



National Tribal Air Association

NTAA Weekly Update

*Week of October 1st -
October 5th, 2018*

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PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD



The NTAA Executive Committee and staff met last week with EPA representatives at Saint Regis Mohawk. This Oct. 26 photo was taken on the banks of the Saint Regis River in Akwesasne, New York.

TOP STORIES

NY Times – [Trump Administration Prepares a Major Weakening of Mercury Emissions Rules](#)

Native News Online – [Heinrich, Lujan Announce \\$2.1 Million for N.M. Pueblos to Protect Clean Air and Water](#)

NTAA to Host Two Webinars for the Proposed Rules on ACE (Affordable Clean Energy) and SAFE (Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient) Vehicles

To assist Tribes in understanding these two Proposed Rules, the NTAA will host the below webinars. Policy Response Kits are under development for both of these Proposed Rules that can be found [on the NTAA website](#). Contact Andy.Bessler@nau.edu if you have any questions!

- ACE will be held on Tuesday, October 9 from 2:00-3:30 PM ET and you can register and access the [webinar here](#).
- SAFE Vehicles will be held on Wednesday, October 10 from 4:00-5:00 PM ET and you can register and access the [webinar here](#).

ITEP Seeks Meeting Venue for 2019 NTFAQ

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) of Northern Arizona University (NAU) is soliciting proposals/quotes from hotels & meeting facilities in your area to serve as the location for the 2019 National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTF). The NTF is an annual gathering of tribal and federal government professionals focused on addressing air quality. A summary of the event and meeting space request is below:

- Timeline: Proposals or letters of interest should be submitted to ITEP by October 5, 2018.
- Event Dates: May 13-17, 2019 preferred
- Lodging rooms requested: 200+ at or below federal lodging rate; 100% non-smoking facilities only
- Meeting space requested: General session room for 200+; four breakout rooms for 75+; three catered meals plus daily refreshments; Exhibit hall for 20 exhibitors; 100% non-smoking facilities only

Sponsorships: ITEP and NTAA are looking for any tribes or intertribal groups who are interested in sponsoring or hosting this event. This is an excellent way to highlight commitments to environmental protection and sustainability. If you are interested in this opportunity or have questions about how to be involved, please let us know! For questions or more information on the NTF, please visit www.nau.edu/ntfaq or contact Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu, Project Director Ph: 928.523.6887

HEADLINES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

NY Times – [E.P.A. to Eliminate Office That Advises Agency Chief on Science](#)

Char-Koosta News – [Acting EPA Head Andrew Wheeler stops by Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, discusses environmental impacts of industry](#)

Reuters – [Protesters interrupt EPA sole hearing on weaker power plant rules](#)

Insider – [What air pollution does to your body and brain](#)

Indian Country Today – [Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe reacquires 240 acres of 1796 Treaty Land](#)

US News – [Standing Rock Sioux Pledges Support for Pipeline Protests](#)

The Atlantic – [A Setback for Trump’s Plan to Slash Public Lands](#)

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

Climate Change/Energy

Scientific American - [The EPA’s Climate Rollbacks Could Mean Thousands of Premature Deaths](#)

Arizona Republic - [Obama mining ban at Grand Canyon will stand after Supreme Court declines review](#)

Carbon Brief – [Arctic sea ice summer minimum in 2018 is sixth lowest on record](#)

Carbon Brief – [Mapped: How every part of the world has warmed – and could continue to warm](#)

E&E News – [Kansas: Regulators OK mandatory demand charges for residential solar](#)

E&E News – [Oil and Gas: 3 strikes against development on east, west coast – Zinke](#)

Yes! Magazine – [What Will Climate Change Do to the U.S.-Mexico Border?](#)

NPR – [It’s Rice Vs. Seaweed Vs. Solar ATMs For A \\$1 Million Prize](#)

The Hill – [Trump administration predicted seven-degree increase in global temperature by 2100](#)

Daily Democrat – [‘Carbon farmers’ the newest recruits in state’s war on climate change](#)

AP News – [Gassy cows are bad for the planet; could seaweed diet help?](#)

