

# UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES

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

### **NEW! ITEP Summer Internship for Native American Students**

*Webinar: Wednesday, February 18; 12:30 – 1:30pm MST / [Register Here](#)*

Learn more about the paid 8-week summer internship. Get your questions answered. Talk to past ITEP interns. Spend your summer working with tribal organizations to address tribal environmental issues. The internships have a technical, educational or policy focus. We are offering at least 8 positions in air quality. The internship program provides each student intern with a \$4,800 stipend. We are planning for internships to be remote, so most interns will work from their home or school site. Host sites are selected from tribal environmental organizations, government offices, the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and others. For more information about internships go to ITEP's [website!](#) Questions email [Josephine.Kamkoff@nau.edu](mailto:Josephine.Kamkoff@nau.edu)

### **NEW! Interior Announces Series of Tribal Consultations in Recognition of the Importance of Nation-to-Nation Relationship**

The Department of the Interior announced that it will host initial consultations with Tribal leaders next month. These steps will help ensure that future White House and Interior efforts at addressing the four converging crises of our time – COVID-19, economic security, racial justice and climate change – are inclusive of Tribal Nations' priorities and recommendations. Interior will notify all federally recognized Tribes of the consultation series today, and shared [additional guidance](#) to kickstart and facilitate a productive, meaningful process. The sessions will be conducted by Indian Affairs' [Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action](#) via teleconference with Tribes in each of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' 12 regions:

- **Monday, March 8** (2:00-5:00 p.m. ET): Great Plains, Midwest and Rocky Mountain Regions
- **Wednesday, March 10** (10:00 a.m.-1 p.m. ET): Eastern, Eastern Oklahoma and Southern Plains Regions
- **Wednesday, March 10** (2:00-5:00 p.m. ET): Navajo, Southwest and Western Regions
- **Friday, March 12** (2:00-5:00 p.m. ET): Alaska, Northwest and Pacific Regions

The deadline for written comments on the consultation series is 12 p.m. ET on *March 19, 2021*. Comments can be submitted at [consultation@bia.gov](mailto:consultation@bia.gov).

**NTAA is seeking quotes from interested parties willing to conduct a national needs assessment of all federally recognized Tribes to ascertain the budgetary**

**and programmatic needs of the Tribes related to the management of air quality programs. [Click here to view the Request for Offers.](#)**

*This request closes on March 20, 2021.*

### **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](mailto:christopher.lee@nau.edu) (702-784-8278) and/or Hayden Hardie at [hardie.hayden@epa.gov](mailto:hardie.hayden@epa.gov) (702-784-8232)

### **NTAA is Seeking Story Submissions for the STAR!**

*Deadline for submission: February 16<sup>th</sup>*

[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](mailto: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](mailto:ORDResearch@epa.gov).

## 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 \(pdf download\)](#)

## 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>Indoor Air Quality Work Group:</b> Join this work group every other month to help support IAQ work throughout Indian Country.	Thursday, February 18, 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, February 25, 4pm ET
<b>Mobile Sources Work Group:</b> This monthly work group addresses all mobile source pollution issues.	Thursday, March 4, 2pm ET
<b>Planning Call for the National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTFAQ):</b> This monthly call works to plan the 2021 NTFAQ. This is a <a href="#">zoom call</a> . Contact <a href="mailto:Andy.bessler@nau.edu">Andy.bessler@nau.edu</a> for password.	Thursday, March 11, 12pm ET

<b>Wood Smoke Work Group:</b> Join this work group every other month to address wood smoke issues in Indian Country.	Thursday, March 18, 2pm ET
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**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
	<b>2021</b>	
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***

### **EPA State and Local Energy and Environmental Program webinars**

*Tuesday, February 16; 12pm ET / [Register Here](#)*

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. Then, the State of North Carolina will share how they are putting the policy pieces together in a comprehensive electric vehicle strategy.

