



NTAA Weekly Update

Week of February 1 – 5, 2021

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PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD

The Guardian - [Arizona fought restrictions amid a dire COVID surge. Navajo elder Mae Tso paid the price](#)



Nearly 70% of all Navajo Nation deaths from the virus have been among tribal members over the age of 60, like Mae Tso. Photograph: Courtesy of her family.

TOP STORIES

NTAA has published a fact sheet as part of a Policy Resource Kit to help Tribes respond to EPA's Updated Indoor airPLUS Version 2 building specifications. This updated version revises specifications for the new construction market and expands project eligibility to include multifamily buildings of all heights. Approved Indoor airPLUS labeled homes and apartments provide peace of mind to home buyers and renters seeking to keep their family healthy. NTAA is preparing a template letter that Tribes can use to comment. *You can [click here](#) to view the fact sheet released today. Comments are due into EPA by March 17th.*

Politico - [EPA nominee hits the Hill today](#)

*Editor's Note: [You can watch today's confirmation hearing today at 2pm ET here.](#)

The Hill – [Court rules against fast-track of Trump EPA's 'secret science' rule](#)

NY Times - [Biden, Emphasizing Job Creation, Signs Sweeping Climate Actions](#)

KLAW - [As COVID Spreads Through Indian Country, Communities Work To Save Elders & Native Languages](#)

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Indian Country Today - [Joe Biden: 'Tribal sovereignty will be a cornerstone'](#)

The Hill - [Biden signals major shift on regulations with first-day orders](#)

The Hill - [Court strikes down part of rule easing pollution standard implementation](#)

Vox - [Trump's environmental legacy suffers two major court losses](#)

High Country News – [The fight for an equitable energy economy for the Navajo Nation](#)

The Conversation - [Biden has pledged to advance environmental justice – here's how the EPA can start](#)

CNN - [Air pollution is linked to an increased risk of irreversible sight loss, study finds](#)

The Dickinson Press - ['Truth, healing and reconciliation' bill aims to bring tribes, North Dakota together](#)

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

Climate Change/Energy

Bloomberg Green - [Climate Experts Game Out Biden's 2035 Goal in a Split Senate](#)

Scientific American - [Five Things in Biden's Climate Day Orders That Flew Under the Radar](#)

Scientific American - [Earth Day Summit Will Mark U.S. Return to Global Climate Talks](#)

Forbes - [U.S. Will Profit From Eliminating Carbon Emissions ‘Even If You Don’t Care About Climate’](#)

High North News - [Alaskan Tribes applaud protection of the Northern Bering Sea](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

NY Times – [G.M. Will Sell Only Zero-Emission Vehicles by 2035](#)

Scientific American - [EPA Races to Draft Interim Vehicle Standards for CO₂](#)

Indian Country Today - [Great interruption could end pipelines](#)

Indoor Air Quality

Navajo-Hopi Observer - [Sen. Mark Kelly said one goal is to work with tribes in Arizona on COVID-19](#)

Canadian Architect - [What every architect needs to know about air and SarsCov2](#)

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

UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

NEW! The Biden Administration releases a [National Strategy for COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness](#) and Executive Orders

A fact sheet that highlights the national strategy can be found [here](#). In addition, last Friday, the Department of Health and Human Services Acting Secretary, Norris Cochran sent a [letter notifying the extension of the Public Health Emergency for COVID-19](#) for another 90 days but also stated that it will likely remain in place for the rest of 2021 and when a decision is made to terminate the declaration or let it expire, HHS will provide 60 days’ notice prior to termination.

COVID-19 Vaccine: CDC updated their [resource page on the COVID-19 vaccine](#). On this page you can find information on vaccine data, where to receive the vaccine, and more. CDC updated information pages on the [Moderna vaccine](#) and the [Pfizer vaccine](#).

NEW! EPA Air Quality Flag Program Winter 2021 Newsletter

Do you ever wonder what other organizations are flying an air quality flag in your area? There’s a map for that. Go to [our website](#) and click on the Story Map in the grey box.

