

UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN for the National Tribal Forum on Air Quality, May 17-21st, 2021! [Register Here for FREE!](#)

We want to especially thank the Muscogee Creek Nation for their partnership and assistance. The pandemic required that we cancel the 2020 NTFAQ, but the Nation has been steadfast in their support, and we look forward to returning to Muscogee Creek Nation in 2022. This year's conference theme is *50 years of the Clean Air Act and How Traditional Wisdom Can Lead Us Into the Future*. Throughout our conference we will be weaving in the voices of Native youth and elders – a reminder to us all the importance of the work we do. The tapestry of tribal air quality programs is rich and diverse, much like the traditions and languages of Native American Tribes and Alaskan Native Villages. For questions or technical difficulties during the conference, our NTFAQ team is standing by to help. Please email us at NTFAQ@nau.edu for assistance.

NEW! Leveraging Advances in Remote Geospatial Technologies to Inform Precision Environmental Health Decisions: A Workshop

April 14 -15 / [Register Here](#)

Join the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on April 14-15 for [a virtual workshop](#) to explore how advances in the resolution of geospatial technologies could inform “precision environmental health”—targeted public health interventions that reach the right populations at the right time. By presenting environmental health data in a spatial context, geospatial technologies can provide insight on the spread of pollution and disease, help to identify at-risk populations, and monitor environmental health trends.

NEW! EPA To Host Brownfields Stakeholder Session to Hear from Nonprofit Organizations and Community Foundations Across the Country on Their Work at Sites in Underserved Communities

Friday, April 23; 1-3pm ET / [Register Here](#)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced it will host an online discussion on April 23, with nonprofits and community foundations across the country to learn about nonprofit leadership in brownfields assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment projects. The goal of this discussion is to provide EPA with a better understanding of how to support nonprofit efforts to assess, cleanup and redevelop brownfields sites in the communities they serve.

The Biden-Harris Administration is committed to advancing economic opportunities and addressing environmental justice issues in underserved communities. During this discussion, EPA wants to hear and learn from representatives from various types of nonprofits who encounter – or could

encounter - brownfields within their communities, especially those nonprofits who work to address the disproportionate health, environmental, economic, and climate impacts on disadvantaged communities. Additional information about EPA's Brownfields and Land Revitalization Program is available [here](#).

On April 1, 2021, EPA's Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office published a [Federal Register Notice](#) requesting public nominations of candidate experts with expertise in: air quality, biostatistics, ecology, environmental engineering, epidemiology, exposure assessment, medicine, risk assessment, and toxicology to serve on the CASAC. The notice describes the functions of and expertise needed for the CASAC in further detail. I invite you to nominate candidates for the CASAC, and I also encourage you to share this request with others. Nominations to the CASAC should be made using the web nomination links at the bottom of the CASAC [home page](#).

Nominations are sought by May 3, 2021. Should you have questions about the nomination process or the broad charge to the CASAC, please contact me or Aaron Yeow (Designated Federal Officer for the CASAC) at yeow.aaron@epa.gov.

EPA's Public Engagement and Environmental Education is soliciting applications for environmental education professionals for consideration to serve on the National Environmental Education Advisory Council (NEEAC).

There are two vacancies on the Advisory Council that must be filled. To obtain nominations of diverse candidates, EPA encourages nominations of women and men of all racial and ethnic groups. Members are chosen to represent various geographic regions of the country, and the Council strives for a diverse representation. The professional backgrounds of Council members should include education, science, policy, or other appropriate disciplines.

How to Apply: the following four items should be submitted in electronic format to the Designated Federal Officer, Javier Araujo, araujo.javier@epa.gov and contain the following: (1) Contact information including name, address, phone and fax numbers and an email address (2) a curriculum vitae or resume, (3) the specific area of expertise in environmental education and the sector or slot the applicant is applying for, (4) recent service on other national advisory committees or national professional organizations; a one page commentary on the applicant's philosophy regarding the need for, development, implementation and or management of environmental education nationally. Hiram Lee Tanner III, Director, Office of Environmental Education. You can see the [Federal Register Post](#) at: [2021-06652.pdf \(govinfo.gov\)](#).

