

# UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES

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

### **NEW! Join the Office of Environmental Justice listserv**

OEJ announces webinars, grants and other financial resources, meetings of the NEJAC, and other EJ information on the EJ Listserv. To sign up and receive EPA's Environmental Justice listserv notices, please send a blank email to: [join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov](mailto:join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov). EPA is also working to update the [Environmental Justice for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples](#) webpage to include a section on the EPA EJ Webinar Series for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples, which is to include links for the recordings for each webinar. I am reaching out to also inform you of our next webinar, scheduled for Thursday, March 11, 2:30 – 4:00 PM ET, which will include an overview of the **EPA Tribal Partnership Groups, highlighting the National Tribal Air Association and interests in Environmental Justice**. For more information on this webinar and to register please click [here](#).

**NEW!** This is a courtesy announcement that the U.S. EPA intends to consult with tribal government(s) on the action mentioned below. This announcement is being sent both to tribal governments' representatives and other organizations such as EPA's tribal partnership groups that may also be interested in this action. Official notification of consultation will be sent to tribal governments potentially affected by this action.

- **Consultation Title:** Improving EPA's Consultation with Tribes: Development of the U.S. EPA's Plan for Improving Implementation of EO 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments
- **EPA Lead Organization:** Office of International and Tribal Affairs (OITA)
- **Start Date:** 3/1/2021
- **End Date:** 3/31/2021

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>.

### **NEW! EPA to Host a Tribal Webinar on FY21 Exchange Network Grant Solicitation Notice**

*Monday, March 8; 11-12:30pm ET* / [Register Here](#) Dial-In Option (Audio Only)  
Number: 1(202) 991-0477; Conf. ID: 99735969#

In support of the FY 2021 Exchange Network (EN) Grant cycle, the EPA will host a tribal webinar to assist interested tribal applicants. **The tribal webinar was held on March 1<sup>st</sup>**. The webinar will cover the following topics: a brief overview of the [EN Grants Program](#) and FY 2021 timeline, critical elements of the Solicitation Notice, notable changes from FY 2020, an overview of new guidance materials

and optional templates, special opportunities for tribes, and common mistakes to avoid. This will be followed by a question and answer session with participants. Please note that the sessions will end when all the participants' questions have been addressed.

### **NEW! Challenge: Cleaner Indoor Air During Wildfires**

*Thursday, March 4; 11am ET | Do you have an innovative idea for an effective, low-cost technology or approach to clean indoor air?*

[Learn more about the Challenge, Register for the Informational Webinar](#)

Exposure to fine particulate matter (PM2.5), an air pollutant from wildfire smoke and other sources, can be harmful to lung and heart health, especially for those with pre-existing conditions. EPA and its federal, state, local and tribal partners announce a Challenge competition to encourage the development of effective, low-cost technologies to reduce indoor PM2.5 concentrations and protect public health. Applicants can submit designs for an innovative technology, approach, or technology combination. Winning submissions will receive up to a \$10,000 prize.

### **NEW! Department of Transportation's letter inviting Tribal partners to consult with regards to the Presidential Memorandum on Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships.**

On January 26, 2021, President Biden issued a Presidential Memorandum on Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships (Presidential Memorandum) reaffirming Executive Order (EO) 13175. We will host a virtual listening session on March 24<sup>th</sup> and we will accept comments until March 31, 2021. You may submit your comments via email at [tribalaffairs@dot.gov](mailto:tribalaffairs@dot.gov) Additional information about the virtual consultation on this topic may be found in the Department's Notice of Tribal Consultation that will shortly be issued in the Federal Register. Documents for reference and review:

- [DOT Programs, Policies, and Procedures Affecting American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Tribes](#)
- [Department's Tribal Consultation Plan](#)

We will send out a registration link on March 15<sup>th</sup> for the virtual listening session on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **NEW! NIH-EPA Environmental Health Disparities Research Webinar Series**

The [NIH-EPA Environmental Health Disparities Research Centers of Excellence Program](#) is hosting this webinar series to highlight the research, training, and community-engagement accomplishments at the Centers collaboratively funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Furthermore, the webinar series is intended to raise awareness of, and prompt dialogue on, opportunities to examine

and address environmental contributions to health disparities. The webinars are open to anyone interested in learning more about environmental health disparities and strategies to reduce them.