- Coco is back and animated! “[Why is Coco orange?](#)” new videos for the classroom.
- New: Communities Poster The community poster is free, and you can order directly from EPA's [National Service Center for Environmental Publications](#). Search for the poster using item number 456H20001. NOTE: The item number is also needed to place the order.
- [Updated Lesson Plans](#) Need some ideas for upcoming science classes? We recently updated the lesson plans below to align with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)
- [Virtual Air Quality Flags for your Electronic Board](#) Looking for an alternative way to share the display today’s air quality at your school? As you may already know, flying an actual flag isn’t the only way to effectively communicate the AQI.

NEW! The Tribal Air Monitoring Support (TAMS) Center’s online Technical Needs Assessment

The TAMS Center is seeking ways to identify the technical support requirements of tribal air quality programs nationwide. The goal of this Needs Assessment is to aid in the development of services that better meet tribal air program goals and objectives. The form asks for specific information related to both ambient air quality and indoor air quality concerns that affect Tribes. Input obtained through this online questionnaire will help identify focus areas and support needs so that future technical training and support can be tailored to for Tribes. Click [this link](#) to fill-out the online form. For any questions contact TAMS co-directors, Christopher Lee at christopher.lee@nau.edu (702-784-8278) and/or Hayden Hardie at hardie.hayden@epa.gov (702-784-8232)

NEW! Furthering a Partnership: Air quality modeling and improving public health

[Click here to read full text](#) (may not be free for all)

Implications Statement: Air quality models are an effective tool that can be used to estimate air pollution exposure in epidemiologic studies and risk assessments. Working together in collaborative multidisciplinary teams will lead to greater advancements in understanding of air pollution impacts and in useful information informing actions to improve public health.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is hosting a webinar specifically for students and recent alumni of Native Serving Institutions and Tribal Colleges

The webinar will include information on how to apply to federal positions and will outline the unique opportunities at the EPA. The event is listed in the attached PDF and also posted to Handshake (need to sign in, to access) at the following [link](#).

Environmental Justice Webinar for Indigenous Peoples on EPA’s Competitive Grants Award Process

Wednesday, February 3; 2:30 – 4pm ET | [Register Here](#)

This webinar will cover EPA’s competitive grants process and general management and administrative issues. It is being offered to indigenous peoples (state-recognized tribes; indigenous and tribal community-based organizations; individual members of federally recognized tribes, including those living on a different reservation or living outside Indian country; individual members of state-recognized tribes; Native Hawaiians; Native Pacific Islanders; and individual Native Americans); other interested parties are welcome to participate. The webinar will cover grants topics, including:

- How to find and apply for grant opportunities
- EPA's [Grants.gov](#) requirements
- Information about the [competitive process](#)
- Preparing a proper budget detail

Tribal Children’s Health Webinar Series #2 called Navigating Wildfire Smoke Issues in Tribal Communities.

Tuesday, February 9; 11–12:30pm MST (1pm ET/10am PT) | [Register Here](#)

The Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council, Inc. in partnership with EPA will be hosting the event. Pollutants from wildfires adversely affect communities and create health risks. During this webinar you will hear from tribal representatives as they share their experiences before, during, and after a wildfire. Agenda is currently being finalized and will be forth coming. We have two presenters who will be providing important information on the topic:

1. Daniel Denipah, Forestry Department Director – Santa Clara Pueblo
2. Kris Ray, Air Quality Program Manager - Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation.

Additional questions please contact Karmen@enipc.or or Margaret Chavez at mchavez@enipc.org

National Tribal Forum on Air Quality 2021 Call for Proposals!

Deadline for submissions is February 10, 2021.

The National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTFAQ) brings together environmental professionals from Tribes, U.S. EPA, and other agencies and organizations to DISCUSS current policy initiatives, EXPLORE up-to-date technology solutions, and SHARE practical knowledge and experiences from tribal air quality programs nationwide. The NTFAQ planning committee is actively seeking proposals for presentations. Please click on this [LINK](#) for more information and instructions to submit a proposal abstract.

The Forum is open to attendees from across Indian Country, as well as U.S. EPA and other local and national partners working to improve human health and the environment. For More Information Contact: Andy.Bessler@nau.edu, Mehrdad.Khatibi@nau.edu, and/or Christopher.Lee@nau.edu

NEW! U.S. EPA OAQPS Webinar: What's Coming Next? What You Need To Know

Wednesday, February 10; 2:30 – 4pm EST | **Registration Required**

You are invited to participate in OAQPS' webinar on EPA's Proposed Risk and Technology Review (RTR) Amendments to Air Toxics Standards for Carbon Black Manufacturing Production, Cyanide Chemical Manufacturing, Flexible Polyurethane Foam Fabrication, and Primary Magnesium Refining. We will discuss what these proposed amendments mean for you, what you can expect next, and help answer any questions you may have about the proposal. This will be an interactive discussion, so please feel free to ask your questions and share your thoughts.