EPA Environmental Justice and Systemic Racism Speaker Series: Redlining and the Climate Crisis

This session of EPA's [Environmental Justice \(EJ\) and Systemic Racism Speaker Series](#) will focus on redlining and the climate crisis. Understanding structural racism and the climate crisis is key to shaping urban governance and the future of America's cities. The co-authors of a recent study on the correlation of redlined areas and the location of urban heat islands will discuss their participatory research on the spatial distribution of climate impacts, involving communities in measuring heat in cities. Their interdisciplinary approach offers a compelling perspective on how scientists and residents seek to address disproportionate vulnerability emerging from climate change.

- [Wildfires and Air Quality: Two-Part Webinar Series](#)
 - [Register for the April 21, 2021, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. \(PT\), 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. \(ET\) Webinar](#)
- [Part 2 - April 21st](#): This webinar features presentations on [SmokeSense](#) and [Smoke Ready Communities](#).

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:

- *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

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.

Indoor Air Quality Work Group: Join this work group every other month to help support IAQ work throughout Indian Country.	Thursday, April 15, 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, April 29, 2pm ET
Mobile Sources Work Group: This monthly work group addresses all mobile source pollution issues.	Thursday, May 6, 2pm ET
Wood Smoke Work Group: Join this work group every other month to address wood smoke issues in Indian Country.	Thursday, May 20, 1pm ET
Planning Call for the National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTFAQ): This monthly call works to plan the 2021 NTFAQ. Contact Andy.bessler@nau.edu for more information.	TBA

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professional (ITEP)

[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	
Air Quality Systems (AQS) Database Basics Webinar #1	March 23	Webinar
Air Quality Systems (AQS) Database Basics Webinar #2	March 30	Webinar
PILOT: Addressing Air Quality in Tribal Communities (for Beginners)	April 7-8	Online

Wildland Smoke and Community Preparedness	April 12-16	Online
Woodstoves and Chimney Sweeps	April 21	Webinar
Project Planning, QAPPs and Grants for Alaska	April 26-30	Online
Quality Assurance Project Plans in a Nutshell	May 4	Webinar
National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTFAQ)	May 2021	Virtual Conference

Please note: ITEP's Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke course has been postponed to June 7-11th. There is no need to reapply if you have done so already. There is still time to apply!

- Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke Course Dates: June 7-11, 202
- Course Times: Selected attendees should set aside a minimum of 4 hours daily on June 7-10 and 1.5 hours on June 11 to engage in the course.
- Live Zoom session: 10-11 am AKDT; 11-12pm PDT; 12-1pm MDT; 1-2pm CDT; 2-3pm EDT
- Homework: SLMS module completion (2-3 hours self-paced learning)

[Apply Now!](#)

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

MTERA 2021 Virtual Annual Conference

April 27th – 30th / [Register Here](#)

The Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association (MTERA), with support from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and RENEW Wisconsin, will be hosting a four-day virtual conference on April 27-30, 2021. The theme for the event is *Tribes at the Energy Forefront*.

Hear from Tribal leaders, federal and state agencies, educators, and energy industry experts as they discuss successful Tribal energy projects, state and federal energy policy, and strategic energy planning to help Tribes advance beneficial energy initiatives. **Registration is FREE!**

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.

- Missed the previous webinars? The recordings are available for [Ecological Drought: An Introduction](#) and [Ecological Drought: Planning for Resilience](#).

ITEP's Climate Change Adaptation Training Courses registration is online!

[Learn more about the courses and register here.](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

NEW! Webinar: Safe Transportation of Lithium Batteries: What You Need to Know in 2021

April 29; 1:30 – 4:30pm ET / [Register Here](#)

Lithium batteries are key to our modern connected world, from our cellphones and computers to our cars - and not just electric cars! Lithium batteries also have an increasing role in storing electricity for the electric grid which is critical to society and future progress. However, used lithium batteries aren't like the used alkaline or lead acid batteries that many of us are familiar with handling. Because of the battery's high energy density and the potential for serious incident, special preparation is needed when shipping these batteries. This webinar will provide the audience with new and updated information, as well as discussion on electric vehicle and electric storage lithium batteries, damaged, defective, and recalled (DDR) lithium batteries, and DOT special permit packaging. Participants will learn how to prevent, reduce, or eliminate risks of fire or explosions caused by the improper packaging, marking, labeling, or disposal of lithium batteries. Join us for a webinar hosted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and led by subject matter experts from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

