

## **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 PM<sub>2.5</sub> 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<br><i>(Postponed!)</i>                  | TBD            | Flagstaff, AZ                 | 2            |
| Meteorological Monitoring<br><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            |

*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/](http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air/)*

## **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!**