

United States Environmental Protection Agency Region IX, San Francisco, California

January 2012

# **Tribal Program Newsletter**

# **Environmental Tip of the Month:**

Shower power! A full bathtub requires about 70 gallons of water, but taking a five-minute shower saves water by using 10 to 25 gallons. Put a little timer or clock near your shower so you can see how fast you are. Save even more water, and money on your water bill, by installing a water-efficient showerhead, or if you rent, ask your landlord to install one. More about using water wisely.

# Meetings, Conferences, Workshops, Trainings and Webinars



#### Sponsor: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Feb. 7-9	RTOC Meeting	Chandler, AZ (note new location)	Willard Chin. 415-972-3797
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			or chin.willard@epa.gov
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#### Sponsor: The EPA, Region 8, Webinar Series, every Wednesday, starting January 18, 3:30 MST

Date	Course Name	Instructor
Jan 18	School Chemical Cleanout & PCBs in Tribal	Matthew M. Langenfeld,
	Schools	
Jan 25	Asbestos & Lead Repair, Renovation and	
	Painting Rule in Tribal Schools	
Feb 2	Integrated Pest Management & Green Cleaning	Mike Daniels and Marie
	in Tribal Schools	Zanowick
Feb 8	Waste Reduction, Recycling, Composting &	Marie Zanowick, EPA
	Gardening in Tribal Schools	Diane Jourdan, Oneida and
		Stockbridge Tribe
Feb 15	Indoor Air in Tribal Schools	Mansel Nelson; Graylynn Jaysue
		Hudson, Northern Arizona
		University
Feb 22	Energy and Water Conservation in Tribal	Deenise Becenti, Navajo Tribal
	schools	Utility Authority

There is no cost to attend and individuals may attend one or more of the presentations. Register at: www.epa.gov/region8/tribalschools. For additional information contact: Matthew M. Langenfeld, 303-312-6284 Langenfeld.matthew@epa.gov or EPA Region IX Toxics Office, Schools Environmental Health Coordinator, Jorine Campopiano, < <u>Campopiano.jorine@epa.gov</u> > or 213-244-1808.

#### Sponsor: Smart Growth Network, the California Endowment and the EPA

Feb 2-4	11 <sup>th</sup> Annual New Partners for	San Diego, CA	http://www.newpartners.org/
	Smart Growth Conference		



# Sponsor: Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP), the National Tribal Air Association (NTAA) in partnership with the EPA

*Jan 24-26	Tribal Transfer Stations	San Diego, CA	Todd.Barnell@nau.edu 928-523-3840
**May 22-24	National Tribal Forum on Air Quality	Tulsa, OK	www4.nau.edu/itep/air/aq_ntf.asp

\* ITEP will be paying for up to 20 tribal participants' lodging costs. All participants are responsible for their own per diem and travel (airfare, taxis, shuttle service, etc.) costs. \*\*Presentation proposal deadline February 2, 2012.

The EPA National Enforcement Training Institute (NETI)

NETI is a part of EPA's Office of Compliance, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. If you have questions about NETI, please contact Zena Aldridge at aldridge.zena@epa.gov or (740) 773-4039. For a copy of the monthly update of all the upcoming environmental enforcement courses, go to www.netionline.com

#### **Drinking Water Training for Tribes and Tribal Operators**

The following website presents a list of training opportunities that may be of interest to tribes and tribal operators: http://www.epa.gov/safewater/tribal/training.html. Click on your region to learn about training opportunities that are available in the upcoming months. For more information, email carey.kyle@epa.gov

### Grants and Loans

#### **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**



**Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA)** The FY12 CERCLA 128(a) Grant Funding Guidance for Tribal Response Programs is now available. Requests for funding are due January 31, 2012. The Guidance is available on the EPA Brownfields page: http://www.epa.gov/swerosps/bf /state\_tribal/fund\_guide.htm).



#### Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 106 Water Pollution Control Grant Program for Tribes:

The Water Pollution Control Program assists federally-recognized Indian tribes with achieving environmental results by developing institutional capacity for administering water quality programs to protect, improve, and enhance natural resources. Tribes must have CWA 106 Financial Assistance Eligibility in order to receive CWA 106 funding. Please contact Danielle Angeles (415) 972-3441 or angeles.danielle@epa.gov if interested. Draft proposals are due to WTR-10 Project Officers on February 1, 2012. For more information, please contact your Clean Water Act Grants Project Officer or Danielle Angeles.