NEW! Webinar: Abandoned Vehicles on Tribal Lands: Background, Management Approaches, and Case Studies

May 11 & May 18, 9am – 11am PT / [Register Here](#)

Abandoned vehicles pose an environmental and human health threat to tribal lands. The presence of such vehicles can encourage additional dumping and may attract

unsafe or illegal activities. This training features real-world tribal approaches to tracking vehicle abandonment, scrapping and recycling vehicles, and using outreach and compliance strategies to minimize vehicle accumulation. Tuesday 5/11 (Part One): Explores vehicle abandonment and uncontrolled accumulation, and discusses approaches to identifying and tracking potential vehicle concerns. Covers current markets for recycled metals and the impact on auto scrapping. Includes approaches used by Region 9 tribes for safely collecting, crushing and removing cars on tribal lands. Tuesday 5/18 (Part Two): Covers examples of codes and ordinances that govern and support abandoned vehicle abatement. Includes case studies from Region 9 tribes that have worked with their communities to reduce vehicle accumulation and discourage use of vehicles for illegal encampments. Reviews examples of large-scale vehicle cleanups and identifies options for federal and state assistance.

NEW! TLEF: A Virtual Gathering, now accepting proposals

TLEF: A Virtual Gathering that will take place *August 16 through 19, 2021!* Last year's virtual TLEF had *twice* as many attendees as normally come to our in-person TLEF so we do hope to see you this August. We are now accepting proposals from you! Please fill out our [online proposal form](#), and learn more about the types of sessions we are offering this year. And please note: The deadline for submitting your proposal is **May 14**.

These continue to be very uncertain times, when many are facing not only serious health concerns but also economic, social, and psychological challenges as well. And yet we do find strength in working with one another! We want to see your proposals for case studies, virtual tours of your sites and facilities, strategies you're using to protect your lands and communities, and stories about your successes and challenges.

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.*](#)

- March 23, 2021: [EPA finalizes a rule to extend the renewable fuel standard \(RFS\) program's compliance deadlines for 2019 and 2020.](#)
- March 11, 2021: [EPA posts a "patch" to MOVES3.](#)

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Indoor Air Quality

NEW! Tribal Innovations & Success Stories in Healthy Homes Outreach: A 3-Part Webinar Series Hosted by the Tribal Healthy Homes Network & EPA Region 10

- **Webinar 1 of 3: Innovations and Success Stories in Tribal Healthy Homes Outreach** | *Apr 26, 2021, 10-11 am AKDT/11-12 PDT*
Featuring Tiffany Lozada, Poarch Band of Creek Indians; EPA R10 Tribal Air Program, and Sydney Janssen - Key Findings from AirMatters Toolkit Evaluation. [REGISTER HERE](#)
- **Webinar 2 of 3: Innovations and Success Stories in Tribal Healthy Homes Outreach** | *May 3, 2021, 10-11 am AKDT/11-12 PDT*
Featuring Brooke Sanderson, Loudon Tribal Council; Aileen Gagney, Tulalip Tribes; and Sydney Janssen - Lessons Learned from Healthy Homes Outreach Across 16 Tribal Case Studies. [REGISTER HERE](#)
- **Webinar 3 of 3: Innovations and Success Stories in Tribal Healthy Homes Outreach** | *May 10, 2021, 10-11 am AKDT/11-12 PDT*
Featuring Lucas Bair, Spokane Tribe, and Oxcenia O'Domin, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium. [REGISTER HERE](#)

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

[Available to watch NOW and On-Demand!](#)

Just in time for a new round of funding for schools in the American Rescue Plan, the webinar now can be viewed online! Learn how to develop a plan to acquire federal funds for immediate and long-term IAQ and ventilation improvements to reduce the spread of viruses and ensure safer, healthier learning environments. By viewing this webinar, you also will 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.

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

- 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*

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