Motherboard – [Methane-Eating Ocean Microbes Could Play a Major Role in Climate Change](#)

Christian Science Monitor – [Harvey, Florence, and the climate change connection](#)

CBS News – [\\$3 billion Hoover Dam project hopes to bring power plant into 21st century](#)

CNBC – [Cheaper battery is unveiled as a step to a carbon-free grid](#)

Reuters – [As climate risks rise, scientists call for rules on solar engineering](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Detroit News – [Ford, FCA oppose Trump’s proposal on gas mileage rules](#)

E&E News – [California: State moves to insulate itself from clean cars rollback](#)

EPA – [EPA Takes First Steps in Identifying Next Group of Chemicals for Risk Evaluation under TSCA](#)

NPR – [Study: Roundup Weed Killer Could Be Linked To Widespread Bee Deaths](#)

Indoor Air Quality

CBS News - [Turning to scientific outliers, EPA says a little radiation may be healthy](#)

Science Daily – [Indoor HEPA filters significantly reduce pollution indoors when outside air unhealthy, study finds](#)

Be sure to subscribe to [EPA's IAQ Bulletins](#)

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UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Tribal Children's Environmental Health Symposium October 16-18

EPA Region 6 and Cherokee Nation will be hosting the *Tribal Children's Environmental Health Symposium* that will be held at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino at 777 West Cherokee St. Catoosa, OK, 74015 October 16-18, 2018.

The theme of the symposium is "Protecting Children Where They Live, Learn and Play". To register online for the symposium go to www.itecmembers.org. Early registration is strongly recommended. If you have any questions about this event, please contact Karen Dye at 918-453-5109 or e-mail karen-dye@cherokee.org.

Travel scholarships are available only to employees of federally recognized tribes in EPA Region 6. Travel scholarships provide for airfare and lodging costs only. Please indicate if you are interested in the travel scholarship when you register online. Here is the [direct link](#) that you and your guest can make reservations with.

Invitation to Provide Early Input to Inform EPA OAR's FY 2020-2021 National Program Guidance

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is beginning to develop its next two-year National Program Guidances for fiscal years 2020-2021 with expected issuance in late spring 2019. EPA's Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) would like to extend an invitation to your organization to provide early input on OAR's guidance. We are extending this invitation to state, local and tribal air agencies as well as other national, state, local and tribal air, public health, and radiation associations. Please send your suggestions to Marc Vincent at Vincent.Marc@epa.gov and Timothy Roberts at Roberts.Timothy-P@epa.gov by October 26, 2018. For your reference, OAR's previous FY 2018-2019 Guidance is [available here](#). You will also have an opportunity to submit written comments on the Agency's full set of draft guidances beginning in February 2019. OAR will also hold a conference call during the public comment period that you will be invited to participate in.

Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management: November 27-30

The Alaska Tribal Conference on Environmental Management, organized by the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, is Alaska's largest Tribal environmental

conference that brings together Tribes, Non-profits, and State and Federal organizations, for a week of environmental conversations. The discussions focus on finding and implementing solutions to address the unique environmental concerns facing Alaskan communities. Session tracks include: Air Quality & Healthy Homes; My Changing Climate; Water Quality & Sanitation; Solid & Hazardous Waste; Sustainability & Resilience; Brownfields. November 27-30, 2018 / Anchorage, AK. / Anchorage Downtown Hilton. To register or submit an abstract go to: <http://www.atcemak.com/>. For questions contact atcem@anthc.org.

Tribal Grants Education and Technical Assistance Webinar Series Second Wednesday of Every Month at 1pm ET

[For more information, click here!](#)

NTAA Upcoming Calls. The toll-free number is 1-800-309-2350. If you do not need to call toll free, or would like to help conserve NTAA funding, you can call 1-805-309-2350. Both numbers use code 928-523-0526#.

Contact Andy.Bessler@nau.edu if you have any questions about any call!

Registration instructions When you register for the GoToWebinar, please remember to include your Tribe, Region, or Organization in parenthesis after your last name. This allows you to see everyone on the call and prevents us from conducting a roll-call, ultimately saving everyone's time.