#### EPA Announces Solicitation of Applications for \$1 Million in Environmental Justice Grants

The Agency is seeking applicants for \$1 million in environmental justice small grants expected to be awarded in 2012. These grants enable non-profit organizations to conduct research, provide education, and develop solutions to local health and environmental issues in communities overburdened by harmful pollution. The 2012 grant solicitation is now open and will close on February 29, 2012. Applicants must be incorporated non-profits or tribal organizations working to educate, empower and enable their communities to understand and address local environmental and public health issues. Applicants are invited to participate in conference calls with the EPA to address questions about the EJSG Program and this solicitation. The following are the conference call dates and times: January 12, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. (Eastern); Feb. 1 (1:30 – 3:00 p.m. (Eastern); February 15, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. (Eastern). Please call or send an e-mail to Sheritta M. Woodruff at woodruff.sheritta@epa.gov, (202)-564-1711 or your regional

point of contact, and provide the following information: (1) your name; (2) the name of your organization; (3) the address of your organization; (4) your phone number; (5) and the preferred date for the call. Go to the following website for more information on the Environmental Justice Small Grants (EJSG) program and a list of grantees: <u>http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/grants/ej-smgrants.html</u>.

#### Competitive Funding under Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 319

FY2012 CWA Section 319 Tribal Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution Control Program Request for Proposals (RFP) for competitive funding requests is posted on the following website: http://water.epa.gov/polwaste/nps/tribal/upload/fy12-tribal-319-rfp.pdf . The purpose of the NPS Control Program is to assist eligible federally-recognized Indian tribes develop and implement polluted runoff control programs and watershed-based plans that address critical water quality concerns and achieve positive environmental results. The due date for submission materials for competitive funding only is January 20, 2012. For more information, contact Tiffany Eastman, 415-795-2435 or eastman.tiffany@epa.gov , or Audrey L. Johnson at 415-972-3431 or johnson.audreyl@epa.gov , or your CWA grants project officer.



#### Funding Available Source Water Assessment and Protection Program (SWAP)

EPA Region 9 intends to award over \$290,000 through Direct Implementation Tribal Cooperative Agreements (DITCAs) ranging in size from approximately \$25,000 to \$85,000 for SWAP activities. The purpose of the funding will enable federally recognized tribes and eligible tribal consortia within EPA Region 9, who operate at least one public water system (PWS), to identify and assess any possible threats (potential sources of contamination) to their public drinking water supply sources and to develop measures to protect these sources against those threats. Region 9 has been accepting proposals according to the following proposal submission schedule: Proposals received by March 1, 2012 will be awarded by August 15, 2012. Please contact: Jamelya Curtis at (415) 972-3529 or curtis.jamelya@epa.gov for hard copies or more information. Also, go to the following website: http://www.epa.gov/region9/water/tribal/pdf/FY12DitcaGuidance.pdf

#### **Department of Agriculture (USDA)**



#### USDA Establishes Council for Native American Farming and Ranching

A special advisory board has been established to help USDA officials ensure Native Americans participate in and benefit from USDA programs. The Council for Native American Farming and Ranching will work closely with the Office of Tribal Relations, Farm Service Agency and other USDA agencies to improve the success of Native farmers and ranchers who access USDA's programs to build and achieve profitability in their businesses. All nominations for advisory board membership should be sent by January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 to: Thomas Vilsack, Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC, 20250, Attn: Council for Native American Farmers and Ranchers. Send comments to the Office of Tribal Relations, 500A Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington DC 20250.

#### **Agriculture Fellowships**

The USDA requests proposals for Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Fellowships. This program will provide fellowships to pre- and postdoctoral students in the agricultural, forestry, and food sciences. Priority research areas include, but are not limited to, securing America's energy future through renewable biofuels, and mitigating and adapting agriculture to variations in climate. \$12 million is expected to be available. Final proposals are due January 19, 2012. For more information, contact AFRI@nifa.usda.gov or go to: http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/afri.html.

