

UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

NEW! Nominations for the 2020-2021 Haagen-Smit Clean Air Award

Considered the “Nobel Prize” in air quality achievement, Haagen-Smit Clean Air Awards are [given annually \(since 2001\) to individuals who have made significant contributions toward improving air quality](#) and climate change science, technology and policy, and the protection of public health. California’s premier air quality award is named for the late [Dr. Arie Haagen-Smit](#), known as the “parent” of air pollution science and control.

The 2020-2021 program will award an individual in each of the following seven categories related to improving air quality:

1. Climate Change;
2. Community Service / Environmental Justice;
3. Education;
4. International Leadership;
5. Environmental Policy;
6. Research;
7. Science / Technology.

[Press Release: May 27, 2021](#): CARB seeks nominations for premier clean air, climate award

NTAA has published a [template letter for Tribes](#) to use to respond to EPA’s request for comment on EPA’s reconsideration of the previous administration’s Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Rule. The EPA has broken this reconsideration into two parts:

1. SAFE-1, which includes interpretations that led to the withdrawal of the California waiver, and
2. SAFE-2, which will address the fuel efficiency standards (and is expected to be proposed in July 2021).

The deadline for commenting on SAFE-1 is July 6, 2021. The NTAA has developed a [Policy Resource Kit](#) that includes a [Fact Sheet](#) and [Tribal Template Letter](#) for Tribes to utilize when commenting.

EPA’s air quality training program is released three new training materials! These materials are foundational in level, and are being offered to tribal, state, and local air agencies in an e-learning format through our learning management system (LMS).

The materials include:

- A course that explains the purpose of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) within the air quality management process.

- A module that explains each of the six criteria pollutants under the Clean Air Act. This module represents “micro-learning”— a short, focused bit of training on a particular topic.
- A module that explains what air toxics are. Similar to the criteria pollutants module, this module represents “micro-learning.”

To access the course and modules on the LMS (<https://epaapti.csod.com>), please register (if you haven’t already!), then log in and refer to the “What’s New” section on the home page.

GAP Guidance Next Steps

The Indian Environmental General Assistance Program, or GAP, is the largest tribal capacity building program in EPA. Since its inception in 1992, GAP has been a primary source of non-competitive, consistent funding for tribes to address multi-media capacity building and solid and hazardous waste implementation needs. The efficient, effective, and flexible administration of GAP is a shared priority for tribes as well as EPA.

EPA is moving forward with finalizing revisions to the GAP Guidance. The EPA American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO) in the Office of International and Tribal Affairs (OITA) has scheduled two national webinars in June to share our progress and discuss next steps. The webinars are scheduled as follows:

- **Tribal Webinar #2: June 29/2-3:30 Eastern Time**
 - TEAMS video conference link: [Click here to join the meeting](#) here at the appropriate time
 - Dial-In Option (Audio Only) Number:
 - [+1 202-991-0477,,928337418#](#) United States, Washington DC
 - Phone Conference ID: 928 337 418#
 - To find a local dial-in number, [Find a local number](#).

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

The EPA is initiating consultation and coordination with federally recognized tribes regarding a memorandum to clarify the application of regulations under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) to address organic air emissions from equipment and/or closure devices on certain hazardous waste units.

There are several ways to learn more about this topic in advance of deciding whether to request consultation. EPA will host an informational webinar for tribes to explain the *Applicability of the RCRA Organic Air Emission Standards to Equipment and Closure Devices Memorandum* on June 30, 2021, from 2:00 – 3:00 PM (EDT). The Agency invites you and your designated representative(s) to attend the tribal webinar to learn more about the draft memorandum and have an opportunity to ask questions. You may register for the webinar [here](#).

Additional information can be found in the enclosed document, as well as on EPA's [Tribal Consultation Opportunities Tracking System](#).

EPA plans to accept public comments on the memorandum for 60 days beginning in July 2021. The specific dates for the submittal of public comments and the informational materials will be available on EPA's Hazardous Waste Permitting [website](#). Tribes are encouraged to submit comments in writing during the public comment period by email at RCRApost@epa.gov. All written comments must be received no later than 60 days after the start of the public comment period. This consultation process for the memorandum will be conducted in accordance with the [EPA Policy on Consultation and Coordination](#) with Indian Tribes. However, EPA does not expect that the memorandum will have tribal implications, as specified in Executive Order 13175.

