

NEWS

The Tribal Newsletter
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To receive a copy, call:

AK: Robb 907-271-6323
ID: Arlene 208-378-5749
OR: Don 503-326-5015
WA: Alison 360-753-8185

LETTER

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/TRIBAL.NSF/Newsletter/Issues>

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August 2009

Conferences and Workshops

September

- 13 – 18 **EPA Region 10 Tribal Leaders Summit, “25 Years of Indian EPA Policy Act: Building Tribal Environmental Capacity & Beyond.”** Nez Perce, Lewiston, ID.
For information, call: 208-843-7368
- 19 – 31 **(This date may change) National Tribal Leaders Summit, Washington, DC.**
Purpose: Elected tribal government leaders will meet with the new EPA Administration.
For information: call Teresa Kuklinski at 202-564-0246 or Dianne Briggs at 202-564-0279.

October

- 29 – 30 **American Indian Science and Engineering Society, National Conference and Career Fair, Portland, OR.** For information, visit:
www.aises.org/Events/NationalConferences/2009NationalConference

November

- 2 – 4 **National Forum on Contaminants in Fish, Portland, OR.**
More information will be posted at: www.epa.gov/waterscience/fish/forum/
- 16 – 18 **The National Brownfields Conference. New Orleans, LA**
For information: www.brownfields2009.org/en/page.overview.2009.aspx

Technical and Compliance Assistance Available for Underground Injection Control program

The EPA Region 10 Underground Injection Control (UIC) program is pleased to announce a new interagency effort with the Portland Area Office of the Indian Health Service (IHS) to provide free technical and compliance assistance related to underground injection activities. Their goal is to prevent groundwater pollution and protect public health within Indian Country.

IHS engineers will spend the next 5 years reaching out to area tribes and injection well owners and operators within Indian Country. Work will include direct assistance for area tribes regarding the UIC program requirements and technical issues associated with injection well design, operation, and maintenance, in addition to providing on-site technical and compliance assistance to well owners and operators within Indian Country.

For more information, please contact Jennifer Parker, EPA Region 10 UIC program, 206/553-1900, or Jason Schneider, Portland Area Office Indian Health Service, 360/792-1235 X110.

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Water Infrastructure Grants

Public Health & Sustainable Water Infrastructure: The EPA requests proposals for Advancing Public Health Protection through Water Infrastructure Sustainability.

Projects should clearly demonstrate an integrated, multi-disciplinary approach that leads to advances in design, operation, and management of the water infrastructure and should directly tie those advances to public health protec-

tion in conjunction with improving water efficiency and reducing energy requirements. \$6 million expected to be available, up to 8 awards anticipated. Responses due 8/17/09.

For more info, contact Angela Page at: page.angelad@epa.gov or go to: www.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2009/2009_star_water_infrastructure.html.

Refer to Sol# EPA-G2009-STAR-F1. (Grants.gov 5/20/09)

Brownfields Training, Research and Technical Assistance Grants

EPA is providing more than \$1.5 million for ten Brownfields Training, Research and Technical Assistance Grants. Funding will provide information, training, tools, and technical assistance to brownfields stakeholders to support brownfields assessment, cleanup, and revitalization. Each assistance project will receive between \$100,000 and \$150,000 in annual funding for up to five years

For more information, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site at www.epa.gov/brownfields

Native American Housing Block Grant (IHBG)

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will competitively award \$242 million for Native American grants later this year. For information on eligible activities, award processing, expenditure requirements, and allocations to specific tribal organizations, please visit <http://www.hud.gov/recovery/native-american-formula.cfm>

Local Educational Agencies

The purpose of this grant is to develop and enhance the understanding of cooperative business through education and practical experience. Special emphasis is directed toward programs designed to promote agriculture, cooperative business and rural America. This grant is funded by the CHS Foundation and local educational agencies are encouraged to apply. Applications accepted from mid-July until October 1, 2009.

For more information go to: www.chsfoundation.org/newgrantapply.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. For more information, go to: <http://tiny.cc/PRVos> or call Tedd Buelow, 202/690-1681, E-mail tedd.buelow@wdc.usda.gov or Sandi Boughton, 202/720-1681 or E-mail sandi.boughton@wdc.usda.gov.