To register, please provide your full name, organization, phone number (the one you will use to call into the webinar), and email address to Toni Colón at colon.toni@epa.gov After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information on how to join the webinar. We will be using Microsoft Teams for this event. You will have the option of joining by either a computer link or by telephone (not both). **Please register by COB, Monday, February 8, 2021.**

NEW! COVID-19 in Indian Country

Thursday, February 11; 2 – 3:30pm ET | [Register Here](#)

COVID-19 has had a disproportionate impact on Native communities throughout the US. Join experts for a conversation about combating this devastating pandemic in Indian Country.

Featuring Rear Admiral Michael Toedt, MD, chief medical officer, Indian Health Service; Dr. Loretta Christensen (Diné [Navajo]), chief medical officer, Navajo Area Office Indian Health Service; and Phyllis Davis, Tribal Council member, Gun Lake Band Pottawatomi and chair of the Great Lakes Area Tribal Health Board. This online program will be moderated by Dr. Charles Grim (Cherokee), Chickasaw Nation secretary of health. Presented in partnership with the Indian Health Service.

NTAA is Seeking Story Submissions for the STAR!

Deadline for submission: February 16th

[Click here to fill out the Google Form](#)

We are currently seeking story submissions for the 2021 Status of Tribal Air Report! The [STAR](#) is an annual publication intended to provide an understanding of the importance and impact of Tribal air programs. As such, one of the biggest

components to the STAR is the unique perspectives of air programs within tribal communities. This year we are looking to provide more stories that highlight the successes and/or challenges you have faced within the last year given a specific topic. We are asking that you draft the short story or nominate someone who you may think has a great idea! If you have any questions, please contact Mariah Ashley, NTAA Program Coordinator at mariah.ashley@nau.edu

Please join the upcoming Tribal Listening sessions hosted by ORD's Air and Energy Research Program with your respective EPA Tribal Partnership Groups

Wednesday, February 17; 2-4pm ET | There is **no registration** for these sessions. The purpose of these listening sessions is to hear from the Tribes about the challenges they are facing with wildfires and where EPA might be able to help through our scientific research. Tribal partners only need to access the registration link found in the attached flyer on the appropriate date and time. Tribal partners only need to access the [registration link on the appropriate date and time](#). Second, there are two questions to answer related to the tribe's experience with wildland fires and smoke. Responses may be submitted via email at ORDResearch@epa.gov.

NEW! NCAI to Host Webinar Series on Tribal Disaster Declarations Pilot Guidance

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) invites you to participate in our three-part webinar series on tribal disaster preparedness efforts. During the webinar series, tribal emergency management experts will walk tribal leaders and staff through the [2017 Tribal Declarations Pilot Guidance \(pdf download\)](#), answer questions, and highlight how tribal nations can access emergency disaster resources.

- *Webinar 3: TBA, March, 2021* | [Register Here](#)

Resources for attendees:

- [FEMA's Disaster Declaration Process: A Primer \(pdf download\)](#)
- [2017 Tribal Declarations Pilot Guidance \(same link as in first paragraph, pdf download\)](#)
- [FEMA Tribal Declarations Pilot Guidance Webpage \(link\)](#)
- [Stafford Act Declarations 1953-2016: Trends, Analyses, and Implications for Congress \(pdf download\)](#)
- [Learning More About the Emergency Management Professional \(pdf download\)](#)

Native Farm to School: Project of First Nations Development Institute

Three new webinars on best practices, resources, and strategies start next week!

Like Farm to School programs in general, Native Farm to School programs improve access to healthy local food and provide educational opportunities for

students to understand local food systems, health, and science. Yet, programming for Native Farm to School distinctively relies on the traditional knowledge, community, language, and deep, rich ancestral connections to land and food. Register through the links below and learn more about the facilitators and webinar presenters [here](#).

