

## **UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES**

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

#### **NEW! Invitation to Webinars on EPA's 2021 Updates to AirNow's Fire and Smoke Map**

*Wednesday, April 28; 2-3pm EDT & Wednesday, May 26; 2-4pm* / [Register Here](#)

Please join staff from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) at two upcoming webinars to learn about planned updates to the highly successful AirNow Fire and Smoke map pilot. The pilot's combination of monitor and sensor air quality data on an apples-to-apples basis was very well received by the public during an intensive 2020 fire season in the Western US. Your input into the design of the pilot was instrumental to its success.

#### **The Pacific Northwest Forest Collaboratives Workshop is hosting a Virtual Workshop on Enhancing Tribal Partnerships**

*Friday, April 30 at 10 - 11:30 am MST* | [Click here](#) to register

This all-tribal panel, convened by Lomakatsi's Tribal Partnership Program, explores best practices, tools and mechanisms for engaging with Tribal Nations and tribal communities in landscape-scale restoration initiatives. These leaders bring expertise in legal practices, natural resource management, tribal government and trust responsibility, ecocultural restoration and indigenous fire knowledge. and [click here](#) to learn more about the workshop series.

#### **NTAA is hosting a free informational webinar for Tribes with a panel discussion on Treatment as a State (TAS) under the Clean Air Act's Tribal Authority Rule**

*Thursday, May 4, 2021 at 1 pm ET* | Details Coming Soon!

The panel includes EPA representatives that will speak about TAS and Tribal representatives will speak to TAS's benefits and what aspects of TAS have worked for their Tribe. You can [click here](#) to register for the 1 ½ hour webinar. To learn more about TAS, visit [NTAA's TAS webpage](#) or contact NTAA's [Ryan Tsinigine](#).

#### **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:**

- *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*

**NEW! Vaccine Equity for Indigenous Communities**

*Monday, May 24; 6-7:30pm ET | [Register Here](#)*

Numerous reports have discussed how longstanding inequalities, stigmatization and discrimination, and inadequate access to health care have resulted in substantial inequities under the ongoing COVID pandemic. Poorer communities, including the more than 476 million indigenous people living in 90 countries, have higher morbidity and mortality due to COVID, and less access to COVID vaccines. During this webinar, we will hear from indigenous leaders and health care providers from the United States, Australia and Latin America regarding the current status of COVID and access to COVID vaccines.

**You are invited to participate in the U.S. Government side-event on Advancing Equity and Environmental Justice in Support of Sustainable Development/Revitalization in Indigenous Communities**

*Thursday, April 29, 2:30 – 4:00 PM ET, being held in conjunction with the [United Nations 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the Permanent Forum for Indigenous Peoples](#)*

The side-event will be held virtually, using WebEx. The side-event link will be sent to all registrants, by Wednesday, April 28. Please register at this [link](#).

**Advancing Equity and Environmental Justice in Support of Sustainable Development/Revitalization in Indigenous Communities**

The United States is hosting a side-event on advancing equity and environmental justice. President Biden recently issued executive orders 13985 and 14008, to promote racial equity and environmental justice, including the advancing of fairness and the inclusive engagement of vulnerable and underserved communities, including Indigenous communities. Panelists include:

- Facilitator – Daniel (Danny) Gogal, Tribal and Indigenous Peoples Program Manager, Office of Environmental Justice, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Tom Goldtooth, Executive Director, Indigenous Environmental Network
- Shalanda H. Baker, Secretarial Advisor on Equity, Deputy Director for Energy Justice Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, U.S. Department of Energy

- JoAnn Chase, Director, American Indian Environmental Office, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Victoria (Vicky) Tauli-Corpuz, previous UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Tribal Government Representative [TBD]
- Native Alaska Tribe or Native Alaska Organization Representative [TBD]

**Children’s Health and Wildfire Smoke: Workshop for Public Health Officials**  
 May 5 – 6, 2021/ e-mail [EPA-Workshops@icf.com](mailto:EPA-Workshops@icf.com) to request a formal invitation.  
 View Agenda [Here](#)

