



**National Tribal Air Association**

**NTAA Weekly Update**

*Week of January 30<sup>th</sup> –  
February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017*

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## TOP STORIES

NTAA's updated "Successes and Challenges" questionnaire for the 2017 STAR is now available. Last year, the Successes and Challenges portion of the STAR was poignant and powerful. We hope you will continue to share your stories. The deadline for submitting the questionnaires for inclusion in the 2017 STAR is **Friday, February 10**. To view, complete, and submit the questionnaire, please [follow this link](#).

U.S. EPA - [A Fond Farewell, by Janet McCabe](#)

Washington Post – [Trump administration backs off plan to scrub climate pages from EPA website](#)

USA Today - [Allaying concerns, EPA lifts temporary freeze on grants to states](#)

Reuters - [U.S. will change course on climate policy, Trump official says](#)

Fairbanks News Miner – [Air quality grant from EPA for woodstove change-out program safe for now](#)

Indian Country Media Network – [Breaking: Trump Pushes DAPL, Keystone XL Forward with Executive Order](#)

## HEADLINES

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

The Hill - [Lawmaker to propose abolishing EPA](#)

The Hill - [Dems boycott committee vote on Trump's EPA pick](#)

WSU News - [Researchers develop environmentally friendly, soy air filter](#)

The Washington Post – [Trump is eager to undo sacred tribal monument, says Orrin Hatch](#)

National Council of American Indians - [Tribal Amicus Brief in Challenge to EPA Mercury Rule](#)

Bloomberg – [Trump Adviser Calling for Overhaul of “Junk Science” at EPA](#)

National Association of Clean Air Agencies – [Washington Update](#)

### ***Climate Change/Energy***

Huffington Post - [The Army Is Now Accepting Your Comments on the Dakota Access Pipeline](#)

NPR - [As Obama Clean Power Plan Fades, States Craft Strategies to Move beyond It](#)

The Hill - [GOP lines up resolutions to undo coal, methane rules](#)

Inside Climate News - [Despite Hedging on Climate Change, Perry, Zinke Nominations Head for Senate Vote](#)

Fox Business – [Pipeline backers make big promises about jobs, growth](#)

Los Angeles Times - [Fearing deletion, Tom Steyer copies Environmental Protection Agency website on climate change](#)

USA Today – [Bill Gates warns against denying climate change](#)

Los Angeles Times – [As the White House changes course on climate change, California stubbornly presses forward](#)

### ***Toxics/Mobile Sources***

Reuters – [VW, Robert Bosch agree to pay \\$1.55 billion to settle U.S. diesel claims](#)

Reuters – [EPA official says VW diesel scandal deterrent to auto industry](#)

The Hill - [Auto dealers want Trump to weaken car emissions rules](#)

Indian Country Media Network – [Court Greenlights Swinomish Tribe’s Oil Train Lawsuit](#)

### ***Indoor Air Quality***

WebWire – [Water Damage from Recent California Storms Causes Indoor Mold Concerns](#)

News Medical Life Sciences – [Expert discusses environmental medicine and need for health strategies to tackle indoor air pollution](#)

### ***Photos from the field***

Climate Central – [The West’s Largest Coal Plant May Close. It’s a Big Deal.](#)



The Navajo Generating Station coal-fired power plant near Page, Ariz., and Lake Powell. Photo credit: [Doc Searls/flickr](#)

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## **UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS**

***Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA***

**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 save NTAA money, 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!

<b>NTFAQ Planning Committee:</b> NTAA and ITEP are working to plan the National Tribal Forum on Air Quality. Join the effort on our next planning call!	Wednesday, February 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2pm ET
<b>2017 STAR Work Group:</b> NTAA will publish the Status of Tribal Air Report in May at the NTFAQ. Join the call to help out!	Wednesday, February 8 <sup>th</sup> , 1pm ET
<b>Volkswagen Settlement Work Group:</b> NTAA hosts monthly calls to update Tribes on the VW Settlement.	Thursday, February 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2pm ET
<b>2017 STAR Work Group</b>	Wednesday, February 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 1pm ET
<b>NTAA/EPA Policy Update:</b> NTAA and EPA host a monthly call to update Tribal Air Programs.	Thursday, February 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2pm ET

**The TAMS Center is announcing a Call for Nominations for the Virgil Masayesva Tribal Air Programs Excellence Award**

(<http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tams/>) and for three (3) positions on the TAMS Steering Committee (<http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tams/SCommittee/>). The TAMS Center will be accepting nominations until March 10, 2017.

Please feel free to contact the TAMS Center (702-784-8278/8263/8264) if you have any questions.

**NTAA/EPA Webinar Series: National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)**

The National Tribal Air Association (NTAA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are co-hosting a three-part webinar series on the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for tribal air agencies.