<p>Wood Smoke Work Group: Join this newly formed work group to help address air quality issues arising from wood smoke</p>	<p>Wednesday, October 3, 3 pm ET <i>Note: this work group has a different call-in number: Dial-In Number: 1-866-299-3188</i> Conference Code: 919-541-5497</p>
<p>Volkswagen Settlement Work Group: Continue to track the ongoing developments and help guide the process</p>	<p>Thursday, October 11, 2pm ET</p>
<p>NTAA/EPA Air Policy Update Call: Receive air quality policy updates from EPA and NTAA</p>	<p>Thursday, October 25, 2pm ET</p>

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professional's (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 2018-2019 AIAQTP Course Schedule

Course Title	Dates	Location	Course Level
	2018		
Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Communities (Lower 48)	November 7-9	Sioux City, Iowa	1
Clean Air Act and Permitting	November 27-30	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	2
Air Quality in Alaska	December 11-14	Fairbanks, AK	1
	2019		
Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Communities (lower 48) (<i>tentative</i>)	January 8-10 (<i>tentative</i>)	TBD	1
Air Quality Computations	January 29-February 1	Phoenix, AZ	1
IAQ Diagnostic Tools	February 12-15	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	2
Air Pollution Technology	March 12-15	Flagstaff, AZ	2
Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke (hybrid course)	March 26-27	TBD	2
Air Quality Project Planning, QAPPs, and Grants for Alaska	April 9-12	AK	2
Fundamentals of Air Monitoring	April 16-18	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	2
Air Pollution Modeling	April 30-May 2	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	3
NTF	May		
Air Pollution and Ecosystems	June 4-7	Flagstaff, AZ	2
Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke (hybrid course)	January-March	Webinars	NA
Indoor Air Quality – Independent Study	Anytime	Independent Study	1
Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Cold Climates	Open	Online	1
Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Warm Climates	In development	Online	1
Residential Building Science Review	Open	Online	1

Radon Fundamentals	Open	Online	1
Quality Assurance Fundamentals (QA 101)	Open	Online	1
Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) (QA 201-209)	Open	Online	2
Emissions Inventory (self-paced, instructor assistance as needed)	Open	Online	3

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

Climate Change / Energy

Renewable Energy Vermont

Burlington, VT, October 18-19, 2018

REV2017 brought together leaders and experts from throughout the region to address the challenges and opportunities ahead.

Register for the 2018 Office of Indian Energy Program Review

Register now for the 2018 Office of Indian Energy Program Review to be held December 10–14 at the Sheraton Denver West Hotel in Lakewood, Colorado. This annual event is a tremendous opportunity for Indian tribes to meet, learn from other Indian tribes that are pursuing energy self-sufficiency, and share in each other's successes.

The 2018 Program Review will feature project status updates from tribes across the nation who are leveraging Office of Indian Energy grant funding to deploy energy technologies or initiate the first steps to energy development. Due to widespread interest in energy development, the Review is also open to all of Indian Country.

There is no registration fee, but advanced registration is required to ensure seating and availability of food. [Register now](#).

A block of rooms is available at the Sheraton Denver West Hotel. To book your room at the group rate, please visit the [Sheraton Denver West Hotel website](#). Note that the discounted group rate is only available until Nov. 12, 2018.

ITEP's Climate Change Adaptation Training Courses registration is online!

[Learn more about the courses and register here.](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) National Program Guidance Early Engagement with Tribes

More information about [OCSPP can be found here](#).

Comments Due: Friday, October 12th

Materials Available: (1) FY 2018-2019 OCSPP NPM Guidance; (2) FY 2020-2021 OCFO Memo; (3) OECA's Early Engagement Letter and Questions; (4) OCFO National Program Guidance Tribal Consultation Letter

Send OCSPP comments or questions to: Amanda Hauff at hauff.amanda@epa.gov

Send OECA comments to: Kim Chavez at Chavez.kimberly@epa.gov and Michele McKeever at mckeever.michele@epa.gov

Indoor Air Quality

October is Healthy Lung Month

Indoor air pollutants, such as [radon](#), [volatile organic compounds](#) and [secondhand smoke](#), including those that trigger [asthma attacks](#), can affect your lung health.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [Indoor Environments Division](#) and the [American Lung Association](#) celebrate Healthy Lung Month and National Respiratory Care Week (October 21–27, 2018).