**Schedule:**

- *March 22, 2021* – [Fostering Community Engaged Research in Environmental Health Disparities](#)
- *April, 26, 2021* – [Intersections Between the Chemical, Physical, Built and Social Environments](#)
- *May 24, 2021* – [Exploring Critical Windows of Exposure to Heavy Metals in Health Disparity Cohorts](#)
- *June 28, 2021* – [Exposure Pathways & Environmental Health Disparities](#)

*All webinars in the series will be held live via Zoom on Mondays 3-4:30pm EST*

**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).

**NEW! EPA Tools & Resource Webinar: Air Sensor Performance Testing Protocols, Metrics, and Target Values for PM2.5 and Ozone**

*Wednesday, March 24; 3-4pm ET* / [Register Here](#)

This webinar will highlight two reports developed by EPA ORD that outline recommended performance testing protocols, metrics, and target values for fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and ozone (O3) air sensors. The reports apply to the use

of PM2.5 and O3 air sensor in non-regulatory supplemental and informational monitoring (NSIM) applications in ambient, outdoor, fixed site environments. The anticipated outcomes of this work are to:

- Provide a consistent approach for evaluating air sensor performance and reporting results;
- Help the user community better understand sensor performance;
- Assist the user community in making informed decisions on choosing sensors that appropriately suit their NSIM application; and
- Encourage innovation and product improvement in the marketplace.
- For more information, visit this [website!](#)

**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.*

### **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, 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
<b>Indoor Air Quality Work Group:</b> Join this work group every other month to help support IAQ work throughout Indian Country.	Thursday, March 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, March 25, 4pm 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
	<b>2021</b>	
QREST 101	January 16	Webinar
Indoor Air Quality in Alaska	February 16- April 16	Online Cohort
Emission Inventories: Non-point Source Émissions 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***

### **NEW! Ecological Drought National Webinar Series**

*February – March 2021*

This four-part webinar series, taking place in February and March, seeks to raise awareness of ecological drought, share actions that strengthen ecosystem resilience and mitigate the impacts of droughts, and discuss research and management needs for future drought planning and preparedness. The series is co-hosted by NIDIS and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Climate Adaptation Science Center, with expert speakers from the research community, tribal nations, and government agencies.

- [Ecological Drought: Drought, Wildfire, and Recovery](#) – March 3; 4-5pm EST | Drought can exacerbate wildfire frequency, intensity, and severity. This webinar will explore wildfire management approaches based on ecological principles, including those that embed traditional ecological knowledge.
- [Ecological Drought: Impacts on Coastal Ecosystems](#) – March 17; 3-4pm EST | This webinar will share recent research on drought impacts to coastal ecosystems and services.
- Missed the previous webinars? The recordings are available for [Ecological Drought: An Introduction](#) and [Ecological Drought: Planning for Resilience](#).

### **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!** EPA's upcoming webinar, "E15 Fuel Dispenser Labeling and Compatibility with Underground Storage Tanks Proposal" will take place virtually on March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Here is a brief reminder on the proposal itself. On January 15, 2021, EPA proposed changes to E15 fuel dispenser labeling requirements and underground storage tank (UST) regulations to accommodate the safe storage of E15 and higher gasoline-ethanol blends at retail stations' existing tank systems. You can access EPA's proposed rule via our website at <https://www.epa.gov/renewable-fuel-standard-program/notice-proposed-rulemaking-e15-fuel-dispenser-labeling-and>.

A letter was sent to tribal leaders offering consultation upon request and committing to an informational webinar on the proposed rule for our tribal partners. As a reminder, you may submit comments on the proposed rule to EPA's docket through April 19, 2021. The letter requested that you please contact Jessie Mroz at 202-564-1094 or [mroz.jessica@epa.gov](mailto:mroz.jessica@epa.gov) by March 5 to request consultation.

During the webinar we will present more information on the proposed rule, including both the UST and E15 labeling provisions, and will answer questions. Please join us for this webinar on March 10, 2-3pm Eastern Standard Time (1-2pm CT, Noon-1pm MT, 11-Noon PT). Join this Microsoft Teams meeting on your computer or mobile app [Click here to join the meeting](#) Or call in (audio only) +1 202-991-0477,,61265173#, Washington DC Phone Conference ID: 612 651 73# [Find a local number](#).

## **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 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 February 2021. [\*\*\*You can access these additions as well as new press releases and Federal Register notices related to OTAQ on our website.\*\*\*](#)

- February 22, 2021: [EPA announces support of the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals' 2020 decision in Renewable Fuels Association et al. v. EPA.](#)

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

## **Indoor Air Quality**

### **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*

### **NEW! Radon in Schools: EPA Tools for Schools and Case Studies**

*Tuesday, March 16; 2-3:30pm EST* / [Register Here](#)

During this webinar, leaders from the U.S. EPA, state departments of health, and school operations management will share guidance for managing radon in schools, including testing, results interpretation, and mitigation. Three case studies will also be presented to provide the audience with examples of this guidance at work in Connecticut, Minnesota, and Oregon.

### **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](http://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!**