Under the Clean Air Act (CAA), the EPA is required to set national air quality standards (NAAQS) and review those standards every five years for six common air pollutants (also known as “criteria” air pollutants). There are NAAQS

for ground-level ozone (O<sub>3</sub>); particulate matter (PM); carbon monoxide (CO), lead (Pb), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), and nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>).

These criteria air pollutants are found all across the United States and can harm your health, the environment, and cause property damage.

In this webinar series, you will learn how the EPA: 1) sets, reviews and revises the primary (health) and secondary (environmental) standards; 2) designate areas that are meeting or not meeting these standards; and 3) works with areas to meet and maintain these standards. You will also hear from tribal environmental professionals on their perspectives and experiences with the NAAQS regulatory, designations, and implementation process.

During each 1 ½ hour webinar, there will be an overview presentation of the topic followed by a question and answer session.

**Webinar #2: NAAQS - Designations**

(This session will discuss the designations process, the different categories (i.e., attainment, nonattainment, unclassifiable, and unclassifiable/attainment), and what it means if your area of Indian country does not meet the NAAQS and what role the tribes can play in the designations process.)

**Date:** Monday, February 13, 2017

**Time:** 2:00 – 3:30 PM EST

Participant Dial-in Number: (800) 309-5450

Conference ID: 46429567

**Webinar Link:** <https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/naaqs-desig>

**Webinar #3: NAAQS - Implementation**

(This session will discuss how to attain & maintain the NAAQS and what role the tribes can play in the implementation process.)

**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017

**Time:** 2:00 – 3:30 PM EST

Participant Dial-in Number: (800) 309-5450

Conference ID: 43783074

**Webinar Link:** <https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/naaqs-implem>

**How to Participate:** You do not need to register in advance for these webinars. To participate, please click on the webinar link at the date and time shown above. Audio for the webinar will be delivered through the phone line. It is recommended that you call in 15 minutes before the webinar's start time to ensure your participation.

**To Join a Webinar:** Click on the link and follow these instructions:

1. Click "Enter as a Guest"
2. Type in your first & last name and organization
3. Click "Enter Room"

4. You will be in the room!

\*Make sure to use the participant call in number and conference ID for audio\*

If you have never attended an Adobe Connect meeting before, we highly recommend that you test your

connection: [http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/common/help/en/support/meeting\\_test.htm](http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/common/help/en/support/meeting_test.htm)

We look forward to your participation and encourage you to share this invitation with others in the tribal community who may be interested. Information about the NAAQS can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants#self> and <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/process-reviewing-national-ambient-air-quality-standards>.

For questions about the webinars, please contact Andy Bessler at [andy.bessler@nau.edu](mailto:andy.bessler@nau.edu) or Toni Colón at [colon.toni@epa.gov](mailto:colon.toni@epa.gov)

**Save the Date! National Tribal Forum on Air Quality will be held May 1-4, 2017, in Tucson, Arizona.**

The NTF provides environmental professionals from tribes, EPA, and other organizations an opportunity to meet and discuss current policies, regulatory initiatives, technical and other relevant topics in air quality and climate change.

- Optional training sessions on Monday 5/1.
- \$50 registration fee ~ online registration opens in January.
- Scholarship support for tribal attendees.
- Sponsorship opportunities available!

Check [http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr\\_ntf](http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_ntf) for updates.

**EPA's Office of Chemical Safety Pollution Prevention is inviting tribal entities and representatives to apply to serve on the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee to negotiate a proposed rule that would limit chemical data reporting requirements under section 8(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), as amended by the Frank. R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, for manufacturers of any inorganic byproduct chemical substances, when such byproduct chemical substances are subsequently recycled, reused, or reprocessed.**

Those who wish to be appointed as members of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee should submit comments on the action and express interest to serve by submitting written comments to: Susan Sharkey, [Sharkey.susan@epa.gov](mailto:Sharkey.susan@epa.gov), 202-564-8789, by Monday, February 6, 2017.

The EPA Administrator will select members carefully to ensure that there is a balanced representation of interests on the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee. EPA anticipates that the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee will contain representatives from industry, environmental groups, and state, local, and tribal governments.

The attached PDF document provides a few high-level topic areas to clarify this action. For further information, please review the closed FR Notice:<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/12/15/2016-30177/chemical-data-reporting-requirements-for-inorganic-byproduct-chemical-substances-notice-of-intent-to> or contact Susan Sharkey, [Sharkey.susan@epa.gov](mailto:Sharkey.susan@epa.gov), 202-564-8789.

### **2017 TRIBAL EXCHANGE NETWORK CONFERENCE**

Viejas Casino & Resort, Alpine, California, February 28-March 1, 2017  
(Post-conference workshop sessions are being planned for March 2, 2017!)