Integrated Pest Management—A Simple Solution to Problem Pests in Elderly and Disabled Public Housing

Presenters: Dawn H. Gouge, Ph.D., Shujuan (Lucy) Li, Ph.D., Shakunthala (Shaku) Nair, Ph.D. - Arizona Pest Management Center, University of Arizona–MAC, Maricopa

Date: November 14, 2018

Time: 1:00pm – 2:30pm Eastern 12:00pm -1:30pm Central, 11:00am – 12:30pm Mountain, 10:00am – 11:30am Pacific

Registration: https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dy_hKHuxRymPX6VAPIQdew

U.S. EPA has posted the IAQ Knowledge to Action Professional Training

Webinar Series. The ongoing [IAQ Knowledge-to-Action Professional Training Webinar Series](#) comprises 1-hour technical, core-competency, web-based trainings designed to demonstrate how to translate the knowledge gained in the [IAQ Master Class Professional Training Webinar Series](#) into actions to improve or sustain an IAQ management program within your school or school district.

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RESOURCES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

To view and/or receive ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program newsletter, [Native Voices, click here!](#)

Climate Change/Energy

Sign up for the [Alliance for Green Heat's](#) newsletter!

To view and/or receive ITEP's [Climate Change newsletter, click here!](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Indoor Air Quality

Air Quality Impacts of Wildfires: Mitigation and Management Strategies Hearing

The [recording of the entire hearing](#) is 2 hours (starts about 30+ minutes into the recording) but all of the testimony and other background materials are available at links.

Field Guide for Clean-up of Flooded Homes

National Center for Healthy Housing just re-circulated this (timely) resource. [Creating A Healthy Home: A FIELD GUIDE FOR CLEAN-UP OF FLOODED HOMES](#)

Be sure to sign up for [EPA's Healthy Indoor Air newsletter](#).

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Now Hiring!

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation is hiring an Environmental Program Manager

Closing date: October 5, 2018

[More information here.](#)

The Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program is hiring a Stewardship Coordinator

Application deadline: October 5, 2018

[More information here.](#)

ITEP is hiring a Program Coordinator, Sr. for the Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Technical Assistance Program

Application deadline: October 8, 2018

[More information here.](#)

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Applications for EPA's Clean Air Excellence Awards Now Being Accepted!

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is now accepting applications for the 2019 Clean Air Excellence Awards Program. Through this program, EPA recognizes and honors individuals and organizations whose efforts have helped to make progress in achieving cleaner air. The award recipients are selected for developing innovative, replicable, and sustainable programs; serving as pioneers in their fields; and improving air quality either directly or indirectly through reduced emissions of criteria pollutants, hazardous air pollutants, and/or greenhouse gases.

If your work falls into any of the award categories, please consider applying for one of these prestigious awards. The five awards categories are: (1) Clean Air Technology; (2) Community Action; (3) Education/Outreach (4) State/Tribal/Local Air Quality Policy Innovations; and (5) Transportation Efficiency Innovations. In addition, the Clean Air Excellence Award Program will recognize two special award categories: (1) the Gregg Cooke Visionary Program Award, honoring a former EPA Regional Administrator, is given to the air quality project or program that successfully blends two or more of the existing awards categories; and (2) the Thomas W. Zosel Outstanding Individual Achievement Award, honoring a former member of the CAAAC and environmental leader at 3M, recognizes one individual for their outstanding achievement, leadership, and lasting commitment to promote clean air and achieve better air quality.

Award applications and more information are available at

[https://www.epa.gov/caaac/clean-air-excellence-awards-application-information.](https://www.epa.gov/caaac/clean-air-excellence-awards-application-information)

Applications must be emailed or postmarked by November 2, 2018.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to send their entries electronically to Catrice Jefferson (jefferson.catrice@epa.gov). EPA will also accept hard copies of applications mailed to Catrice Jefferson, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Air and Radiation, MC-6103A, Room 5442-Q (WJC-North), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20460. EPA will announce winners in 2019.