Releases Northwest Tribal Energy Planning Guidebook

With funding provided by the Bullitt Foundation, Northwest SEED just released a new tool to help Native American tribes develop a plan to achieve energy independence.

Energy Planning: A Guide for Northwest Indian Tribes contains information and resources to help select and implement

projects to conserve energy, generate clean renewable energy, and construct efficient and environmentally friendly buildings, and other energy-related community or business projects.

For more information or to obtain a copy of the guide, contact Leslie Moynihan, 206/267-2215 or leslie@nwseed.org.

Network Discharge Monitoring Reports (NetDMR)

The EPA is pleased to announce the release of a significant new electronic government (e-gov) application that should result in a significant reduction in paper reporting each year when fully implemented.

NetDMR, which stands for "Network Discharge Monitoring Reports," is a web-based electronic reporting tool that Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitted facilities can use to submit their monthly discharge



monitoring reports (DMR). These reports certify whether permit holders are in compliance with their discharge standards.

NetDMR is now available to facilities in the District of Columbia, Louisiana, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Texas, Utah, and the Gulf of Mexico (offshore rigs).

Several additional states, tribes, and territories are working to implement NetDMR within the next year.

To obtain additional information on NetDMR, visit our website at www.epa.gov/netdmr.

Contact for OW: Allison Donohue (donohue.allison@epa.gov) or 202/564-2195.

Improving Public Health and the Environment for Local Communities

A new EPA Web site features dozens of projects that local communities can do to help make the air cleaner and healthier to breathe. The "Improving Air Quality in Your Community" Web site features activities for reducing both indoor and outdoor pollution, including diesel engine retrofit programs, improving air quality in local schools, and pollution prevention options for small businesses. These projects have a

successful track record—they were previously put into action by state and local governments across the country.

This site includes information about the costs to establish and maintain each project, and how local communities can apply for EPA grants to kick-start their activities. Contact: Cathy Milbourn, 202/564-4355 / milbourn.cathy@epa.gov or go to: www.epa.gov/air/community.

Tribal Compliance Assistance Center available

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: www.epa.gov/tribalcompliance.

This center is designed to help tribal environmental professionals and facility owners and operators comply with environmental regulations and get information on topics including waste management, air and water resources, drinking water, and public safety. From the Tribal Center, viewers can report a complaint to

EPA, find out the compliance status of facilities in Indian Country, learn how to apply for federal grants, and locate EPA personnel who can answer your environmental compliance questions.

If access to the Internet is limited, much of the Tribal Center's information is found in the Profile of Tribal Government Operations which can be ordered by calling 800/490-9198. All of EPA's compliance assistance centers are found at 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, or E-mail her at tunis.catherine@epa.gov.

Online Water Quality Standards Academy "TMDL" Module goes online

The Water Quality Standards Academy Online (WQSA Online) has posted its second Basic Course Supplemental Topics Module, Listing Impaired Waters and Developing TMDLs.

The new online module addresses the identification and prioritization of impaired or threatened waters by states and tribes, and the development of pollutant loading analyses with a focus on meeting

the state's/tribe's water quality standards.

Similar to the Key Concepts modules, the Supplemental Topics Modules present text-based information across a sequence of pages that include links to further information and resources, and then a brief quiz at the end. Because these modules are supplemental, they are not associated with the Certificate of Completion earned by completing the Key Concepts modules. To access the module go to www.epa.gov/waterscience/standards/academy/supp/tmdl. For more information on WQSA Online contact Bryan "Ibrahim" Goodwin at 202-566-0762.

National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC)

NPIC offers a toll-free number staffed by knowledgeable specialists seven days/week 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 for visit www.npic.orst.edu.

Greening High Schools

The Student Conservation Association requests proposals for the Green Your School Contest. This is a national competition that awards projects that have, or will, improve the environmental health of the school. \$10K is available and three awards are anticipated. Responses are due October 9. For more info, go to: www.thesca.org/green-your-school.

