that address a range of critical areas related to controlling the spread of diseases and bacteria in schools.
- Step 4: Turn your [knowledge into action](#) by integrating what you've learned into your school's plans for IAQ management, preventive maintenance, and a safe reopening and operation.

### **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!**

## **RESOURCES & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

### ***Now Hiring!***

**Ute Mountain Ute Environmental Programs Dept.**

**Deadline to apply is October 23, 2020**

Title : Air Quality Technician

Duties include operate AQ monitors, maintain and perform routine tasks of AQ monitoring under direction of manger. Candidates must have a BS degree in science; and 6 months of work in the environmental field, preferably sampling. Or, successful completion of math and science courses from accredited college/university, and two years of sampling in environmental field. A valid driver's license and CPR/First Aide certification are required. For specifications and online application, go to this [website](#). Contact Janice Archuleta at 970-564-5342 for more information.

**Archaeological Field Technician, 2 Openings**

**Where: Flagstaff, AZ | Hire Type: Temporary**

**[Apply Here!](#)**

Do you thrive in the pursuit of ensuring excellence in environmental consulting services for your clients? SWCA Environmental Consultants is expanding their team and looking for dynamic individuals who are following their passion in delivering the highest-quality project work.

Our Cultural Resources Team in our Flagstaff Office is looking for archaeological technicians to assist with upcoming local survey projects in the Flagstaff area.

**Bay Mills Indian Community, Biological Services Department** is hiring an Environmental Coordinator to work on a variety of environmental initiatives at Bay Mills Indian Community. Please see the attached document or the Bay Mills [website](#) for details. Closing date is October 21, 2020. Please submit resume, cover letter, references and all college and university transcripts to: Erin Forrester, HR Generalist [eforrester@baymills.org](mailto:eforrester@baymills.org) Subject: Environmental Coordinator

### **Washington State Department of Health is hiring!**

The Washington State Department of Health is actively recruiting for new position that will focus on indoor air quality. It is a project position that will focus on interventions for vulnerable populations to reduce exposures as part of wildfire smoke response. The application is due **October 4**. Here is the [link](#) to the job posting—please forward to others who you think would be interested!

### **NOAA Climate & Global Change Postdoctoral Fellowship Program**

*Deadline is January 8, 2021*

We are pleased to announce the 2021 call for applications for NOAA's Climate and Global Change Postdoctoral Fellowship (C&GC) program. The fellowship program has an outstanding reputation for attracting the best and the brightest PhDs in the sciences relevant to climate change. Each appointed fellow is hosted by a mentoring scientist at a U.S. university or research institution to work in an area of mutual interest.

C&GC fellows are UCAR employees and receive a fixed annual salary, plus UCAR's benefits and allowances for relocation, travel and publications.

Appointments will be announced by April 1, 2021. For [more information go here](#) or [email us!](#)

### **Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes**

#### **NEW! Request for Public Nominations for Authors and Scientific/Technical Inputs and Notice of Planned Public Engagement Opportunities for the Fifth National Climate Assessment**

The U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) announced the Call for Authors and Scientific/Technical Inputs for the NCA5. USGCRP is seeking nominations for authors with relevant subject matter expertise and backgrounds in the natural or social sciences. In addition, USGCRP is seeking submissions of relevant scientific and/or technical publications, including peer-reviewed and published literature (or literature that has been accepted for publication), as well as regional and topical information and information for cross-cutting or new topics since the previous assessment. *Nominations are due November 14, 2020*. To learn more about the call and access the submission portal, please visit the [Open Notice](#) on USGCRP's website. Go to the [Federal Register Notice](#) for full details.

### **FY 21 Community Connect Grant Program Funding Opportunity Webinars**

*Tuesday, October 20; 11am ET / [Register Here](#)*

USDA staff will provide an overview of the FOA, major eligibility and regulatory requirements, the application process, and provide guidance on how to submit a successful grant application. There will also be time for participants to ask specific questions about the Community Connect program and the new application process. The Community Connect Program provides financial assistance to eligible



applicants that will provide broadband service in rural, economically-challenged communities where service does not exist. The application window for the FY2021 funding round is currently open and **will close on December 23, 2020**. To learn more about the Community Connect Program and upcoming events, visit our [website](#).