The Tribal Exchange Network Conference provides tribal professionals, and those working with tribes, an opportunity to meet and learn about current initiatives, funding, and technical topics related to the [Exchange Network](#). Come and share your experiences or to learn from and network with other tribal professionals! For more details, please visit the website at [www.tribalexchangenetwork.org](http://www.tribalexchangenetwork.org). Click [HERE](#) to download a DRAFT Conference Agenda--updates will be posted periodically. If you have suggestions for topics or presentations, please contact [ITEP](#).

Visit [www.tribalexchangenetwork.org](http://www.tribalexchangenetwork.org) for travel details and other updates regarding the Conference.

**The U.S. EPA 2017 International Emission Inventory Conference** will be held at the Hyatt Regency Baltimore on the Inner Harbor Hotel in Baltimore, MD August 14-18, 2017. This conference will focus on how emission inventories meet the challenges posed by improving emissions inventory science and also streamline inventory creation processes to improve the resulting inventories. [Click here](#) to learn more about the conference and how to submit abstracts.

**The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals' (ITEP's) [Tribes and Climate Change Calendar](#)** includes conferences, trainings, webinars and other events related to tribes and climate change. [Click here](#) for ITEP's other trainings and events. [Click here](#) for ITEP's new Tribal Environmental Management and Planning Online Courses. New courses have been added, so check it out!  
**ITEP's [2016 AIAQTP Course Schedule](#)**

## ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program Course Calendar:

Course Title	Dates	Location
2017		
Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Diagnostic Tools (for lower 48)	February 7-10	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV
Management of Tribal Air Programs and Grants	February 22-24	Phoenix, AZ
Air Pollution Technology	March 13-17	Flagstaff, AZ
Fundamentals of Air Monitoring (for lower 48)	April 4-6	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV
Introduction to Tribal Air Quality	June 6-9	Flagstaff, AZ
Quality Assurance (QA) Fundamentals	Open	Online
Building Performance: Improving Energy Efficiency & IAQ in Cold Climates	Open	Online
Radon Fundamentals	Open	Online
Emissions Inventory - Fundamentals	2017	Online
Emissions Inventory - Advanced	2017	Online
Disaster Planning for Air Quality	2017	Online

Note: This schedule is subject to change. [Click here](#) for up-to-date information, course descriptions, and applications. If you have questions regarding the prerequisites or your eligibility for this course, please contact Patricia Ellsworth, Air Quality Curriculum Coordinator, at [Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu](mailto:Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu) or phone 928-523-6721. For more information, please visit [ITEP's website](#).

### ***Climate Change / Energy***

**U.S. Vice President Al Gore, the American Public Health Association (APHA), The Climate Reality Project, Harvard Global Health Institute, the University of Washington Center for Health and the Global Environment and Dr. Howard Frumkin, former director of the CDC's National Center for Environmental Health, will host a Climate & Health Meeting that will take place on February 16, 2017 at The Carter Center in Atlanta, Georgia.**

Supported by the Turner Foundation and other organizations, the one-day event will fill the gap left by the recently-canceled Climate & Health Summit originally

to be hosted and sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and others. [Click here for more information.](#)

## **Toxic / Mobile Sources**

### **The State of Washington's Department of Ecology is hosting a Federal Volkswagen settlement webinar to be held Feb. 2, 2017**

This [webinar](#) will share information about the **federal Volkswagen settlement** and the monies available to our state. Washington is eligible to receive \$112.7 million from the settlement. The Department of Ecology has been provided with guidelines on how to become a beneficiary and how the funds can be used.

- **Date:** Feb. 2, 2017
- **Time:** 1- 1:45 p.m. Pacific Standard Time
- **Registration required:** [Register today](#)
- **Telephonic participation:** 877-668-4493, access code: 926 070 525.

Please [register](#) in advance or [email us](#) for more information.

### **The Tribal Pesticide Program Council (TPPC) request your participation in a short survey to identify challenges and best practices in Indian country to implement the Agricultural Worker Protection Standard (WPS) regulation.**

This survey will serve as a helpful tool to identify the need for Tribal Pesticide Regulators/Educators to implement the new WPS regulations, identify challenges they may experience in relation to the revisions that have taken effect in 2017 and will continue into wholly implementing WPS rules in 2018. The information you provide will be used to support the development of resources and materials on implementing the WPS rule by creating publications that are appropriate and relevant to audiences by the way of delivering training that represent your geographic sector.

**We ask that the TPPC and other Tribal Pesticide Inspector, Regulators and Educators, take a couple minutes to complete the short survey by Friday, February 10th. Please click on the link below to complete the short survey:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y6B78VX>

### **Additional Information on the Agricultural Worker Protection Standard (WPS)**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is implementing stronger protections for agricultural workers and their families working on farms, forests, nurseries, and greenhouses. The Worker Protection Standard (WPS) revision is designed to protect agricultural workers by increasing protections from pesticide exposures. It contains requirements for protective equipment, restricted-entry times following

pesticide applications, safety training, and other elements to prevent poisoning and injury from pesticides. The majority of the WPS revision has been in effect as of January 2, 2017. For more information, check out [EPA's Webpage](#).