#### **Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program**

The Water and Environmental Program (WEP) provides a combination of loans, grants, and loan guarantees for drinking water, sanitary sewer, solid waste, and storm drainage facilities in rural areas and cities and towns of 10,000 or less. Call Tedd Buelow, 202-690-1681, tedd.buelow@wdc.usda.gov or Sandi Boughton, 202-720-1681m sandi.boughton@wdc.usda.gov or go to:

http://www.indiancountryworks.org/file/Rural%20Water%20and%20Waste%20Disposal%20Program%20 2-27-09%20FINAL.pdf or

### **Other Available Grants**



#### Tribal Clean Energy Assistance Offered by the Department of Energy (DOE)

The Strategic Technical Assistance Response Team (START) initiative aims at advancing clean energy generation in Indian Country and provides federally recognized Native American and Alaska Native governments with technical assistance to accelerate clean energy project deployment. The initiative complements the DOE's Office of Indian Energy's efforts to make reliable and technical information and training available to tribal communities throughout the United States. The START initiative will further serve to help Native American and Alaska Native communities increase local generation capacity, enhance energy efficiency and conservation measures, and create entrepreneurial and job opportunities in the new clean energy economy. Awards through this initiative will be provided through two programs. Tribes selected for the START program will be paired with DOE experts who have clean energy deployment experience relevant to the selected tribe's project development stage and technology. Concept applications are due January 15, 2012. See the DOE press release and the Office of Indian Energy's <u>START website</u>.

#### K-12 Environmental Projects

The Siemens Foundation and the Discovery Education Launch request applications for the *We Can Change the World Challenge* for K-12 students. Through this challenge, Siemens invites students to team up with classmates under teacher/mentors to solve environmental problems in their school, community, and world. \$250K is expected to be available and responses are due March 15, 2012. For more information, go to: http://www.wecanchange.com/.

#### **Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)**

CNCS announces the availability of funding for AmeriCorps State and National and Indian Tribes Planning Grants. Planning grants support the development of AmeriCorps programs so the applicants are better prepared to compete for an AmeriCorps grant in the following grant cycle. The actual level of funding will be subject to the availability of annual appropriations, which have not been made. Applicants may apply for up to \$50,000. Organizations applying for planning grants must not have previously received an AmeriCorps grant. The 2012 AmeriCorps grant competition focuses on six different areas: economic opportunity, disaster services, healthy futures, education, veterans and military families, and environmental stewardship. The three grant opportunities include <u>Indian Tribes Planning Grants</u>, <u>State and National Grants</u>, and <u>State and National Planning Grants</u>. Applications for any of the grants are due January 18, 2012, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, and successful applicants will be notified by mid-April, 2012. Applicants must apply using <u>eGrants</u>, the web-based application system. Indian tribes may apply through state commissions or directly to CNCS. For more information, contact AmeriCorps Grants at: <u>americorpsgrants@cnc.gov</u> or 202-606-7508

#### **Environmental Engineering**

The National Science Foundation requests proposals for the environmental engineering program. The goal of this program is to encourage transformative research which applies scientific principles to minimize solid, liquid, and gaseous discharges into land, inland and coastal waters, and air that result from human activity, and to evaluate adverse impacts of these discharges on human health and environmental quality. \$9.4 million is expected to be available and up to 44 awards are anticipated. Responses are due February 17, 2012. For more information, contact Paul Bishop at pbishop@nsf.gov or go to: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\_summ.jsp?pims\_id=501029.

#### **Energy for Sustainability**

The National Science Foundation requests proposals for Energy for Sustainability. This program supports fundamental research and education in energy production, conversion, and storage and is focused on energy sources that are environmentally friendly and renewable. Sources of sustainable energy include: Sunlight, Wind/Wave, Biomass, and Geothermal. \$9.2 million is expected to be available and up to 42 awards are anticipated. Responses are due February 17, 2012. For more information,

contact Gregory Rorrer at grorrer@nsf.gov or copy on your browser or go to: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\_summ.jsp?pims\_id=501026

#### **Environmental Sustainability**

The National Science Foundation requests proposals for Environmental Sustainability. This program supports engineering research with the goal of promoting sustainable engineered systems that support human well-being and that are also compatible with sustaining natural systems. \$5.4 million is expected to be available and up to 45 awards anticipated. Responses are due February 17, 2012. For more information, contact Bruce Hamilton at bhamilto@nsf.gov or go to: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\_summ.jsp?pims\_id=501027. )

#### **Children's Health**

The Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA) set aside \$100 million for fiscal years 2009-2013 expressly to help find and enroll eligible uninsured children, including \$10 million specifically for Indian health providers. For more information about the outreach and enrollment grants, go to www.cms.hhs.gov/CHIPRA. Questions about the grants may be directed to the CHIPRA grants mailbox AIANCHIPRAOUTREACHGRANTS@cms.hhs.gov Information about CHIP can be found at www.insurekidsnow.gov.