NTAA Upcoming Calls

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

Planning Call for the National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTFAQ): This monthly call works to plan the 2021 NTFAQ.	Monday, February 15, 1pm ET
Wood Smoke Work Group: Join this work group every other month to address wood smoke issues in Indian Country.	Thursday, March 18, 2pm ET
EPA Policy Call: Call in to hear updates from EPA on policies, actions, and tools relevant to Indian Country and Air Quality.	Thursday, January 28, 2pm ET
Mobile Sources Work Group: This monthly work group addresses all mobile source pollution issues.	Thursday, February 4, 2pm ET
Indoor Air Quality Work Group: Join this work group every other month to help support IAQ work throughout Indian Country.	Thursday, February 18, 2pm ET

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

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

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

[Click here](#) for ITEP's new Tribal Environmental Management and Planning Online Courses. Sign up for a self-paced course hosted by ITEP's Waste and Response and Tribal Air Quality programs. New courses have been added, so check it out!

ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program (AIAQTP) hosts the Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Cold Climates, Residential Building Science Review, Radon Fundamentals, Quality Assurance Fundamental, Writing a Quality Assurance Project Plan, Emissions Inventory Fundamentals, and Emissions Inventory Advanced.

[AIAQTP Schedule and Registration](#)

Training Title	Dates	Training Type
	2021	
QREST 101	January 16	Webinar
Indoor Air Quality in Alaska	February 16- April 16	Online Cohort
Emission Inventories: Non-point Source Emissions Calculations	February 16	Webinar
Air Quality Systems (AQS) Database	March 23	Webinar
National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTFAQ)	May 2021	Virtual Conference

Recorded Webinars

Looking for more information check out the [Tribal Air Quality Media Space Channel](#). Recent webinars include an Introduction to Air Quality Programs, Emissions Inventories, Remote Professional Assistance, and Woodstoves in Indian Country. Older classics include a series on Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke, Tribal Air Program and Grants, Data Management, and the Clean Air Act.

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

Climate Change / Energy

Tribal Solar Initiative Meeting,

Wednesday, February 3; 11am CT (US and Canada).

Please join a discussion with Tribes, Utilities, and Regulators by [clicking here](#). In November, the Tribal Solar Initiative team held three listening sessions with Tribal representatives, utility representatives, and regulators in separate meetings. This virtual meeting brings these three stakeholder groups together to discuss regulatory barriers to Tribal solar PV adoption.

The Tribal Solar Initiative is a 3-year project seeking to reduce the regulatory barriers to the Tribal adoption of solar PV. [Click here](#) to learn more about the Tribal Solar Initiative hosted by the Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association.

Virtual 2021 Southwest Adaptation Forum (SWAF)

SAVE THE DATE | April 6 – 8, 2021

The Climate Science Alliance is proud to host the [Virtual 2021 Southwest Adaptation Forum](#) (SWAF) in partnership with the [Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center](#) SWAF 2021 will bring together leaders, practitioners, and researchers from across the Southwest to explore efforts that are advancing climate change adaptation, including hands-on activities, networking, and professional training.

ITEP's Climate Change Adaptation Training Courses registration is online!
[Learn more about the courses and register here.](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

NEW! Options for Reducing Lead Emissions from Piston-Engine Aircraft
[Download Free PDF](#) or [Read Online](#)

Small gasoline-powered aircraft are the single largest emitter of lead in the United States, as other major emission sources such as automobile gasoline have been previously addressed. A highly toxic substance that can result in an array of negative health effects in humans, lead is added to aviation gasoline to meet the performance and safety requirements of a sizable portion of the country's gasoline-powered aircraft. [\[read full description here\]](#)

EPA's Electric Vehicle Policies and Strategies Webinar

Tuesday, February 16, 2021 | 12:00 - 1:00 PM (Eastern)

This one-hour webinar will highlight strategies that public agencies and utilities are implementing to electrify the transportation sector in an equitable way. It will feature the updated [AchiEVe Toolkit](#), a free resource developed by Sierra Club, Plug In America, the Electrification Coalition and Forth Mobility that covers a wide array of policy options and case studies on topics ranging from vehicle purchase to charging infrastructure to battery recycling. [Register](#) here.