Community Involvement Training Conference coming August 18-19

Involvement Training Conference will be held August 18-20, 2009, in Seattle, Washington. This dynamic conference brings together more than 450 people from EPA and its federal, state, tribal, and local agency partners who plan and implement environmental community involvement, partnership, stewardship, outreach, and education programs.

The conference features plenary sessions with guest speakers, engaging and interactive information-sharing sessions, 3- and 4-hour training sessions, and full-day training sessions. It also will include field trips demonstrating the power of effective community involvement in the Seattle area, a poster session, exhibits, and a variety of

networking opportunities and evening activities to add value and fun to the experience.

The theme for the 2009 conference is "Reaching across Boundaries: Sharing Challenges and Opportunities." The theme acknowledges that boundaries exist all around us and can pose challenges to effectively solving environmental problems. However, if stakeholders can move across boundaries, they can identify mutual challenges and opportunities that can lead to sustainable environmental benefits. During the conference we will explore communication skills and processes, organizational/institutional issues and behavioral shifts as ways to reach across boundaries to achieve these environmental benefits. For information: www.epa.gov/ciconference.

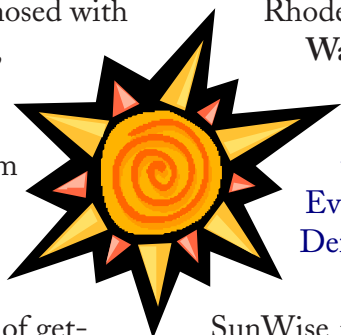
Beware of Summer Dangers

Skin cancer from UV radiation is the most common of all cancers in the United States. More people will be diagnosed with skin cancer this year than breast, prostate, lung, and colon cancer combined. UV radiation is a carcinogen whether it comes from the sun or an artificial light source.

There is a misperception that people of color are not at risk of getting skin cancer. While the risk for people of color is not as high, skin cancer, including melanoma, affects all skin types. Skin cancer is often detected in people with darker skin after it is too late, so it is important that people of color are safe in the sun and see a doctor if they notice any changes with their skin.

As part of the Don't Fry Day campaign, EPA is also targeting the 10 states with the highest number of new melanoma cases by releasing state-specific skin cancer

fact sheets for Connecticut, Idaho, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont and Washington. Additionally, Salt Lake County. For More information on Don't Fry Day: www.skincancerprevention.org/Events/DontFryDay/tabid/113/Default.aspx



More information on EPA's SunWise program: www.epa.gov/sunwise.

Save Energy and Fight Climate Change this Summer

EPA has published a list of energy-saving tips for the home and office to reduce energy bills, air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions this summer. State, local, and tribal governments can implement these tips in their buildings and share them with residents and businesses. www.lgean.org/news.cfm#4307.

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Top 10 Reasons to Recycle Plastic Bottles

1. Shed some light on the issue

Recycling a single plastic bottle can conserve enough energy to light a 60-watt light bulb for up to six hours.

2. It's a growing demand

According to the EPA, the amount of plastics generation in municipal solid waste has increased from less than 1 percent in 1960 to 12.1 percent in 2007.

3. Get a creative boost

Recycled plastic bottles can be made into products such as clothing, carpeting, detergent bottles and lumber for outdoor decking

4. Walk it out

More than 80 percent of U.S. households have access to a plastics recycling program, be it curbside or community drop-off centers.

5. Get on the bandwagon

In recent years, the number of U.S. plastics recycling business has nearly tripled. More than 1,600 businesses are involved in recycling post-consumer plastics.