### **Rising Voices, ARCUS Early Career Conference Funding Award**

*Deadline to Apply: November 1, 2020; 5pm AK Time*

[More info here](#)

The Arctic Research Consortium of the US (ARCUS) announces the Early Career Conference Funding Award to support up to twenty, US-based, early career researchers and students to participate in meetings and events relevant to Arctic research. In lieu of full travel grants during 2020/21, these funding awards will cover registration fees, session/abstract submission costs, and other relevant expenses related to virtual conference attendance (recognizing that many events have moved online or may be forced to do so) for one conference or event scheduled to take place through 31 May 2021. This award aims to increase participation of early career, underrepresented minorities (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color; BIPOC) in Arctic research by providing at least half of the awards to BIPOC students and early career researchers. This award is for conference attendance and participation—submitting an abstract will be optional.

### **Indian Housing Block Grant Competitive Notice of Funding Availability**

*Due: December 10, 2020*

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published the FY20 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the [Indian Housing Block Grant \(IHBG\) - Competitive Grant Program](#) earlier today. It announced the availability of approximately \$91 million in competitive grants to eligible Indian tribes and tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs). This program provides competitive grant funding to Tribes and TDHEs to carry out affordable housing activities for the benefit of low-income Native American families. In accordance with the FY20 Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, projects that will spur housing construction and rehabilitation will be prioritized.

HUD recognizes the many challenges faced by Tribes and TDHEs during the ongoing COVID-19 National Emergency. Accordingly, this year, HUD is providing a longer application period than the application period in last year's competition to allow applicants additional time to develop and submit applications. Therefore, applicants will have until *11:59:59 EST on December 10, 2020*, to submit applications via <https://www.grants.gov>. If applicants are unable to submit an electronic application, they may request a waiver in accordance with Section IV.A. of the NOFA.

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

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

**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'.

**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](#).

**Assistant Secretary Sweeney Announces \$3 Million Living Languages Grant Program Funding Opportunity**

Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Tara Mac Lean Sweeney announced today that the Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development (IEED) is soliciting applications to the Living Languages Grant Program (LLGP). This \$3 Million grant program will fund between 15 and 60 grants, ranging from \$25,000-

\$200,000, to federally recognized American Indian tribes and Alaska Native entities to document, preserve and revitalize Native languages and build active speaker capacity. IEED's solicitation for LLGP funding and details on how to apply can be found in the [Federal Register](#) and at [Grants.Gov](#).

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

## ***Climate Change/Energy***

### **NEW! Fellowship Opportunity with EPA's State and Local Energy and Environmental Program**

*Applications are due October 30, 2020 / [Learn more and apply here](#)*

EPA's State and Local Energy and Environment Program has an open [Air Quality, Public Health, and Energy Strategies Fellowship position](#). Our program works cooperatively with state, local, and tribal (S/L/T) governments to help them reduce greenhouse gas and criteria pollutant emissions in ways that meet their own unique environmental, public health, energy, and economic priorities. The research fellow will focus on conducting research to support the development of decision-support resources and tools to help S/L/T governments understand, quantify, and communicate the public health impacts of emission reduction policies and programs.

### **Advancing Climate Adaptation and Coastal Community Resilience [FY 2021 Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)**

The Adaptation Sciences Program will design and implement research investments through competitions, co-develop activities with partners, and support communities of practice around adaptation pathways. It will build on and maintain strong connections established by its highly successful predecessors - the Coastal and Ocean Climate Applications (COCA) Program, the International Research and Applications Project (IRAP), and the Sectoral Applications and Research Program (SARP).

Please feel free to reach out with questions about the FY 2021 competition or the AdSci Program; you can contact Nancy Beller-Simms ([Nancy.Beller-Simms@noaa.gov](mailto:Nancy.Beller-Simms@noaa.gov)) or Lisa Vaughan ([Lisa.Vaughan@noaa.gov](mailto:Lisa.Vaughan@noaa.gov)) at any time. Please refer to the [upcoming events section](#) of the NOAA/CPO website for information regarding a FY21 AdSci competition information session, and finally, please feel free to share this information with your colleagues.