Last year, the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) was evaluating potential mitigation measures for emissions and exposure to lead from aircraft operating on leaded fuel. The NAS has completed their report and there is a public webinar on their recommendations next week which can be accessed by registering [at this link](#).

2021 Clean Cities Annual Workshop

[Google Form for Topics for the 2021 Clean Cities Annual Workshop](#)

The 2021 Clean Cities Annual Workshop is event for our stakeholders traditionally hosted at the Portland International Auto Show and allowing an opportunity to learn about new and interesting topics, hear from peers about their lessons-learned and successes around clean fuels/policies and practices, celebrate clean transportation leaders in our region, and generally connect with like-minded fleet folks and industry stakeholders from across the region and clean transportation sector. In preparation for a what will likely be a virtual Annual Workshop, we are seeking input on topics for the event. Please provide your input in this very short, four-question survey - feel free to respond to Michael Graham at micheal@cwcleancities.onmicrosoft.com

The recent additions to OTAQ's website in January 2021. [You can access these additions as well as new press releases and Federal Register notices related to OTAQ on our website.](#)

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Indoor Air Quality

NEW! Vaping and adolescents: How did we get here? A webinar for science and health teachers

Wednesday, February 4; 4:15 – 5:45pm EST | [Register Here](#)

While electronic or e-cigarettes are devices known for delivering nicotine through an inhaled aerosol in a process known as vaping, **emerging evidence suggests that the non-nicotine components of e-liquids, including base solvents and flavoring chemicals, may also be harmful to the respiratory system.** During this 90-minute webinar, attendees will learn from diverse biomedical researchers, including toxicologists, investigating the impact of e-cigarette base liquids, nicotine salts, and flavorings on respiratory health. For more information, contact Dana Haine at dhaine@unc.edu

Comment Period Open for EPA's Indoor airPLUS Version 2 New Construction Specifications

EPA's Indoor Environments Division has opened a public comment period with the release of newly proposed requirements for the Indoor airPLUS Program, EPA's voluntary label for improved indoor air quality (IAQ) in new homes. EPA is requesting feedback from interested parties and stakeholders on the proposed

Version 2 of the Indoor airPLUS New Construction Specifications. More information on Indoor airPLUS can be found online at epa.gov/indoorairplus. EPA is conducting a comment period *December 18, 2020* through *March 17, 2021* on these draft specifications. The draft documents and instructions for submitting comments [are available here](#).

EPA representatives held the [Indoor airPLUS Version 2 webinar](#) on November 10 to provide context and background on many of the newly proposed Indoor airPLUS Version 2 Construction Specifications. To access the recording, please [enter your information and click “Register”](#).

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

RESOURCES & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Now Hiring!

NEW! Forest Service Eastern Region Air Quality

EPA Region 5 is hiring! The position is being flow Merit (government employees and special hiring authorities) and DEMO (all US Citizens). This position will serve as the South Zone Air Quality Specialist, with responsibility for providing leadership, coordination, guidance and advice as a member of the Eastern Region’s Air Team.

- [Merit - 21-R9SVOCT-0951-739033G-EA](#) Opens 01/29/2021, Closes 02/11/2021, [More info here](#)
- [DEMO - 21-R9SVOCT-0951-739033DP-EA](#) Opens 01/29/2021, Closes 02/04/2021, [More info here](#)

If you have any questions about the application process, feel free to contact Jim Gries at James.Gries@usda.gov.

NEW! EPA Region 10 office paid student internship

[Two USAJobs](#) announcements are now open for technical and non-technical paid internship applications.

This program offers **paid** opportunities for students to work in federal agencies and explore careers while completing their education. Internship opportunities will be at our Seattle and operations offices locations listed above. Students may apply for one or multiple locations. Positions will be located in our Air & Radiation, Enforcement & Compliance, Laboratory Services & Applied Science, Land, Chemicals, & Redevelopment, Regional Administrator, Superfund & Emergency Management, and Water Divisions. [Click here](#) to learn more about each of these programs. Students should review the eligibility and required documents carefully and apply as soon as possible. Applications must be submitted *prior to 9:00 PM*

Pacific on February 3, 2021. The job announcement is limited to 250 applications and may close before **February 3, 2021** if the limit is reached.