If you have any questions, you can contact Africa Dorame-Avalos at [Africa.Dorame-Avalos@itcaonline.com](mailto:Africa.Dorame-Avalos@itcaonline.com) or Tony McCandless at [tony.mccandless@gric.nsn.us](mailto:tony.mccandless@gric.nsn.us).

## ***Indoor Air Quality***

### **U.S. EPA is coordinating a workshop on residential wood heating (RWH) issues and strategies in Atlanta, GA on Feb. 28 – March 3, 2017.**

This workshop will be held in conjunction with the Hearth, Patio and Barbeque Association Trade Show and is being coordinated by EPA and NESCAUM. We anticipate participation by state, local, tribal, federal and non-profit organization colleagues, who will present and discuss wood heating/combustion program issues, opportunities, challenges and lessons learned. A draft agenda is attached to this email.

Workshop participants will also have the opportunity to see firsthand various hearth technologies, many of them burning wood, wood pellets and gas and meet with industry representatives. The meeting is being held in Atlanta, GA, in conjunction with the Hearth, Patio and Barbeque Association Trade Show. Below is logistics information and a draft meeting agenda. You can register for this event at: <http://atlantameeting.eventzilla.net>

EPA is looking for volunteers to present information on their wood smoke reduction efforts at this workshop. If you would like to present, please contact Larry Brockman ([brockman.larry@epa.gov](mailto:brockman.larry@epa.gov)) or Lisa Rector ([lrector@nescaum.org](mailto:lrector@nescaum.org)). Also if you have suggestions for agenda items, please let us know. FYI, space is limited and will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. Who should attend?

The meeting is intended for state, local, tribal, federal and non-profit organization personnel who are interested in learning about and discussing residential wood combustion program issues, opportunities, challenges and lessons learned. In addition, workshop participants will have the opportunity to see firsthand various advanced hearth technologies, many of them burning wood, wood pellets and gas. How do I register?

Registration occurs at <http://atlantameeting.eventzilla.net>, there is no cost to register. You are welcome to attend all or some of the sessions. DO NOT register through the Hearth, Patio and Barbecue Association's EXPO website. However, we would encourage you to check out the website to provide background on the EXPO: <http://hpbexpo.com/>

#### Where should I stay?

There is a block of rooms reserved at the Residence Inn Downtown Atlanta (134 Peachtree Street NW) at the federal government rate of \$148/night until Wednesday, February 15. [Click here to book your group rate under "FGE EPA"](#). If you have any troubles booking a room, contact Amanda Britt with the Residence Inn at 404-522-0950.

### **January is National Radon Action Month. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) encourages you to test your school facilities for radon.**

The *only* way to determine if your school building has elevated radon levels is to test. [Testing](#) for radon is simple and unobtrusive, and every school should have a plan to manage radon. Winter is a good time to test for radon because it is easier to maintain proper testing conditions, which require that doors and windows be closed except for normal entry and exit.

You can't see or smell radon. The only way to know if radon levels are high is to test. Elevated levels of radon can occur anywhere, though radon concentrations may be higher in certain areas of the country. Testing each room within the school is important, as radon levels can vary even within the same building. Speak with your [state radon office](#) to learn if any schools have been previously tested and, if so, what the results were or if mitigating actions were taken. Your state radon program office can provide you with information and technical assistance to develop an action plan for radon education, testing and follow-up action. It also can help encourage a discussion of radon with stakeholders to ensure that all involved understand this important issue.

EPA recommends that all schools be tested for radon and retested after any renovations or changes to the building's HVAC systems. Consider the following:

- If short-term testing is chosen, conduct testing on school days only (not holidays, vacations or weekends), in cold-weather months, using reliable short-term devices.

- Test all frequently occupied rooms, including rooms with ground contact and those immediately above unoccupied spaces that are in contact with the ground, such as crawlspaces and tunnels.
- Conduct follow-up testing and take corrective actions in all frequently occupied rooms that test at or above 4 pCi/L. Use the [EPA radon guidelines for schools](#).
- Encourage residents in your community to test their homes for radon. If you find radon in your school, there is a greater chance that it will be present in homes in the area.
- Contact your [state's radon program](#) for specific guidance and requirements. It's important to track and maintain a record of your facility's radon tests.

Check out EPA's resources and resources available in your state to help you address radon.