### **The Energy Impacts of COVID-19 HVAC Mitigation Strategies**

*Monday, February 22; 1pm ET / [Register Here](#)*

What is the energy impact of major HVAC system operation guidance to reduce transmission of COVID-19 inside buildings across the U.S. commercial building stock? Speakers will discuss the energy implications of (1) 100% outdoor air ventilation rates, (2) installing MERV-13 filters or better, (3) disabling demand control ventilation, and (4) HVAC flushing mode operation. Analysis of these measures using ComStock provides a national view of the energy implications for various commercial building types in all U.S. climate zones.

### **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! Estimating Non-Point Source Émissions**

*Tuesday, February 16; 9am AK, 1pm ET / [Register Here](#)*

This webinar will present potential methods used to estimate emissions for common nonpoint sources located on Tribal Lands. We will discuss in detail what data needs to be collected to use these methods, as well as how to enter the data into calculators and spreadsheets. The primary focus of this webinar is on estimating emissions using original data gathering, rather than on summarizing emissions data already calculated at the county level in the National Emissions Inventory (NEI) database.

### **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.

### **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](mailto: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.\*\*\*](#)

- January 15, 2021: [EPA determines Renewable Fuels and Air Quality Pursuant to Clean Air Act Section 211\(v\).](#)
- January 15, 2021: [EPA proposes the changes to E15 fuel dispenser labeling requirements.](#)
- January 15, 2021: [EPA receives petitions for a waiver of the 2019 and 2020 renewable fuel standards.](#)
- January 15, 2021: [EPA proposes two actions to adjust the renewable fuel standard compliance dates.](#)

- January 14, 2021: [EPA anticipates awarding approximately \\$46 million in competitive grant funding under the Diesel Emissions Reductions Act \(DERA\) National Grants Program to support projects aimed at reducing emissions from the nation's existing fleet of older diesel engines. 2021 DERA National Grants Request for Applications \(RFA\) open until March 16, 2021.](#)
- January 7, 2021: [MOVES3 announced in the Federal Register for official SIP development and transportation conformity purposes.](#)
- January 6, 2021: [EPA releases Annual Automotive Trends Report.](#)

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## **Indoor Air Quality**

### **Ventilation and Virus Mitigation in Schools: Creating a Game Plan to Reduce COVID-19 Risk and Make Lasting Improvements to IAQ**

*Thursday, February 25; 1 – 2:30pm EST / [Register Here](#)*

**Attend this webinar to learn how to—**

- Create a game plan to help mitigate risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2 in the near term and prioritize the **top 5 IAQ improvements** to ensure healthy air in schools in the long term.
- Assess your current air handling capabilities (e.g., effectiveness of filtration, ability to bring in fresh air, and energy efficiency) and create a plan to improve air quality using a free online risk assessment.
- Equip staff to implement risk reduction strategies and follow technical guidance from the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) to reduce exposure to viruses in schools.
- Replicate best practices from a [recent case study of how D.C. Public Schools](#)—a large, urban district with an older building stock—used federal funds to improve the ventilation, filtration and system monitoring throughout the district.

### **NEW! The Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) and the American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (AARST) Foundation Webinar Series:**

- Radon in Schools: EPA Tools for Schools and Case Studies – *March 16, 2:00-3:30 p.m. EST*

- Radon in State Cancer Action Plans: Best Practices for State and Tribal Radon Programs – *April 13, 2:00-3:00 p.m. EST*
- Radon Test Kit Distribution: Best Practices for State and Tribal Radon Programs – *May 25, 2:00-3:00 p.m. EST*
- Radon and Citizen Science: Public Engagement to Increase Education and Outreach – *June 22, 2:00-3:00 p.m. EST*
- National Radon Action Month: Best Practices for State and Tribal Radon Programs – *July 22, 2:00-3:00 p.m. EST*
- The sixth webinar on a trending topic to be announced will be scheduled for the month of August – *stay tuned*

### **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](https://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!**