6. Make room

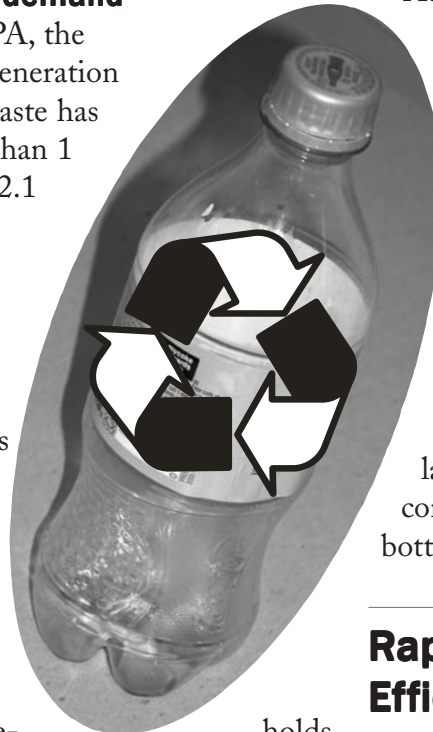
Recycling one ton of plastic saves 7.4 cubic yards of landfill space

7. It's getting hotter

Recycling one pound of PET plastic bottles saves approximately 12,000 BTUs (British thermal unit) of heat energy.

8. Reduce the use

Producing new plastic products from recycled materials uses two-thirds less energy than is



required to make products from raw (virgin) materials. It also reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

9. Salvage what's left.

According to the EPA, while overall recovery of plastics for recycling is relatively small – 2.1 million – recovery of some plastic containers has reached higher levels. PET soft drink bottles were recovered at a rate of 37 percent in 2007. Recovery of HDPE milk and water bottles was estimated at about 28 percent in 2007.

10. Push it forward

Plastics are a rapidly growing segment of the municipal solid waste stream. The largest category of plastics are found in containers and packaging (e.g., soft drink bottles, lids, shampoo bottles).

Rapid Deployment Energy Efficiency Toolkit Help Line

EPA designed the RDEE Toolkit Help Line to assist state and local governments in deploying ARRA energy efficiency funding in a successful, sustainable manner by having a go-to resource for RDEE questions. Call 866-602-7333 or email RDEE@icfi.com to receive a response to your inquiry within one business day.

The RDEE Toolkit was developed through a joint effort of EPA and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), with technical input from the Leadership Group of the National Action Plan on Energy Efficiency. For more information about the Toolkit and to access the Planning Guide, visit: www.epa.gov/RDEE/energy-resources/ee_toolkit.html. Questions related to funding provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act should be directed to DOE: www.eere.energy.gov/recovery or 877/EERE-INF 877/337-3463.

Shore Power Cuts Diesel Particles right at the Dock

A major source of air pollution in port areas comes from the giant vessels that tie up at their docks to load and unload cargo.

That’s because the powerful diesel engines have to run continuously to keep the ships’ equipment and support systems operating. That also means continuous spewing of GHG and diesel particulate emissions into the local air.

A solution to this massive emissions problem has long existed but is not widely implemented because it involves expensive modifications both on-ship and to offshore facilities.

It’s called shore power, which allows ships to shut down their diesel engines at berth and literally plug into the landside electricity grid, thus improving air quality.

Tribal Staff

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Alaska Operations Office
222 West 7th Avenue, #19
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7588
Toll-Free: 800-781-0983
Phone: 907-271-5083
Fax: 907-271-3424

Cathy Villa, <i>Tribal Coordinator</i>	271-1270
Mahri Lowinger, <i>Tribal Coordinator</i>	271-6334
Mark Jen, <i>Tribal Coordinator</i>	271-3411
Michelle Davis, <i>Tribal Coordinator</i>	271-3434
Santina Gay, <i>Tribal Coordinator</i>	271-3413
Sherry Kimmons, <i>Tribal Coordinator</i>	271-6322
Tami Fordham, <i>Tribal Coordinator</i>	271-1484
Ernest Young, <i>Tribal Liaison</i>	271-6323



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Alaska Operations Office

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U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10 Tribal Program
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101-1128

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Got News?

The Region 10 Tribal Newsletter invites you, our readers, to submit ideas and articles for consideration and to share your successes and challenges. Photographs are also welcome. Please submit articles to: Don Creek, 811 S.W. 6th Ave. EPA, Portland, OR 97204 or e-mail creek.don@epa.gov.

To Report Spills and Accidents

Note these emergency numbers to call in the event of hazardous material spills or accidents.

Alaska	800-478-9300	Washington	800-258-5990
Idaho	800-632-8000	National (EPA)	800-424-8802
Oregon	800-452-0311		



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