- Download EPA's [School IAQ Assessment Mobile App](#). This is our latest effort to provide updated, user-friendly guidance to help schools identify, resolve and prevent IAQ problems using low- and no-cost measures. Use the comprehensive **Walkthrough Checklist** to assess your facility and track your radon testing dates and results. The app is a simple tool usable on a mobile device with internet access—whether it's a smartphone or tablet—and is available for both the Android and Apple platforms, free to download and free to use.
- Review the [Framework for Effective School IAQ Management—Managing Radon in Schools](#). This tool provides a system to address radon risks as part of a comprehensive IAQ management process.
- Some areas of the country have more potential for radon than others. However, you should test your school wherever it's located. Radon can be a very localized phenomenon. Many states and regions provide [specific resources and assistance](#).

### **Get the Word Out—Be an Advocate for Radon Testing**

Help spread the message and raise awareness about the importance of radon risk reduction. EPA has free online resources that can help you address this important public health issue at [www.epa.gov/radon](http://www.epa.gov/radon) and at [sosradon.org](http://sosradon.org).

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### **Questions?**

EPA offers free *IAQ Tools for Schools* resources—including the [School IAQ Assessment Mobile App](#)—to help schools maintain a healthy indoor environment

by identifying, correcting and preventing IAQ problems. Learn more about the *IAQ Tools for Schools* guidance and access other valuable school environmental health resources at [www.epa.gov/iaq-schools](http://www.epa.gov/iaq-schools).

If you have any questions about the *IAQ Tools for Schools* guidance, please contact the *IAQ Tools for Schools* Connector Coordinator at [iaqschools@epa.gov](mailto:iaqschools@epa.gov).

**U.S. HUD published our full Housing Needs Study of American Indians and Alaska Natives on January 19, 2017.** A press release and further detail on the study is available [here](#). HUD also posted this news to our [Codetalk](#) website.

The study found that American Indian tribes are building more housing units after enactment of the *Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA)* but housing conditions are substantially worse among American Indian households than other U.S. households.

There was an interesting briefing on the study yesterday, which should be available on [HUD's youtube channel](#) soon. HUD plans to release a separate study of Native Hawaiian housing needs at the end of February.

### **U.S. EPA Request for Applications (RFA): “National Indoor Environments Program: Reducing Public Exposure to Indoor Pollutants”**

U.S. EPA's Office of Air and Radiation (OAR), Indoor Environments Division (IED) has posted a new RFA (EPA-OAR-ORIA-17-02) here, [www.epa.gov/grants/air-grants-and-funding](http://www.epa.gov/grants/air-grants-and-funding), and here, [www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=290725](http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=290725).

Examples of projects eligible for funding include those that result in (1) an increase in the number of homes and schools built with radon-reducing features, (2) an increase in the number of home visiting programs providing in-home asthma interventions by licensed providers in disproportionately affected communities, and (3) an increase in the number of homes, schools and office buildings with interventions that reduce exposure to multiple indoor air contaminants.

EPA expects to make between 10 and 20 awards. The selected indoor environments projects will be funded in the amount of \$2–4 million annually, for up to 3 years (2018–2020). Closing Date: Friday, February 17, 2017, 4:00 p.m. EST.

### **Microbiomes Webinar Now Available Online!**

EPA's Indoor Environments Division thanks you for attending the September webinar on the current state of the science on microbiomes and the built environment.

Dr. Brent Stephens, Associate Professor of Architectural Engineering at the Illinois Institute of Technology, presented *What Have We Learned about the Microbiomes of Indoor Environments?* The webinar presentation is now available for viewing at [youtu.be/u --F2c4b4o](https://youtu.be/u--F2c4b4o).

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## RESOURCES

### **Now Hiring!**

**Clark County, Nevada is hiring for the position of Public Information Administrator – closes on 2/17/17. Open to the public:**

<http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/human-resources/Pages/EmploymentOpportunities.aspx>

Additionally, we are in the process of a recruitment for an Office Specialist and are required to use HR's active list of qualified applicants for this title. If you already hold this same title and are interested in requesting a Management Reassignment, please contact me by no later than COB 1/27/17 for more information to be considered for the position.

### **2017 ITEP Student Summer Internship**

Apply now for an 8-week summer internship. Spend your summer working with tribal organizations to address tribal environmental issues. The internships have a **technical, educational** or **policy** focus. The internship program provides each student intern with a stipend, and limited housing and travel allowances.

Host sites are selected from tribal environmental organizations, government offices, the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and others.

Descriptions of the host sites will be found on the website after January 31, 2017.

#### **Eligible students must meet the following:**

- US Citizen
- Full-time undergraduate or graduate college student during Spring 2017 (12 hours undergrad, 9 hours grad) at any tribal college, college or university
- Have at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA

- Majoring in an environmental or related field like science, engineering, planning, policy, law, management, political science, anthropology, or health
- Interested in pursuing an environmental career after graduating
- Proficient verbal and written communication skills
- Strong interest in working with Native American tribes or topics

**To apply, submit an online application plus additional materials that are described on the website.** You can also provide your preferences for the host sites you find interesting after January 31, 2017.

