

# UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES

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

### **NEW! EPA Launching new Learning Management System (LMS)**

The new LMS will deliver technical training to air pollution professionals in tribal, state, and local government air agencies and is a key part of the larger plan to modernize the training that EPA and partners deliver to air quality professionals at all stages of their careers. EPA's National Air Quality Training Program, in collaboration with the multi-jurisdictional organizations (MJOs) and other partners, is launching an updated APTI-Learn platform to better deliver air quality training and modernize the user experience.

The new LMS is organized around eight new air quality curricula (Functional Areas):

- Air Pollution Basics
- Air Quality Modeling
- Air Quality Planning
- Air Toxics Rule Development and Implementation
- Ambient Air Monitoring
- Emissions Inventories
- Permitting
- Source Emissions Testing and Source Emissions Monitoring

All tribal, state, and local government learners need to register to access the system. Click [here](#) to register. Email [apti@epa.gov](mailto:apti@epa.gov) for questions.

### **NEW! Webinars on Proposed Air Pollution Rule for Tribes and EJ Communities in 12 states**

*November 9; 2-3pm – Tribal Webinar / November 10; 2-3pm – EJ Webinar*

Registration is required. [Register Here](#)

EPA will host informational webinars for tribes and indigenous peoples and environmental justice communities, respectively. These webinars will cover the proposed Revised Cross-State Air Pollution Rule ([CSAPR](#)) Update for the 2008 National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). These webinars provide tribes and indigenous peoples and environmental justice communities in 12 states (**Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia**) affected by the rule an opportunity to ask questions and/or provide feedback concerning facilities in their community that may be subject to this rule. An opportunity to ask questions about the proposal and whether any facilities in their communities might be affected. To register for the webinar or to find more information about this proposed rule, please refer to this [website](#).

These webinars are informational and not a public hearing. The [virtual public hearing](#) will take place on November 12, 2020. EPA is also accepting [written comment on the proposal](#) until December 14, 2020.

### **NEW! EPA Burn Wise Program: Wood Smoke and COVID-19 webpage**

The [webpage](#) includes basic information about the relationship between residential wood smoke and COVID -19, links to information that will help the public know the difference between symptoms from smoke exposure and COVID-19, and steps to take to reduce exposure of wood smoke. The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted our routines and patterns. With more people attending school virtually and working from home this winter along with trying to save money on home heating bills, we anticipate an increased amount of residential wood burning this heating season. Smoke from wood stoves, fireplaces and firepits and can impact air quality both indoors and outdoors.

### **NEW! Clean Air for All: 50 Years of the Clean Air Act**

Videos of the symposium are available [here](#).

In addition, a summary and video of the October 14 follow-up conversation with Mary Nichols, Chair of the California Air Resource Board, is available [here](#). Note that all of our webinars are available at [unbreathable.org/webinars](https://unbreathable.org/webinars). Finally, check out the American Lung Association's "[Stand Up For Clean Air](#)" [pledge](#) to receive tips to reduce emissions, ideas to spread the word, and opportunities to advocate for solutions to reduce air pollution and address climate change.

### **Introduction to Tribal Lands & Their Management**

*Friday, November 13; 1pm ET / [Register Here](#)*

More than 56 million acres of land across the United States are owned and managed by Native Americans, however, many natural resource professionals are unaware of the unique history, legal status, and management of these lands. This webinar is first in a six-part series providing insights on the history of native lands and their management ranging from treaties to wildlife, fisheries, forestry, fire management and more. There are 574 federally recognized Tribes in the United States as of 2020, however, they are often lumped together ignoring their uniqueness. [learn more here...](#)

### **Executive Education For Tribal Leaders: Leadership in Times of Uncertainty**

*Thursday, November 19; 10am – 12pm MST / Contact Shirley to register*

This virtual exclusive session via Zoom is designed specifically for leaders who have attended previous TLI sessions and offers the opportunity for Indigenous leaders to step back from their daily roles and responsibilities to re-evaluate and revitalize their professional and personal strengths in times of uncertainty. For more information, contact Shirley Conrad at [Shirley.conrad@nau.edu](mailto:Shirley.conrad@nau.edu) or call 928-523-9124. Sponsored by the Tribal Leadership Initiative.

## **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>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
<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, November 26, 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](#)**

<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Course Level</b>
	<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***

## **Virtual Southwest Climate Change 101 Course for Tribal Environmental Professionals**

*November 16-20, 2020* | [Register Here](#)

This course will introduce topics on regional impacts of climate change, future climate trends, and tools to help in climate adaptation planning. This course is a collaboration between ITEP, the Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center, and the American Indian Higher Education Consortium. This is a week-long virtual course, running for approximately 5 hours (breaks included) each day from November 16-20<sup>th</sup>. Click [here](#) to view course flyer.

## **Digital Solutions to Climate and Water Challenges**

*Free Webinar Series begins November 17; 2-3:15pm ET* | [Register Here](#)

Technology is radically reshaping how things are powered, made, and moved. As such, the next 50 years of environmental protection will not look like the first 50—it will be driven by technology as much as by regulation. A year ago, the Environmental Law Institute and collaborators hosted [GreenTech 2019](#) in Seattle, Washington, to explore innovative and transformative technologies and the unique opportunities and challenges they present to protecting the environment. As we were unable to host an in-person gathering in 2020, the GreenTech Committee is holding a [series of free webinars](#) to keep the dialogue moving forward.