If you would like to accept this offer of consultation, please contact Lilybeth Colón at (703) 308-2392 or at colon.lilybeth@epa.gov. **The deadline to request formal consultation is July 16, 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 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.

Mobile Sources Work Group: This monthly work group addresses all mobile source pollution issues.	Thursday, July 1, 2pm ET
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Indoor Air Quality Work Group: Join this work group every other month to help support IAQ work throughout Indian Country.	Thursday, July 15, 2pm ET
Wood Smoke Work Group: Join this work group every other month to address wood smoke issues in Indian Country.	Thursday, July 22, 1pm ET
EPA Policy Call: Call in to hear updates from EPA on policies, actions, and tools relevant to Indian Country and Air Quality.	Thursday, July 29, 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
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

EPA’s Climate Change Indicators in the United States: EPA’s newly updated website, *Climate Change Indicators in the United States*, looks at changes to our health and the environment related to the causes and effects of climate change.

With new science, additional indicators, and more years of data, many of these signs of climate change have become even more evident, stronger, and extreme. Explore the [website](#). You are invited to participate in two upcoming webinars on the resource:

- June 24 will focus on Climate and Heat: Trends, Health Impacts and Risk. This one-hour webinar will feature climate-related temperature trends particularly related to extreme heat and urban heat, human health effects, social vulnerability, and risks (happening now and looking into the future). Visit EPA’s State, Local, and Tribal Webinar Series [webpage](#).

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

NTAA produced a [Policy Resource Kit](#) to help Tribes respond to EPA on its reconsideration of the 2019 action titled, the “Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient Vehicles Rule,” for the purposes of rescinding the action taken by the prior administration. [NTAA commented on the full SAFE proposal](#), which included both the waiver withdrawal and the freezing of fuel efficiency standards, on October 26, 2018. This Reconsideration seeks comment on:

- Appropriateness of EPA’s interpretations that led to the withdrawal of CA’s CAA waiver to set GHG standards and a ZEV sales mandate
- Appropriateness of EPA’s interpretation that disallowed other states to adopt CA GHG emission standards

NTAA’s PRK includes [a fact sheet](#) and NTAA will be preparing a template letter for Tribes to use in submitting their own comments. The comment deadline is July 6, 2021. You can find more information and to comment, visit the [Federal Register website](#).

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. 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](#) and this [website](#). The proposed rules and other background information will also be available either electronically [here](#), 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.

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!**

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

- June 8, 2021: [EPA releases the annual Fast Facts document that provides information about U.S. transportation sector greenhouse gas emissions \(1990-2019\).](#)

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

NEW! Indoor Air Quality and Ventilation in America's K-12 Schools: Guidance and Strategies for Improved Results

Wednesday, June 30; 3-4:30pm ET / [Register Here](#)

Join the U.S. Department of Education (ED), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on June 30, 2021 for a joint webinar, [Indoor Air Quality and Ventilation in America's K-12 Schools: Guidance and Strategies for Improved Results!](#) This webinar will feature updates on maintaining safe indoor air quality in schools.

Please join a free webinar to learn about and provide input into EPA's Tribal Indoor Air Quality Training and Resource Directory

The Directory was created to consolidate helpful resources for tribes who are interested in starting or expanding Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) programs in their communities. The purpose of this webinar is to share this new resource and obtain feedback from future and potential users of this Directory. The Directory is being created by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in collaboration with the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) and the National Tribal

Air Association (NTAA). [Register here](#) and if you have questions, contact mansel.nelson@nau.edu.

Join ITEP's Free Webinar – Healthy Schools – ReOpening Schools

Thursday, July 8, 2021 at 11:00 AM PDT / [Register here](#)

Many Kindergarten through 12th grade (K-12) schools in the United States do not have good ventilation. This is a longstanding problem with demonstrably negative effects on student learning. Along with other mitigation measures, improvements in ventilation in K-12 schools can decrease the risk of SARS-CoV-2 spread.

Presented by Paula Olsiewski, John Hopkins Center for Health Security, John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, a pioneering leader in policy and scientific research programs in the microbiology and chemistry of indoor environments. The webinar will review the findings of a recent [report](#) that considers the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on children, families, and educators and summarizes current ventilation guidelines. If you have questions, contact mansel.nelson@nau.edu

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!