**Deadline: February 28, 2017**

**Website:** [www.nau.edu/itepinterns](http://www.nau.edu/itepinterns)

Questions? Contact Mansel Nelson at [Mansel.Nelson@nau.edu](mailto:Mansel.Nelson@nau.edu) or 928-523-1275

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

**The Indigenous Governance Program at the University of Arizona offers many courses of interest.** It is not too late to sign up for many of the courses (such as Intergovernmental Relations, Native Economic Development, Making Change Happen in Native Communities, and Cultural Property of Indigenous Peoples). [Learn more here.](#)

### **Alliance for Green Heat - [New AGH zip code search for stove incentive programs](#)**

Thinking about upgrading your wood or pellet stove? These tips can help you make an affordable choice. Our zip code search lets you find stove change-out and incentive programs in your area. If your stove is 20 years old or more, it's time to try out a new one.

### **Tribal Fact Sheet on Methane**

The National Wildlife Federation and the Clean Air Task Force have revised their [Tribal Fact Sheet on Methane.](#)

### **EPA Region 2 Seeks Nominations for Environmental Champions**

Each year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recognizes and honors environmental trailblazers – individuals, businesses and organizations that have contributed significantly to improving the environment and protecting public health. EPA is seeking nominations of environmental stewards within its region

covering New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and eight federally recognized Indian Nations who have gone above and beyond for environmental change in local communities. Winners will be honored with this annual award at a ceremony in the Spring of 2017 at EPA's regional office in Manhattan. The Agency is accepting nominations for its Environmental Champion Awards until February 3, 2017.

To nominate an individual or organization, please visit EPA's Environmental Champion Award webpage at <http://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/environmental-champion-awards>.

## ***Climate Change/Energy***

**ITEP's Tribal Climate Change Newsletter**: This monthly newsletter provides news items, resources, announcements about funding opportunities, conferences, and training, and other information relevant to tribal climate change issues.

### **Roots of Wisdom: Native Knowledge. Shared Science.**

Over countless years living on the same land, Native peoples have observed and managed their local environments. Today, Native communities around the world face many challenges to their ecosystems and their health, but they have found innovative solutions through combining traditional knowledge, passed down through generations, with modern science to meet these challenges. *Roots of Wisdom: Native Knowledge. Shared Science*, a traveling banner exhibition developed by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI), features inspiring stories of ecological restoration from four Indigenous communities: Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Tulalip Tribes, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and the Waikalua Loko Fishpond Preservation Society in Hawaii.

As Native people restore their environments, they are revitalizing their cultural traditions and heritage - and offering answers to other communities. The exhibition was developed, produced, and circulated by: Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. [Click her for more information.](#)

## ***Toxics / Mobile Sources***

### ***Indoor Air Quality***

**U.S. HUD's Office of Native American Programs (ONAP) Code Talk:**  
[Codetalk Homepage:](#)

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## **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

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

#### **2017 EPA EJ Small Grants Opportunity (EPA-OECA-OEJ-17-01)**

***DEADLINE EXTENDED to February 10, 2017!***

**Closing date extended to Friday, February 10th**

The submission deadline for the 2017 EPA EJ Small Grants opportunity has been extended. The new Closing Date to Friday, February 10, 2017 at 11:59 PM (ET).

- The Amended Request for Proposals (RFP) document has been posted on Grants.gov here: <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=289829>
- And on the EPA Environmental Justice website here: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-small-grants-program#tab-2>

All other terms and conditions of the RFP remain unchanged. This amendment replaces the previous version of the RFP.

Please contact Jacob Burney at [burney.jacob@epa.gov](mailto:burney.jacob@epa.gov) or 202-564-2907 for any questions about the RFP deadline extension.

#### **2017 Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program, U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities**

Application closes February 1, 2017.

Funding amount: \$50,000 - \$300,000

The U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities seeks applications for the 2017 Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program. The Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program goal is to accelerate strategic protection of healthy, freshwater ecosystems and their watersheds. Up to \$2 million is available for the 2017 grant round. Eligible applicants include not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organizations, for-profit companies, tribes, intertribal consortia, interstates, state, and local government agencies including water utilities and wastewater facilities, and colleges and universities are eligible for funding.

Details at <http://www.usendowment.org/healthywatersheds.html>

### **Small Grants Program, Center for Health, Environment and Justice**

Applications close February 1, 2017.

Funding amount: \$1,000 - \$20,000

The Center for Health, Environment and Justice's Small Grants Program helps grassroots, community organizing groups build their capacity. Grant activities can include board development, membership outreach, and fundraising efforts. Project activities could also include meetings to develop an organizing strategic plan, training events, educational activities which are directly connected to your strategic plan, or membership recruitment.