#### **Environmental Employment Opportunities**



#### **Executive Director, Cortina Indian Rancheria**

The director will report to the Tribal Administrator and will be in charge of the Wintun Environmental Protection Program including the water, drinking water, non-point source, solid waste and air programs. The salary is negotiable; this position is a tribal preference/Indian Preference position under federal and tribal laws. Please submit your application to the Charlie Wright, Tribal Chair, P. O. Box 1630, Williams, California 95987. For more information, call 530-473-3274 or FAX 530-473-3301. This notice expires January 31, 2012.



#### Program Coordinator, Tribal Air Quality Program

The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) has an opening for a coordinator to perform complex technical research analysis on Clean Air Act initiatives and policies and effectively communicate the information to tribal programs. If interested, please submit your resume to Bette Hartsfield, Human Resource Specialist, ITCA, 2214 North Central Avenue, Suite 100, Phoenix, AZ 85004, 602,258-4822 or bette.hartsfield@itcaonline.com. Position is open until filled.

#### Internship at the Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM

The Tribal Energy Program has a twelve-week internship program. Current college upper classmen and graduate students, who are familiar with Native American culture and tribal issues, are needed to assist a cross-disciplinary team to perform specific tasks. Interactions will be with Sandia's renewable energy staff, Native American tribes interested in renewable systems and Sandia's American Indian Outreach Committee. Travel will be required, including field visits to renewable energy projects. Applications must be postmarked by February 17, 2012. For more information, please contact Sandra K. Begay-Campbell, Sandia National Laboratories, PO Box 5800, MS-0734 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185-0734, (505) 844-5418; skbegay@sandia.gov

#### **Native American Congressional Internship**

The deadline for this internship is January 31, 2012 and applications are at the following website: http://www.udall.gov/OurPrograms/NACInternship/ApplicationMaterials.aspx.

### Tribal outreach, review and comment



#### New Framework Provides Greater Role for Tribes in Federal Decisions affecting Indian Country

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs Larry Echo Hawk have signed a Tribal Consultation Policy for the Department of the Interior, launching a new era of enhanced communication with American Indian and Alaska Native tribes. The new policy emphasizes trust, respect and shared responsibility in providing tribal governments an expanded role in informing federal policy that impacts Indian Country. The consultation policy is available here.



# New Partnership for Sustainable Communities Report: Supporting Sustainable Rural Communities

The HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities and the USDA has just released *Supporting Sustainable Rural Communities*, a report that discusses how the four agencies are collaborating to support rural communities. This publication highlights how small towns and rural places across the country are using federal resources to strengthen their economies, provide better quality of life to residents, and build on local assets such as traditional main streets, agricultural lands, and natural resources. To read the report, please visit http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/publications.htm#huddotepa. For more information on the Partnership for Sustainable Communities, please visit http://www.sustainablecommunities.govor contact Roberta Lane White, White.Roberta@epamail.epa.gov

#### Native American Finance Officers Association (NAFOA) Scholarship Opportunities



#### Leadership, Education and Development (LEAD)

LEAD Summer Business Institute is a dynamic summer program open to Native American, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian high school students in their junior year. Students spend 3-4 weeks on a college campus learning about exciting careers in business and finance. Students take finance, business, accounting and marketing classes with world-renowned professors and converse with executives during corporate site visits. Students also participate in field trips to amusement parks and sporting events. The cost of the program is \$1,250 plus round trip airfare. Significant full and partial scholarships are available through NAFOA. Last year, 98% of students received financial aid. The application deadline is January 9, 2012. The universities participating this year are Dartmouth College, Duke University, Stanford University, and the University of Pennsylvania.



#### For Tribal College, Undergraduate and Graduate Students

NAFOA is pleased to offer merit-based scholarships to Native American, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian students. Eligible majors include Accounting, Business Administration, Economics or Finance. Awards are based upon academic merit, demonstrated involvement within the Native American community and demonstrated commitment to improving indigenous communities through a career in finance. The application deadline is January 6, 2012.