### **On-Request Technical Assistance from DOE Office of Indian Energy**

*Applications Due: Not Applicable*

*Eligible Entities: tribal governments*

The DOE Office of Indian Energy provides federally recognized Indian tribes, including Alaska Native villages, tribal energy resource development organizations, and other organized tribal groups and communities, with technical assistance to advance tribal energy projects at no cost. Technical experts from DOE and its national laboratories, along with other partnering organizations, provide support to assist Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages with energy planning, housing and building energy efficiency, project development, policy and regulation, resilience, and village power. For more information, visit the on-request [technical assistance 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**

#### **DERA School Bus Rebates Program Applications Being Accepted**

*Deadline to Apply: October 30, 2020; 4pm ET*

[More Info Here](#)

We are excited to announce a funding opportunity for school bus fleets that serve public schools. EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality is accepting applications nationwide for rebates to assist in replacing older, dirtier diesel school buses with new school buses certified to EPA's cleanest emission standards. EPA anticipates awarding over **\$10 million** in this funding opportunity. Selected applicants that scrap and replace their old diesel buses will receive a rebate of **\$20,000-\$65,000 per bus** depending on the fuel type of the replacement bus.

Eligible Entities:

- Regional, state, or tribal agencies including school districts and municipalities; or
- Private entities that operate school buses under a contract with an entity listed above.
- Applications are limited to 10 buses. Fleets that own more than 100 buses can submit two applications.

#### **DOE Clean Cities Coalition Network Technical Assistance**

*Applications Due: Not Applicable*

*Eligible Entities: Clean Cities Coalitions*

Clean Cities connects transportation stakeholders with objective information and experts to assist with alternative fuels, fuel economy improvements, and emerging transportation technologies. Through these trusted, time-tested resources, Clean Cities has helped fleets and fuel providers deploy hundreds of thousands of

alternative fuel vehicles and fueling stations that serve a growing market. Clean Cities continues to support the entry of new transportation technologies into the marketplace.

For more information, visit the technical assistance [description](#).

### **Recent additions to OTAQ's website in August 2020**

You can access these additions as well as new press releases and Federal Register notices related to OTAQ [on our website](#).

### ***Indoor Air Quality***

#### **U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development Funding Opportunity**

To fund Healthy Homes and Weatherization Program Cooperation Demonstration grants in localities that are served by both Healthy Homes and Weatherization Assistance Programs to determine whether coordination between the programs with respect to the implementation of healthy homes remediation activities and energy conservation measures achieves cost effectiveness and better outcomes in improving the safety and quality of homes. If you have difficulty accessing the full announcement electronically, please contact: Brenda M. Reyes, MD, MPH [Brenda.m.reyes@hud.gov](mailto:Brenda.m.reyes@hud.gov). Original Closing Date for Applications is on November 9, 2020 at 11:59:59 pm Eastern Standard time.

### **Valuable resources from the latest webinar: Healthy Indoor Environments in Schools: Plans, Practices, and Principles for Maintaining Healthy Learning Environments**

IAQ Tools for Schools:

- [\*\*IAQ Tools for Schools: Preventive Maintenance Guidance\*\*](#)
  - Use the guide in conjunction with the [\*\*IAQ Preventive Maintenance Checklist and Model Plan \(Appendix A and B\)\*\*](#) to access best practices and critical information to prioritize your goals and develop a tailored plan unique to your school's specifications.
- [\*\*IAQ Tools for Schools Action Kit\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Framework for Effective School IAQ Management\*\*](#)
- [\*\*School IAQ Assessment Mobile App\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Energy Savings Plus Health: Indoor Air Quality Guidelines for School Building Upgrades\*\*](#)
- [\*\*IAQ Professional Training Webinars\*\*](#)

### **Resource for Healthy Indoor Air Quality**

Check out the website <https://forhealth.org/> for many resources related to healthy homes and indoor air quality!

**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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