Details at <http://chej.org/smallgrants/>

### **U.S. EPA Air Grants and Funding:**

EPA's Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) announces competitive funding announcements for projects and programs relating to [air quality](#), [transportation](#), [climate change](#), [indoor air](#) and other related topics. [This page](#) provides access to information about current funding opportunities under 'Open Announcements' and also provides as a reference tool, all previously announced funding announcements listed below and in archives under 'Closed Announcements'.

### **Cliff Bar Foundation Small Grants**

Details at <http://clifbarfamilyfoundation.org/Grants-Programs/Small-Grants>

Application closes February 1, 2017.

These grants are awarded for general organizational support as well as funding for specific projects. Small grants average approximately \$7,000 each. Priority is given to applicants that:

- Address our funding priorities from a holistic perspective
- Protect Earth's beauty and bounty.
- Create a robust, healthy food system.
- Increase opportunities for outdoor activity.
- Reduce environmental health hazards.
- Build stronger communities.
- Operate with clearly defined objectives and viable plans to achieve them.
- Demonstrate strong community ties and operate at the community level.
- Promote positive change through both the projects and their implementation process.

## **People, Prosperity and the Planet Award Program, EPA**

Details at <https://www.epa.gov/research-grants/14th-annual-p3-awards-national-student-design-competition-sustainability-focusing>. Application closes February 3, 2017. Funding amount: Up to \$15,000 per Phase I grant and up to \$75,000 per Phase II grant

The United States Environmental Protection Agency invites submissions to the 14th Annual P3 Awards: A National Student Design Competition for Sustainability Focusing on People, Prosperity and the Planet. P3 focuses on scientific projects and engineering designs that address the three components of sustainability: people, prosperity and the planet.

The P3 Program is intended to support science-based projects and designs developed by interdisciplinary student teams that benefit people by improving their quality of life, promoting prosperity by developing local economies, and protecting the planet by conserving resources and minimizing pollution. Public nonprofit institutions/organizations (limited to degree-granting public institutions of higher education) and private nonprofit institutions/organizations (limited to degree-granting private institutions of higher education) located in the U.S. (includes eligible institutions of higher education located in U.S. territories and possessions) are eligible to apply to be the recipient of a grant to support teams of undergraduate and/or graduate students.

## **First Nations Launches Two New Grant Opportunities Under Its Native Agriculture and Food Systems Initiative**

First Nations Development Institute ([First Nations](#)) has launched two new grant opportunities under its Native Agriculture and Food Systems Initiative ([NAFSI](#)). Proposals for both grant programs will be accepted online and must be submitted by no later than 5 p.m. Mountain Standard Time on **Friday, February 17, 2017**.

With the generous support of the [W.K. Kellogg Foundation](#) and [Agua Fund](#), First Nations will award up to 12 grants of up to \$35,000 each to support projects that aim to strengthen local food-system control; increase access to local, healthy and traditional foods; and decrease food insecurity and food deserts, all with an emphasis on serving Native American children and families. For this grant opportunity, examples of allowable activities include, but are not limited to:

- Community Garden Development
- Food Sovereignty Initiatives
- Food System Planning
- Supply Chain Improvements
- Grower-Based Education Programs
- Intergenerational Programs with a Focus on Food

First Nations will also award up to 10 grants of up to \$15,000 each to Native communities looking to conduct food sovereignty assessments in order to gain a better knowledge and understanding about the historical, current and future state of their local food systems. Under this grant opportunity, examples of allowable activities include, but are not limited to:

- Food Sovereignty Assessment Planning
- Conducting Food Sovereignty Assessments
- Data Analysis of Food Sovereignty Assessment Surveys
- Community Meetings Related to a Food Sovereignty Assessment

The Request for Proposals for program grants can be accessed at <http://www.firstnations.org/grantmaking/2017NAFSI> and the Request for Proposals for the food sovereignty assessment grants can be accessed at <http://www.firstnations.org/grantmaking/2017FSA>. Organizations are invited to apply for one or both of these opportunities.

Entities eligible to apply include U.S.-based, Native American-controlled, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations, tribes and tribal departments, tribal organizations, or Native American community-based groups with eligible fiscal sponsors committed to increasing healthy food access in rural and reservation-based Native communities and improving the health and well-being of Native American children and families.

## ***Climate Change/Energy***

### **DOE SunShot Initiative Launches Challenge to Expand Solar Access to More Communities, Including Tribes**

In an effort to make solar energy more accessible for every American, the DOE SunShot Initiative has launched the \$5 million Solar in Your Community Challenge, a new prize competition that aims to improve solar electricity access for low- and moderate-income households; state, local, and tribal governments; and nonprofit organizations.

The Solar in Your Community Challenge encourages the development of innovative financial and business models that serve low- and moderate-income communities that may have been left out of the solar boom. Offering \$5 million in cash prizes and technical assistance over 18 months, the challenge supports teams across the country to develop projects or programs that reach underserved customers in their communities, while proving that these business models can be widely replicated and scaled up.