For more information on these opportunities go to: www.nafoa.org

#### Remediating Environmental Hazards at Former Federal Facility Sites in Indian Country

The Hoopa Valley Tribe in northern California recently completed a project to assess, excavate and safely dispose of lead-contaminated soil at a tribal housing area. This lead-in-soil contamination was due to lead-based paint used on the buildings. The housing complex was formerly owned by Bureau of Indian Affairs and later transferred to the tribe. The tribe undertook a successful process to remediate the lead-in-soil hazards. The process successfully used by Hoopa Valley Tribe can be a model for other tribes seeking to remediate environmental contaminants at former federal facility sites in Indian Country including sites previously owned by the Agriculture, Defense or Interior Departments. For more information, contact Ken Norton, Hoopa Valley Tribe, kenpnorton@gmail.com or 530-625-5515 or go http://www.epa.gov/region9/tribal/rtoc/fall11/FY2011HoopaLeadProjAnnEpaReg9Conf.pdf.

#### Perchlorate Drinking Water Regulatory Efforts

The EPA's Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water is conducting outreach and consultation efforts with tribes as part of a proposed rulemaking to set a national standard for perchlorate. Under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) the EPA is mandated to set national standards for drinking water to protect against human health effects from exposure to naturally-occurring and man-made contaminants. As part of the outreach process to tribes, the EPA has developed a map showing the 160 PWSs with sample detections of perchlorate near tribal lands within a 50-mile radius of the source. EPA identified 93 tribal lands found within the 50-miles radius of known perchlorate occurrence. It is important to note that identification of tribal lands within the 50-mile buffer does not imply a health risk to people served by these PWSs. The EPA plans to consult with tribes on the proposed regulatory action through the fall of 2011.For more information, go to: http://water.epa.gov/drink/contaminants/unregulated/perchlorate.cfm

#### Tribal News Summer 2011 Report by EPA HQ's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution

**Prevention** The Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention at EPA Headquarters recently published its summer 2011 edition of "Tribal News: Training & Innovation" as part of its long standing Tribal Environmental News Exchange:

http://www.epa.gov/region9/tribal/pdf/EPA TribalNews 2011 W.pdf The Tribal News bulletin contains a highly informative article by the Chemical Control Division on helping to ensure a lead-free environment for tribal children (see pp. 42-43). The achievements of Region IX's tribal partners in working to prevent childhood lead poisoning in Indian Country are highlighted on pp. 44-45 while childhood blood lead screening efforts by the Blackfeet Nation of Montana is described on pp. 45-46. Please share this Tribal News with other tribes and partners in protecting health and environmental quality in Indian Country. Contact: David Tomsovic, Region IX Toxics Office; 415-972-3858; Tomsovic.david@epa.gov

#### Asthma Prevention Campaign

The Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairmen's Health Board has a highly informative webpage on their asthma prevention campaign:

http://sacredbreath.org/asthma/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=39&Itemid=47 -Contact: Barbara Spark, Region IX Indoor Air Quality Team; 415-947-4189; spark.barbara@epa.gov

#### Resources within U.S. Federal Agencies for Tribes:

The following White House link presents information available to tribal governments and American Indian/Alaska Native community residents on health, environment and natural resource issues involving more than 30 federal agency program areas. http://www.whitehouse.gov/nativeamericans/resources - We encourage tribes to share this information widely with community members, tribal organizations, and non-tribal partners in protecting health, environmental quality and natural resources.

#### A Guide for Tribal Leaders on U.S. Climate Change Programs

This guide summarizes key U.S. government programs addressing climate change, opportunities for tribal engagement and contacts for each agency. In addition to its immediate value to tribes and their partners, this information will provide important groundwork for research on understanding and improving the tribal consultation processes in the context of climate change. This guide also includes tribal, academic and non-governmental agencies and programs to assist tribes in addressing climate change. To download the Guide, click here: <a href="http://tribalclimate.uoregon.edu/publications/">http://tribalclimate.uoregon.edu/publications/</a>.

#### National Tribal Minor (NSR) Rule

This Federal Implementation Plan includes two NSR regulations for the protection of air resources in Indian country. These new regulations include requirements for preconstruction permits for new and modified facilities sources of emissions. Prior to this action, there has been no federal NSR permitting mechanism for minor sources in Indian country and for major sources in areas of Indian country in non attainment areas. These regulations will fill this regulatory gap. The new rule lays out requirements for the EPA to issue air permits to sources in Indian country or allows tribes to take responsibility for issuing air permits according to EPA's requirements. Existing minor sources are required to register within 18 months from the effective date of this rule. Large sources will need permits prior to construction or modification (the same is true everywhere else). Sources that want to establish synthetic minor status may submit permit application beginning on the effective date of the rule. A copy of the final rule and a

fact sheet are posted on the EPA's web page at http://www.epa.gov/NSR/actions.html#jun11. For more information, contact Cheryl Nelson, 415-972-3291.