Climate Change/Energy

Toxics/Mobile Sources

EPA National Brownfields Training Conferences Co-Sponsorship FY2019-2024 – \$2.4 million

Applications Due: October 19, 2018

Eligible Entities: States, territories, local governments, independent school governments, tribes and intertribal consortia

One of the major efforts under EPA's Brownfields Program is to build partnerships and outreach among federal agencies, states, tribes, municipalities, communities, and other entities. Since 1996, EPA has brought together various stakeholders from all areas of government, communities, and academia, private business and nonprofit to exchange ideas about brownfields assessment, cleanup and redevelopment through a national Brownfields training conference. As authorized by EPA Ethics Advisory 96-15, the Agency co-sponsored 15 National Brownfields Training Conferences. Attendance has ranged from more than 500 attendees in 1996 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to over 5,000 in attendance at the 2011 conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Typical conference attendance is between 2000-3000 participants.

EPA anticipates this funding opportunity will result in one cooperative agreement to an eligible non-federal recipient to promote research and provide training and technical assistance to communities and other brownfields stakeholders through the National Brownfields Training Conferences. The nonfederal recipient will co-sponsor three conferences, to be held during FY2019-2024, provided EPA grant funds are available. Brownfields-related conference topics may include:

- Brownfields inventory, planning, assessment and cleanup approaches, policies and technologies
- Brownfields redevelopment activities
- Use of environmental insurance

- Community engagement activities for finding solutions to brownfields challenges

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

2018 DERA School Bus Rebate Program Applications Being Accepted

Deadline to apply: November 6, 2018, 4pm ET

We are excited to announce a funding opportunity for school bus fleets that serve public schools. EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality is accepting applications nationwide for rebates to assist in replacing old, dirty diesel school buses with new school buses meeting the cleanest emission standards. EPA anticipates awarding over **\$9 million** in this funding opportunity.

Eligible Entities: Regional, state, or tribal agencies including school districts and municipalities; or private entities that operate school buses under a contract with an entity listed above. Applications are limited to 10 buses. Fleets that own more than 100 buses can submit two applications.

Selection Process: Lottery, with at least one selectee from each state/territory represented in the applicant pool.

[Click here to learn more and apply.](#)

EPA Tribal Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program FY18 – \$2 million

Applications Due: April 3, 2019

Eligible Entities: Tribal governments and Alaska Native Villages which have jurisdiction over transportation or air quality

EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality is soliciting proposals nationwide for projects that achieve significant reductions in diesel emissions in terms of tons of pollution produced by diesel engines and diesel emissions exposure, particularly from fleets located in areas designated as having poor air quality. Further, priority for funding will be given to projects which result in outcomes that benefit affected communities, those that engage affected communities with respect to the design and performance of the project, and those which can demonstrate the ability to promote and continue efforts to reduce emissions after the project has ended. For more information, visit the Clean Diesel Tribal Grants [web page](#).

DOI FWS Clean Vessel Act – \$12 million

Applications Due: December 24, 2018

Eligible Entities: States governments

The Clean Vessel Act of 1992 was signed November 4, 1992 (106 Stat. 5039) and codified in 33 U.S.C. 1322. The Act amended the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish

Restoration Act (Wallop-Breaux Act; 16 U.S.C. 777) and established the Clean Vessel Act Grant Program to provide funding to the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Commonwealths, and territories of the United States of America (States). Funding allows States to construct, renovate, operate, and maintain pumpout stations and waste reception facilities for recreational boaters and to inform boaters about the use, benefits, and availability of pumpout stations and waste reception facilities. Subsequent reauthorizations of the Acts have allowed for the continuation of CVA. For more information, visit the [funding opportunity description](#).

Indoor Air Quality

The Tribal Healthy Homes Network (THHN) has a webpage dedicated to [Funding Opportunities](#)! Additionally, THHN has developed a [Funding Guide for American Indian and Alaska Native Communities](#).

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Most Recent Listing: EPA Rules from the Federal Register can be [found here](#).

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