The early application deadline to participate in the challenge is Jan. 6, 2017, and the regular deadline is March 17, 2017. Learn more about [how tribes and other communities can participate in the competition](#) and [apply today](#).

### **DOE Makes Up to \$6 Million Available to Deploy Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy on Indian Lands**

DOE expects to make approximately \$4 million to \$6 million of federal funding available for new awards under this funding opportunity announcement (FOA), subject to the availability of appropriated funds. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on congressional appropriations. DOE anticipates making approximately 6 to 10 awards under this FOA. On November 14, during the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy Program Review, Office Director Chris Deschene announced a new funding opportunity to install energy efficiency measures and deploy clean energy systems on Indian lands.

The application deadline is Feb. 7, 2017. [Learn more and apply.](#)

### **[NOAA Climate Program Office FY2017 - Understanding Climate Impacts on Fish Stocks and Fisheries to Inform Sustainable Management](#) (Dept. of Commerce)**

The goal is to inform sustainable fisheries management and promote resilience of the nation's fish stocks and fisheries in a changing climate. For FY17, this OAR/NMFS partnership, through the Coastal and Ocean Climate Applications (COCA) Program, will continue to take a regional approach to improving the resilience and adaptation of fisheries in a changing climate by soliciting proposals under two competitions. Eligibility includes Indian tribal governments. Funding opportunity # OAA-OAR-CPO-2017-2004998. Deadline: 01/30/17.

### ***Indoor Air Quality***

#### **US EPA's Office of Air and Radiation, Indoor Environments Division (IED) has posted a new Request for Applications (RFA)**

New RFA for 2018–2020 now available!

Closing Date: February 17, 2017

Request for Applications (RFA): "National Indoor Environments Program: Reducing Public Exposure to Indoor Pollutants"

U.S. EPA's Office of Air and Radiation (OAR), Indoor Environments Division (IED) has posted a new RFA (EPA-OAR-ORIA-17-02)

here, [www.epa.gov/grants/air-grants-and-funding](http://www.epa.gov/grants/air-grants-and-funding), and

here, [www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=290725](http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=290725).

EPA expects to make between 10 and 20 awards. The selected indoor environments projects will be funded in the amount of \$2–4 million annually, for up to 3 years (2018–2020).

U.S. EPA Cooperative Agreements for the period 2018–2020

Funding Opportunity Number: EPA-OAR-ORIA-17-02

**Closing Date:** Friday, February 17, 2017, 4:00 p.m. EST

Currently, the Indoor Environments Program focuses on critical aspects of indoor air quality that pose significant risks to public health, particularly to children and other disproportionately affected segments of society. The Program's priorities include, yet are not limited to (1) radon, (2) indoor environmental asthma triggers, and (3) multiple indoor air contaminants.

Examples of projects eligible for funding include those that result in (1) an increase in the number of homes and schools built with radon-reducing features, (2) an increase in the number of home visiting programs providing in-home asthma interventions by licensed providers in disproportionately affected communities, and (3) an increase in the number of homes, schools and office buildings with interventions that reduce exposure to multiple indoor air contaminants.

To learn more about IED's currently funded (2014–2017) cooperative agreements and partners, visit [www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq/cooperative-agreement-funding-indoor-air-quality](http://www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq/cooperative-agreement-funding-indoor-air-quality). To learn more about healthy indoor environments and indoor air quality, visit [www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq](http://www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq). Opt in [here](#) to receive periodic email updates about healthy indoor air.

**U.S. HUD - HUD recipients can request technical assistance on basically any subject, as long as is it related to NAHASDA.** The requests come in to the ONAP Area Office, which typically considers whether the tribe has any other TA needs, and then assembles a TA request package for HQ to consider. From what I have been able to gather, training on indoor air issues has never been requested - but it could be. ONAP has contracts with certain TA providers for these TA requests. Those TA providers may subcontract as needed. The link below names the TA providers and discusses the process. A link to the ONAP CodeTalk website is provided below in case you are interested in getting a better feel for ONAP's Area Office structure. TA process:

<http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=onaptaannouce.pdf>

CodeTalk:

[http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/ih](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/ih)

**U.S. HUD - HUD recently published our 2017 Imminent Threat Grants Guidance** to provide Tribes with resources to address pressing air quality issues. [Click here](#) for more information.

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## **Most Recent Listing: EPA Rules from the Federal Register**

Contents of the Federal Register for [Wednesday, February 1, 2017](#).  
(Past copies can be accessed [here](#)).

### **Notice**

#### **Meetings: Good Neighbor Environmental Board**

FR Document: [2017-02146](#) Citation: 82 FR 8936 [PDF](#) Pages 8936-8937 (2 pages) [Permalink](#)

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