#### National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC)

NPIC offers a toll-free number staffed by knowledgeable specialists Monday through Saturday from 6:30 am to 4:30 pm PST. NPIC has real-time access to current, in depth information for a national audience. NPIC addresses questions in multiple languages such as Navajo, Cherokee, Ojibway and many more. For any question regarding pesticides, please call toll free 800-858-7378 or visit www.npic.orst.edu.

#### EPA Improves Clean-Air Permitting in Indian Country

The EPA has finalized rules to ensure that Clean Air Act permitting requirements are applied consistently to facilities in Indian country to better protect the health of people living near them. This action will provide tribes with the tools they need to ensure that newly built or expanding facilities meet these requirements, while giving industries the flexibility to choose the most practical and cost effective way to do so. These sensible steps were developed after considering public input from key stakeholders including tribes, industry, and states. The new rules fill an important gap in the nation's air program that will foster economic development in Indian country in a way that protects the health of tribes, a group that shares the same environmental justice concerns as other low-income and minority communities. For more information go to: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/nsr">http://www.epa.gov/nsr</a>

#### National Tribal Toxics Committee to Address Risks from Toxic Chemicals

The EPA has established a National Tribal Toxics Committee (NTTC) to give Indian tribes greater input on issues related to chemical safety, toxic chemicals and pollution prevention. This effort will further empower tribal communities to protect their health and environment from the risks of toxic chemicals. Creation of the NTTC is part of the EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson's emphasis on improving chemical safety, building strong tribal partnerships and expanding the conversation on environmental justice. The NTTC will help the EPA better tailor and efficiently address a variety of issues, including preventing poisoning from lead-based paint, expanding pollution prevention and safer chemical initiatives in Indian country, and better evaluating chemical exposures that may be unique to tribes and their members. For more information on the NTTC and for a list of tribes go to: http://www.epa.gov/oppt/tribal/

#### EPA School Siting Guidelines and Healthy School Environments

The EPA recently released final voluntary school siting guidelines. The guidelines provide recommendations on steps to evaluate potential environmental challenges and benefits at candidate sites for new schools. The guidelines are now available at <u>www.epa.gov/schools</u>. The following website has more information: <u>http://www.epa.gov/region9/childhealth/pdf/school-siting-guidelines-fact-sheet-oct-2011.pdf</u> or contact Jorine Campopiano, Toxics Office, campopiano.jorine@epa.gov or 213-244-1808.

# Environmental Health Protection for Children, Elderly and Community Members from Environmental Hazards and Pollutants

These four links provide information on environmental health protection for children, the elderly and tribal community members from lead-based paint, asbestos in schools, indoor air quality hazards and other environmental pollutants and contaminants.

http://www.epa.gov/region9/tribal/pdf/protect-children-community-from-asbestos.pdf

http://www.epa.gov/region9/tribal/pdf/indoor-air-quality-tribal.pdf

http://www.epa.gov/region9/tribal/pdf/prevent-lead-exposure-children-community.pdf http://www.epa.gov/region9/tribal/pdf/pala-tribe-childrens-health-2011.pdf

#### Preventing Lead Hazards during Renovation:

Beginning in 2010, the Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) rule required contractors performing renovation, repair and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in homes, child care facilities and schools built before 1978 to be certified and follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination. For information about the rule requirements and how to become certified, go to:

www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/renovation.htm. An EPA video describes the importance of using lead-safe work practices in conducting such renovations: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XqUssA-PsD0.The EPA encourages tribal governments and community members to report unsafe work practices through an

online tip and complaint form: www.epa.gov/region9/lead/tips-complaints.html. For more information: contact Jean Prijatel, Lead-Based Paint Program, 415-947-4167 or prijatel.jean@epa.gov.