In August 2019, EPA and other federal and state agencies released the update to the [Wildfire Guide for Public Health Officials](#), along with additional information for protecting children from exposure to wildfire smoke. Following the release, EPA’s Office of Children’s Health Protection and Office of Air and Radiation have set up a multi-stakeholder effort, with tribal, federal, state, and local officials, the Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units, health care professional organizations, non-governmental organizations, academics, and industry experts to work collaboratively to address additional children’s health issues in more detail. This workshop is intended for public health, air quality, and emergency planning and response officials. This meeting is invitation-only; however, due to its virtual nature, if you or other colleagues are interested in participating, please have them e-mail [EPA-Workshops@icf.com](mailto:EPA-Workshops@icf.com) to request a formal invitation.

**EPA’s Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office is 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](mailto:yeow.aaron@epa.gov).

**Attention: California Tribes, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) is requesting your application to serve on the AB 32 Environmental Justice Advisory Committee for the 2022 Scoping Plan Update.** If you are interested in applying, please send a one-page statement of interest and one-page resume and/or one-page CV to [Trish Johnson](#) by April 26, 2021. CARB Office of Environmental Justice will receive these materials and respond to applicants. [Click here](#) for more information. Applications are due at 5 pm PT on April 26, 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>EPA Policy Call:</b> Call in to hear updates from EPA on policies, actions, and tools relevant to Indian Country and Air Quality. <i>NOTE TIME CHANGE</i> | Thursday, April 29, 1pm ET |
| <b>Mobile Sources Work Group:</b> This monthly work group addresses all mobile source pollution issues.  | Thursday, May 6, 2pm ET    |
| <b>Wood Smoke Work Group:</b> Join this work group every other month to address wood smoke issues in Indian Country.   | Thursday, May 20, 1pm ET   |
| <b>Indoor Air Quality Work Group:</b> Join this work group every other month to help support IAQ work throughout Indian Country.                             | Thursday, June 24, 2pm ET  |

## 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 | 2021 Dates | Training Type |
|----------------|------------|---------------|
|----------------|------------|---------------|

|   |             |                    |
|---|-------------|--------------------|
| Project Planning, QAPPs and Grants for Alaska | April 26-30 | Virtual Training   |
| National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTFAQ)  | May 2021    | Virtual Conference |
| Quality Assurance Project Plans in a Nutshell | June 1      | Webinar            |
| Wildland Smoke and Community Preparedness     | June 7-11   | Virtual Training   |

**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, 2021
- 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 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> / [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!**

**NEW! Save the Date: Roundtable Discussion on Funding and Financing Tribal Energy Projects**

*Wednesday, May 5; 2:30 – 4:30pm ET / [Register Here](#)*

Ms. Wahleah Johns, Senior Advisor and Acting Director of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy, and Mr. Jigar Shah, Executive Director of the DOE Loan Programs Office, invite you to participate in a 2-hour roundtable discussion session. This session welcomes all tribal leaders and staff responsible for energy and utility programs, economic and enterprise development, and finance; related tribal non-profits and associations; and industry, including banks, equity investors, and energy developers.

**NEW! Summer Internship with the University of Colorado Boulder**

The Arctic Rivers Project at the University of Colorado Boulder (CU) invites applicants for an undergraduate student summer internship. The internship will be remote this year and can be conducted from any location with reliable internet access. The program is open to US citizens, US permanent residents or Canadian nationals who have completed their junior or sophomore year in college or community college. Indigenous students are encouraged to apply. For full consideration, **please apply by May 15, 2021**. The position will remain open until filled. A start date is negotiable, ideally mid-June 2021. The [Arctic Rivers Project](#): The climate impacts on Alaskan and Yukon rivers, fish, and communities as told through co-produced scenarios

Application: Interested candidates can contact Keith Musselman ([keith.musselman@colorado.edu](mailto:keith.musselman@colorado.edu)) or Nicole Herman-Mercer ([nhmerc@usgs.gov](mailto:nhmerc@usgs.gov)). Please include a resume and a one-page cover letter introducing yourself, your education, and why you are a good fit for the position. Review of candidates will begin on May 15.

