

UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

NEW! Requesting comments on AirNow Fire and Smoke map FAQs

While EPA is working to make updates to the AirNow Fire and Smoke Map, we also are reviewing our frequently asked questions (FAQs). The existing FAQs are [here](#). Please look at them and let us know your thoughts on these questions:

- Please think back to last year's fire season. Did you get questions that were not included in these FAQs and that would be helpful to add? If so, what were they?
- What type of questions did you get most frequently? (This information will help us as we consider the order of questions on the page.)
- Are there questions/answers in the existing FAQs that you find confusing? Please let us know which ones -- and let us know what was confusing (need simplification, need more information, etc.) We'll work on clarifying them.

Please send your feedback to firesmokemap@epa.gov, with **FAQ Input** in the subject line. It will help us if you can provide your feedback no later than June 15, 2021. If you have any questions, then please contact Ron Evans at 919-541-5488.

EPA announced the first step in developing a proposed rule to reduce methane and other harmful pollutants from new and existing sources in the oil and natural gas industry, beginning with a broad public outreach effort to gather community and stakeholder input. These activities include holding training sessions on the rulemaking process and how to participate in it, convening listening sessions for stakeholders, and opening a public docket for pre-proposal comments. Here are some links for more information:

- [Press release](#) on the announcement
- Additional information, a [link](#) to the public docket and information on registering to attend a training webinar or a listening session.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO) has scheduled national webinars regarding EPA's consultation practices and to inform the EPA *Plan for Implementing the Policies and Directives of Executive Order 13175: Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments*. EPA's American Indian Environmental Office has scheduled those national webinars as follows:

- Tribal Webinar #2: Thursday, May 27, 2021, 1:00 - 3:00 PM Eastern Time
 - TEAMS video conference link: [Click here](#) at the appropriate time
 - Dial-In Option (Audio Only) Number: 202-991-0477; Conf. ID: 240-750-765#
 - To find a local dial-in number, please [click here](#).

The webinars will be given through Microsoft Teams, which can be joined by clicking the links provided above or dialing in – please note these links and dial in numbers are different for each webinar. You may reach out to byrne.andrew@epa.gov if you have any questions.

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:

- 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.

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| EPA Policy Call: 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, May 27, 1pm ET |
| Mobile Sources Work Group: This monthly work group addresses all mobile source pollution issues. | Thursday, June 3, 2pm ET |
| Indoor Air Quality Work Group: Join this work group every other month to help support IAQ work throughout Indian Country. | Thursday, June 24, 2pm ET |

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| Wood Smoke Work Group: Join this work group every other month to address wood smoke issues in Indian Country. | Thursday, July 22, 1pm ET |
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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 |
|---|-------------------|----------------------|
| Quality Assurance Project Plans in a Nutshell | June 1 | Webinar |
| Wildland Smoke and Community Preparedness | June 7-11 | Virtual Training |

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! WATCH: A live chat with Alicia Garza and Leah Penniman on climate and racial justice

Wednesday, May 26; 9am PT/12pm ET / Live online via Grist [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#)

Climate justice and racial justice are inextricably linked. But how can they evolve from protest rallying cry to real results for the communities most impacted by

climate change and environmental harm — particularly communities of color? Join us as we talk food sovereignty, climate justice, and equitable solutions with Alicia Garza and Leah Penniman.

Please join the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals and the Desert Research Institute for an upcoming film screening and panel discussion, featuring the documentary, *Inhabitants: An Indigenous Perspective*. June 1; 12 pm PT / [Film & Panel Discussion Registration!](#)

This film follows five Native American Tribes across deserts, coastlines, forests, and prairies as they restore their traditional land management practices. For more information on the film, click [here](#). Participants will be given exclusive access to the film at no cost to watch prior to the panel discussion. The live panel discussion will be on Tuesday, June 1st.

NEW! Request for Proposals: Seed Funding for Centering Justice in Climate Research & Action

Due: Friday, June 25; @midnight | [View Application Here](#)

The [Rising Voices Center for Indigenous and Earth Sciences](#) is offering three \$5,000 awards to launch small-scale but impactful projects OR to support the time and effort to write a proposal for a large-scale project. Applications must demonstrate how the proposed work will bring together Indigenous and Earth sciences to address pressing community-driven research and action. Successful applications will support projects to begin around July 20, 2021 and conclude around November 20, 2021. If you have any questions about the solicitation or application process, please send an email to RisingVoicesinAction@gmail.com

Office of Air and Radiation Update: Proposed Rule “Phasedown of Hydrofluorocarbons: Establishing the Allowance Allocation and Trading Program under the American Innovation and Manufacturing Act”

Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) are potent greenhouse gases commonly used in refrigerators, stationery and motor vehicle air conditioners, and many other applications. On April 30th, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed the first regulation under the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act of 2020, which requires the United States to phase down production and consumption of HFCs by 85% over the next 15 years by using an allowance allocation and trading program.

EPA is seeking public comment on this proposed rule, which would set the HFC production and consumption baseline levels from which reductions will be made, establish an initial methodology for allocating HFC allowances for 2022 and 2023, and create a robust and innovative compliance and enforcement system.

Companies that produce, import, export, destroy, or use HFCs in equipment may

be interested in submitting data or commenting. More information on HFCs and the proposed rule can be found [here](#). The public comment period for the proposal will be open for 45 days after publication in the Federal Register.

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

Toxics/Mobile Sources

EPA's Diesel Emissions Reduction Act's Tribal Grants for FY21

Request for Applications now open! More information can be found on this [flyer](#) and on [this website](#). EPA's 2021 Tribal and Insular Area grant program is now open. 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.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is in the process of conducting a residual risk and technology review of the 2002 National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for Major Source Primary Copper Smelting and a technology review of the 2007 Primary Copper Smelting Area Sources NESHAP.