#### Minimizing Exposure of American Indian Children to Sources of Lead Poisoning

In 2010, the EPA Region IX awarded a tribal lead grant to the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA), to enable them to conduct outreach activities for reducing childhood lead poisoning among tribal communities and tribal residents in Arizona. For additional information efforts go to: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/region9/tribal/news-features/news10/tribal-reducing-exposure-lead.pdf">http://www.epa.gov/region9/tribal/news-features/news10/tribal-reducing-exposure-lead.pdf</a>. This information should be shared widely to protect health and environmental quality. Contact: Dr. Patrick McMullen, ITCA Community Development Director, 602-258-4822 or Patrick.McMullen@itcaonline.com

#### Protecting Children's Environmental Health

Children may be more vulnerable to environmental exposures than adults because their bodily systems are still developing. Children eat, drink and breathe more in proportion to their body size than adults; and the behavior of children potentially exposes them to more pollutants and contaminants in their daily environment. For information on children's environmental health protection go to:

http://yosemite.epa.gov/ochp/ochpweb.nsf/content/homepage.htm and Tips to Protect Children from Environmental Risks and http://www.epa.gov/region9/tribal/news-features/news10/tribal-childhealthoct2010.pdf. If your tribe is interested in exploring opportunities to further protect children's environmental health, contact EPA Region IX Children's Environmental Health Coordinator, Kathleen Stewart 415-947-4119 or stewart.kathleen@epa.gov or your EPA grant project officer. You may also contact Kathleen Stewart to receive emails on children's environmental health, including information on upcoming children's environmental health-related grant opportunities.

#### **Toxics Release Inventory**

A peer-reviewed analysis of the Toxics Release Inventory and the impact of the EPA's Toxics Release Inventory Burden Reduction Rule are available online at http://news.duke.edu/2008/06/TRIMiranda.html. For more information, contact Martha H. Keating, at 919-613-8736 or martha.keating@duke.edu. Supporting materials for the analysis, including an interactive web application which provides access to results by the EPA region and state can be found at: http://www.env.duke.edu/cehi/about/news/envjustice.htm.

#### **Chemical Spills and Methamphetamine labs**

To report a spill, contact 1-800-424-8802 or 1-202-267-2675. NRC is open a 24-hour, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. For more information go to http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/index.html

#### Tribal Compliance Assistance Center – Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance

The EPA's web-based Tribal Compliance Assistance Center is now available to provide comprehensive compliance assistance and pollution prevention information for regulated activities in Indian Country. For more information, go to the following site: http://www.epa.gov/tribalcompliance. All of EPA's compliance assistance centers are found at http://www.assistancecenters.net. If you have any questions about the Tribal Center or the *Profile of Tribal Government Operations*, contact Jonathan Binder at 202-564-2516, binder.jonathan@epa.gov, or Catherine Tunis at 202-564-0476, tunis.catherine@epa.gov or by mail: EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Mail Code 2224A, Washington, DC 20460.

#### Tribal Compliance Assistance Notebook (TCAN)

The EPA's TCAN provides quick access to many programs and resources available to help tribal school districts and tribal schools prevent and resolve environmental issues in schools. The Notebook is available at http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/tribal.nsf/programs/tribal+schools. The TCAN is part of EPA's National Tribal Compliance Assurance Priority (http://www.epa.gov/compliance/data/planning/priorities/tribal.html).

#### Professional Resources for Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program Staff

California Hazardous Materials Information Exchange list serve is used mainly by HHW professionals in California, but may be useful for those working outside of California as well. The list serve is also searchable by topic and date: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hhwie/

#### The EPA Encourages States to Use Portal for Reporting Ecological Incidents:

The EPA announces the availability of the Ecological Pesticide Incident Reporting Portal at www.npic.orst.edu/eco . Launched in October 2009, this online application was developed to facilitate the reporting of ecological incidents from states, federal government organizations, tribes, academia, wildlife rehabilitation centers, conservation societies, beekeepers and other organizations involved with the investigation and documentation of ecological incidents. Information related to ecological incidents submitted via the portal will be imported into a database for use by risk assessors and risk managers in the EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs and considered the next time risks are assessed for the pesticide(s) involved in the incident report. More data on ecological incidents will allow the Agency to make informed regulatory decisions, write label statements, and impose risk mitigation measures. Additionally, incident data serve as early warning information and can assist the Agency in discovering trends, which if left unnoticed, could create problems.

#### How to Report a Possible Violation of Environmental Law

To report what appears to be a violation of environmental laws and regulations, visit http://www.epa.gov/tips. This web page provides a tool to report possible environmental violations.