**Leadershift: Just Transition on the Colorado Plateau**

*June 21 – July 9, 2021*

The [Rising Leaders Program](#) at the [Grand Canyon Trust](#) will be running a 3 week online workshop focused on a *just transition* for the Colorado Plateau - moving away from fossil fuels and towards a regenerative economy. It's free (and includes a stipend if successfully completed) and is a great opportunity for folks to really dig into environmental justice work in a place-based, but COVID-safe way. For more information, visit the [LeaderShift2021](#) website. Apply today at [bit.ly/LeaderShift2021](https://bit.ly/LeaderShift2021) **Deadline is April 28th.**

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

## **Toxics/Mobile Sources**

### **NEW! Equitable Engagement and Access to Electric Vehicles**

*Thursday, May 6; 3pm ET / [Register Here](#)*

This webinar will address strategies to encourage equal distribution of the benefits of transportation electrification across all communities. Speakers will touch on engaging with traditionally underserved and diverse communities. They will share how they approach community concerns about electric vehicles (EVs), such as cost and potential neighborhood impacts. The webinar guest speakers are eager to address questions on this topic and encourage participants to submit questions at registration.

### **COMING SOON! 2021 DERA Tribal and Insular Area Request for Applications**

EPA's 2021 Tribal and Insular Area grant program is planned to open in late April 2021. EPA anticipates awarding approximately \$5 million in DERA funding under this announcement. A total of \$4.5 million will be made available to tribal governments (or intertribal consortia) and Alaska Native villages, and \$500,000 will be made available to insular area governments. EPA anticipates awarding five to ten cooperative agreements to tribal governments (or intertribal consortia) and Alaska Native villages and two to four cooperative agreements to insular area governments. Click [here](#) for more information.

This year's Request for Applications (RFA) has no mandatory cost share requirement and sets funding limits to \$800,000 for tribal applicants and \$250,000 for insular area applicants. Each applicant may submit up to two applications.

- [Coming Soon: Tribal and Insular Area RFA Flyer \(PDF\)](#)
- [DERA: 2021 Tribal and Insular Area Program Overview – Presentation \(PDF\)](#)

### **Office of Pesticide Program Update: EPA Opens Comment Period on Draft Biological Opinion on Malathion, Closes June 19, 2021**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking public comment on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) [draft biological opinion for the registration of malathion](#), an insecticide that is commonly used to control mosquitoes and a variety of insects that attack fruits, vegetables, landscaping plants, and shrubs. The draft biological opinion evaluates whether use of malathion is likely to jeopardize federally threatened and endangered species or destroy or adversely modify their critical habitats.

In January 2017, EPA released the [biological evaluation for malathion](#), which found potential effects on threatened and endangered species and their designated critical habitats. Because the biological evaluation for malathion made “likely to adversely affect” determinations to some threatened and endangered species and their designated critical habitats, EPA has been consulting with FWS to ensure the registration of malathion is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of these species or adversely modify their critical habitats. The public comment period will be open for 60 days and will close on June 19, 2021. The draft biological opinion is included in docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2021-0231 at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

### **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.

### **EPA Webinar: MOVES3 Information for Experienced MOVES Modelers**

*Wednesday, May 5; 2 – 4pm ET* / [Join here on day of event](#)

Please join EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality for a webinar describing how MOVES3 differs from MOVES2014b, the previous model version. MOVES3, a state-of-the-science upgrade to EPA's modeling tools, is EPA's latest model for estimating air pollution emissions from cars, trucks, motorcycles, and buses, as well as many categories of nonroad equipment. This webinar is designed for people who have experience with the MOVES model and is not intended as a training for new users. However, anyone who is interested in MOVES is welcomed to attend.

This webinar will cover:

- New content in MOVES3
- Improvements in the user interface
- Built-in MOVES tools
- Other MOVES3 resources, including the new EPA report, *Overview of EPA's Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator (MOVES3)*, released March 2021



EPA is holding this meeting using Microsoft Teams. In the event you cannot connect to the meeting using the link below, you can phone into the webinar using the phone number and conference ID below. (By May 4, the presentation will be available for download from EPA's [MOVES Training Sessions](#) website.)

### **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.

### **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.](#)

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**

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

- **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, Louden 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 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!**