NEW! The Nature Conservancy’s Global Program on Conservation in partnership with Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities is hiring 2 positions:

1. IPLC Community-Led Finance Director

The successful candidate will provide sophisticated business, financial and economic expertise to address conservation challenges for Indigenous and community-led programs to further the work of The Nature Conservancy and its Indigenous and community partners by developing long-term financing solutions and strategies in support of TNC’s “Strong Voices Active Choices” framework. We are looking for a person who thrives in a dynamic environment, is an authentic communicator, is comfortable with ambiguity, builds relationships, works well within multicultural and multinational teams, and demonstrates commitment to diversity, inclusion and equity. (Job ID 49299)

2. IPLC Research Analyst

The IPLC Research Analyst will provide technical expertise, research, analysis, and logistical support to project leads and Directors on the Global IPLC team. This includes summarizing the latest relevant research on social aspects of community-based conservation through desk review and interviews with internal and/or external experts to ensure global and field staff have strong evidence on which to base decisions. (Job ID 49300)

Open until Filled (was posted on 01/18/21). If any questions, contact Andrea Burgess andrea.burgess@tnc.org and/or Nikki DeMello ndemello@tnc.org

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

The 2020 Tribal Air Resources Journal in Region 5 has been released! The Tribal Air Resources Journal was started by Tribes in EPA Region 5 to better publicize Tribal Air Quality Program achievements, progression, and struggles to their Tribal communities as well as in Indian Country. The Journal provides Tribes with a platform to promote their accomplishments and successes along with sharing obstacles and setbacks encountered along the way. **You can access the 2020 Tribal Air Resources Journal on [NTAA’s website here.](#)**

First Nations Development Institute grant opportunity

With the generous support of the Indigenous Peoples Fund at Tides Foundation, First Nations will establish a Gather Food Sovereignty Grant that will support work contributing to building a national movement that will fulfill a vision of Native communities and food systems that are self-directed, well-resourced and

supported by community policies and systems. This opportunity is targeting emerging projects that focus on developing Tribal Food Sovereignty. Through the first round of the Gather Food Sovereignty Grant, First Nations expects to award up to 13 grant awards of approximately \$32,000 to support Native American-led food sovereignty work.

The grant period for this funding opportunity will commence March 1, 2021, and end February 28, 2022. Application on the [Gather Food Sovereignty Grant site](#).

National Environmental Leadership Award Applications are now being accepted for EPA's National Environmental Leadership Award in Asthma Management! [Click here to apply](#)

The National Environmental Leadership Award in Asthma Management is the highest recognition a program and its leaders can receive for delivering excellent environmental asthma management as part of their comprehensive asthma care services. Each year, EPA honors exceptional health plans, health care providers and communities in action with this prestigious award. [Learn more here](#)

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

The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies is pleased to announce the release of a new report “[Advancing the National Fish, Wildlife, and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy into a New Decade](#)”.

The team has been working on the Strategy White Paper that we have been working on over the past year! Report is attached, as well as three fact sheets. You can find all of these materials on the website [here](#). AFWA’s press release can be found [here](#).

Thank you to the writing team: Aimee Delach, Karen Cozzetto, Nikki Cooley, Rachael Novak, Rob Croll, Bob Newman, Roger Griffis, Ted Weber, and Tracy Melvin.

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

Recent additions to OTAQ’s website in January 2021

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

Indoor Air Quality

NEW! EPA’s 2021 National Environmental Leadership Award in Asthma Management

*Applications due: ~~February 1~~ **Deadline extended to February 8; @11:59pm EST***

[Learn More Here](#) | [Apply Here!](#)

Burning wood this winter? Check out these 5 tips to keep your family and neighbors healthy

Smoke may smell good, but it's not good for you. Wood smoke consists of tiny particles that can get into your eyes and lungs, where they may cause burning eyes, runny nose, and illnesses (such as bronchitis). Tiny smoke particles can irritate your lungs, cause inflammation, and affect your immune system. Particles found in wood smoke can make [asthma](#) symptoms worse and trigger asthma attacks.

Wood smoke can also make you more prone to lung infections, likely including SARS-CoV-2, the virus that cause COVID-19. According to the [CDC](#), people who currently have or who are recovering from COVID-19 may be at an increased risk of health effects from exposure to wood smoke due to compromised heart and/or lung function related to COVID-19. Learn more [here](#)! And [best wood-burning practices](#).

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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