#### **Treatment and Removal of Abandoned Vehicles**

The EPA Region 9 has published a 15-page booklet on the treatment and removal of abandoned vehicles, with emphasis on the problem faced by tribal nations. Here is the URL http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/tribal/resources.html. In addition to the Internet, paper copies are available by request to Michelle Baker at baker.michelle@epa.gov or 415-972-3206.

#### **Targeted Brownfields Assessments (TBA)**

A TBA is an environmental investigation designed to document environmental conditions at a property under consideration for redevelopment. The EPA can provide communities and nonprofit organizations with environmental assessment services at brownfield properties with redevelopment potential. TBAs are noncompetitive and are available all year. To see the brochure, click on the following link: www.epa.gov/region09/brownfields/pdf/Brochure-idea-final-05-07-07.pdf.

#### **Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)**

The EPA has set up a hotline and a website to answer questions about this issue – concerned parties can call 888-835-5372 or visit http://www.epa.gov/pcbsincaulk/ for additional information.

#### National Congress for American Indians (NCAI) Opportunities

NCAI has posted a list of opportunities for Tribes resulting from the Recovery Act. There are also links to related news updates and webinars. See: http://www.indiancountryworks.org/.

#### Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC)

For more information, call Eugenia McNaughton, 415-972-3411 or Joe Eidelberg, 415-972-3809 or go to http://www.itrcweb.org/membership.asp

#### Procedures for Accessing EPA Resources for Emergency Responses to Hazardous Materials Incidents on Tribal or Federal Lands in Arizona

Call 9-1-1 first. Then notify the National Response Center at 1 800-424-8802. A tribe can also notify Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) at 602-390-7894 or 602-771-2330. If it is a transportation-related spill, call 602-223-2212 at the Arizona Department of Public Safety. In addition, local jurisdictions need to be notified of the incident. If ADEQ is unable to respond to a hazardous materials incident on tribal and federal lands, contact the National Response Center at 800-424-8802, and ask for the EPA Region 9 Duty Officer. EPA has On-Scene Coordinators placed in San Francisco, and Los Angeles, CA, Carson City, NV and Phoenix, AZ who can provide timely response to a hazardous materials incident.

## Websites

Resource on Scholarships for Native American Students http://www.indian-affairs.org/scholarships/financial\_aid\_links.htm http://www.finaid.org http://www.frschinfo.com/ http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/native.jsp#05 http://www.ed.gov/finaid

Presentations given at the 2011 Tribal Lands and Environment can be found at the following website: http://www4.nau.edu/itep/waste/twrap\_tlf11\_prestns.asp or contact Todd Barnell, 928-523-3840.

The following website has a section with information and resources on tribal air issues: http://www.epa.gov/region09/air/tribal/index.html. If you wish to provide feedback, contact Sara Bartholomew in the Air Division, 415-947-4100 or by email at bartholomew.sara@epa.gov

Lead renovation, repair and painting rules and training opportunities: http://weatherization.org/rrp.html http://iaspub.epa.gov/GAP\_Online/ http://www.epa.gov http://www.epa.gov/indian/ (Headquarters) http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/index.html http://www.epa.gov/region09/toxic/tri/ http://www.epa.gov/region09/water http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/ust/leaking-tanks-indian http://www.epa.gov/water/tribaltraining/index.html http://www.epa.gov/water/tribaltraining/resources/general.html http://www.epa.gov/indian/calendar/othertraining.htm **National Indian Justice Center** http://www.nijc.org/pdfs/AIR.PDF; http://www.nijc.org/pdfs/SOLIDWAS.PDF http://www.nijc.org/pdfs/WATER.PDF; http://www.nijc.org/pdfs/DRWATER.PDF **Other Websites of Interest** http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email subscriptions http://teeic.anl.gov http://www.communityhealthstudies.com http://www.wihresourcegroup.com/ http://www.narf.org/nill/triballaw/index.htm; http://www.stopwaste.org/home/index.asp http://www.conservatree.com/index.shtml; http://soils.usda.gov/survey http://www.eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/projects.cfm www.energysavers.gov http://www.gaia-gis.it/spatialite/ http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/ih/codetalk/onap/swonap/ http://earth911.com/hazardous/rechargeable-batteries/

This monthly newsletter contains information on meetings, conferences, trainings, available grants, employment opportunities and other items of interest. Comments and feedback are appreciated. Contact Maria Castain 415-972-3264; email castain.maria@epa.gov or go to: http://www.epa.gov/region9/tribal/newslet.html. Also, if you want to be removed from this mailing list, contact Maria.