## **NEW! Should a Carbon Tax Be Part of the Strategy for Achieving 100% Clean Energy?**

**November 18, 3 PM (ET)** | [Register Here](#)

This webinar, presented by the Clean Energy States Alliance, will explore how a carbon tax could feature in state and national efforts to advance clean energy. Gilbert Metcalf, the John DiBiaggio Professor of Citizenship and Public Service and Professor of Economics at Tufts University, will explain why economists believe a carbon tax can be an effective, efficient, and fair policy for addressing climate change. He will discuss how it could improve the fairness of the tax code and contribute to economic growth, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. He will compare its benefits to those of other potential policies. Metcalf is author of the 2019 book *Paying for Pollution: Why a Carbon Tax Is Good for America* and was Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environment and Energy at the US Department of Treasury. There will be opportunity for audience questions.

This webinar is presented by the Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) on behalf of the 100% Clean Energy Collaborative.

**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**

#### **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! New Mobility Mindsets: On-Demand Transit**

*November 16; 3pm ET / [Register Here](#)*

Public transit—buses, streetcars, and sometimes rail—has long been an important means for residents, commuters, and visitors of places to get from Point A to Point B without a car. Some transit agencies are experimenting with new technologies to provide on-demand transit services. Similar to personal ridehailing, on-demand transit allows users to request a ride through an application to access door-to-door or corner-to-corner (which involves a short walk) service. Like traditional transit, these rides have a set fare and typically can be paid for with a transit fare card. Hear an overview from the American Public Transportation Association, and



recent experiences from Dallas Area Rapid Transit and the Central Ohio Transit Authority, both before and during the COVID pandemic.

**NEW! OSHA #7225 Transitioning to Safer Chemicals: Live Virtual Training**  
*November 19-20; Price: \$195 / [Register Here](#)*

OSHA #7225: Transitioning to Safer Chemicals gives participants hands-on experience with innovative processes for transitioning to safer chemicals, as well as the new methods, tools, and databases that can assist in this process. The course will guide participants through OSHA's seven-step substitution planning process for understanding and evaluating chemical use, identifying and assessing alternatives, and implementing those alternatives that are safer. Hosted by the Pacific Northwest OSHA Education Center.

**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](#). 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](#). To learn more about the rulemaking for methylene chloride, [visit](#). To learn more about the rulemaking for 1-BP, [visit](#).

*The recent additions to OTAQ's website are 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 21, 2020: [EPA levies \\$65k penalty against DDM Imports for illegal truck imports.](#)
- October 19, 2020: [EPA Awards More than \\$4.8 million for Clean Diesel Projects in New England.](#)
- October 19, 2020: [U.S. Settles with Valero Over Alleged Gasoline and Diesel Fuel Violations.](#)
- October 15, 2020: [EPA Finalizes Cost-Saving Updates to Existing Fuels Regulations.](#)
- October 6, 2020: [Rebates Totaling \\$10 Million Now Available to Fund School Buses that Reduce Diesel Emissions and Protect Children’s Health.](#)
- October 1, 2020: [EPA to Award More than \\$350,000 for Clean Diesel Projects in Michigan.](#)
- October 1, 2020: [EPA to Award More than \\$500,000 for Clean Diesel Projects in Ohio.](#)
- October 1, 2020: [EPA to Award More than \\$597,000 for Clean Diesel Projects in Wisconsin.](#)
- October 1, 2020: [EPA Awards \\$805,500 for Clean Diesel Projects in South Carolina.](#)

### **Indoor Air Quality**

**The Federal Interagency Committee on Indoor Air Quality (CIAQ) will hold its next public webinar**

*Thursday, Nov 12, 2020, 1:00 p.m. EST / [Register Here](#)*

CIAQ was established by Congress in 1983 with the intent to coordinate federal indoor air quality (IAQ) research while facilitating the exchange of information and collaboration among federal agencies, state and local governments, the research community, the private sector and the general public. At the meeting, CIAQ member agencies will provide updates on indoor environmental quality–related activities at their agencies. Following these updates, there will be invited presentations on topics relevant to the issues facing Americans today that are of interest to the IAQ community.

The agenda for the November meeting will be provided on the CIAQ website shortly.

### **EPA's IAQ Webinar Series: The Impact of Relative Humidity on Indoor Chemistry and Microbiology**

*Wednesday, November 18, 2020; 2-3:30pm EST / [Register Here](#)*

We spend 90% of our time indoors where we are exposed to a complex mixture of chemicals and diverse microbial communities. Both indoor chemistry and microbes are influenced by excess moisture in homes, and this dampness is associated with negative human health effects. The goal of this webinar is to elucidate how elevated relative humidity in housing can influence both indoor chemistry and microbiology. This work focuses on carpet and dust, which are important reservoirs for human exposure.

### **NEW! Federal Facilities Council Webinar: Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Strategies in Response to COVID-19**

[Click here](#) to view the webinar recording

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 on **Wednesday, October 28, 2020, from 2:00-3:30 EDT** for a webinar on Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (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.

### **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.

### **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!**