After EPA publishes the rules in the *Federal Register*, EPA plans to accept comment on these proposals for at least 45 days after publication in the *Federal Register*. Interested parties can download additional information and a copy of the proposed rules (when they are officially issued by EPA) from EPA's website at the following addresses: <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/primary-copper-smelting-area-sources-national-emissions-standards> and <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/primary-copper-smelting-national-emissions-standards-hazardous-air>. The proposed rules and other background information will also be available either electronically at <https://www.regulations.gov/>, EPA's electronic public docket and comment system. Materials for the proposed actions can be accessed using Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2020-0430. For further technical information about the rule, contact Tonisha Dawson, EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, at (919) 541-1454 or dawson.tonisha@epa.gov.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) is initiating consultation and coordination

with federally-recognized tribes regarding development of proposed actions under section 6(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) to address the unreasonable risks that EPA has determined are presented by n-methylpyrrolidone (NMP) under its conditions of use.

This consultation and coordination process will be conducted in accordance with the *EPA Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes* (<https://www.epa.gov/tribal/forms/consultation-and-coordination-tribes>). EPA invites you and/or your designated consultation representative(s) to participate in this process. OCSPP's anticipated timeline for the consultation and coordination period is expected to extend from May 24 to August 27, 2021.

During this period, two identical consultation sessions will be conducted. To participate, OCSPP invites you and/or your designee to join us during one or more of the following consultation sessions:

- Monday, June 14, 2021, Tribal Consultation 1 – Technical Briefing and Comment Period from 1:00-3:30pm (ET)

Conference Line: (833) 760-4028; Conference ID: 5076307

[Adobe Connect Link.](#)

- Wednesday, July 14, 2021, Tribal Consultation 2 – Technical Briefing and Comment Period from 1:00-3:30pm (ET)

Conference Line: (833) 760-4028; Conference ID: 7686356

[Adobe Connect Link.](#)

To learn more about the rulemaking for NMP, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca/final-risk-evaluation-n-methylpyrrolidone-nmp>.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) is initiating consultation and coordination with federally-recognized tribes regarding development of proposed actions under section 6(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) to address unreasonable risks to health or the environment identified in the risk evaluations for Asbestos Part 1: Chrysotile Asbestos (chrysotile asbestos) and Colour Index Pigment Violet 29 (PV29). EPA is initiating these actions for chrysotile asbestos and PV29 so that they no longer present an unreasonable risk.

This consultation and coordination process will be conducted in accordance with the *EPA Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes*. EPA invites you and/or your designated consultation representative(s) to participate in this process. OCSPP's anticipated timeline for the consultation and coordination period for Asbestos, Part 1: Chrysotile Asbestos and PV29 is expected to extend from May 10 to August 13, 2021.

- **Thursday, June 3, 2021 Tribal Consultation, Part 2 – Technical Briefing and Comment Period from 1:00-3:30 pm (ET)**

Conference Line: (833) 760-4028; Conference ID: 3279306

[Adobe Connect Link](#)

Green Transportation Summit & Expo

August 16-18, 2021 Tacoma, Washington / [Registration](#)

The 10th annual Green Transportation Summit & Expo (GTSE) is the region's premier clean transportation convening event. There has not been a time when clean transportation has had as much potential. With this year's theme of Reflecting + Refocusing on a Resilient Future, we are giving particular attention to recent events affecting our communities and livelihood. We will be creating space to ensure these critical topics are addressed. **All Tribes can get a 20% discount, contact Dara.Marks-Marino@nau.edu for the code!**

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.

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

- April 30, 2021: [EPA announces \\$5 million in grants available for tribes and insular areas to replace diesel equipment and reduce harmful emissions.](#)
- April 26, 2021: [EPA reconsiders a previous withdrawal of a waiver for California's advanced clean car program \(light-duty vehicle greenhouse gas emission standards and zero emission vehicle requirements\).](#)
- April 23, 2021: [EPA publishes a new case study on Providence Pilot Community-Port Collaboration Project.](#)

- April 20, 2021: [EPA awards \\$10.5 million to clean up 473 school buses in 40 states.](#)
- April 1, 2021: [EPA releases a new case study on groundbreaking Clean Air Action Plan \(CAAP\) for California San Pedro Bay Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.](#)

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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 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*

National Asthma Awareness Month—Join the EPA Indoor airPLUS Program in celebrating [National Asthma Awareness Month](#).

Asthma is a serious, sometimes life-threatening chronic respiratory disease that affects the quality of life for more than 25 million Americans, including an estimated 5 million children. Although there is no cure for asthma yet, asthma can be controlled in part through management of the indoor environment.

[Indoor airPLUS](#) is a voluntary partnership and labeling program that helps new home builders improve the quality of indoor air by requiring construction practices and product specifications that minimize exposure to airborne pollutants including environmental asthma triggers. Search for a local Indoor airPLUS builder on EPA's [Partner Locator](#), and ask for the EPA Indoor airPLUS label on your new home! Join us this month to raise awareness of ways to manage #asthma triggers! Follow [@EPAiplus](#) on Twitter or connect with [EPA Indoor airPLUS](#) on Facebook to hear about how Indoor airPLUS partners help America #BreatheEasyWithIAP!

How Indoor airPLUS Homes Help Reduce the Occurrence of Asthma Triggers in the Home

Here are ways an Indoor airPLUS home can help reduce [asthma triggers](#) in the home.

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