



NTAA Weekly Update

Week of February 27-March 3, 2023

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[If you have difficulty reading this, click here to view it online.](#)

NTFAQ 2023 NATIONAL TRIBAL FORUM ON AIR QUALITY

May 1, 2023 - May 4, 2023

Gila River Resorts & Casinos Wild Horse Pass

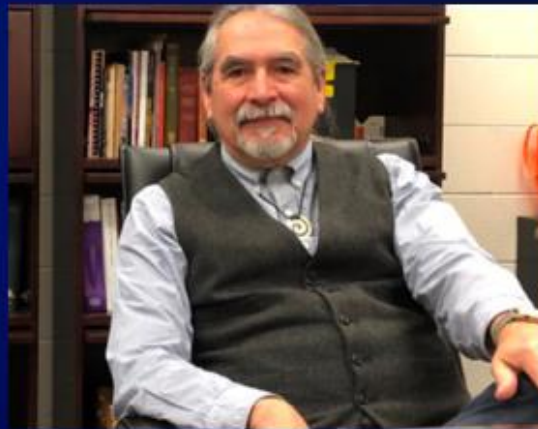


SCAN HERE



Registration Now **OPEN!**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Daniel R. Wildcat (Muscogee Nation)

*Indigenous & American Indian Studies faculty member at Haskell
Indian Nations University*

In 1994 he helped form a partnership with the Hazardous Substance Research Center at Kansas State University to create the Haskell Environmental Research Studies (HERS) Center as a non-profit Native American research center to facilitate:

- Technology transfer to tribal governments and Native communities
- Transfer of accurate environmental information to tribes
- Research opportunities to tribal college faculty and students throughout the United States.

**Support and become a SPONSOR for NTFAQ.
Opportunities are available at various levels.**



nau.edu/NTFAQ2023 **#NTFAQ2023**

Registration is open for participants and opportunities to sponsor are also available!

REMINDER! Greetings from the TAMS Center! We are announcing a call for nominations for the **Virgil Masayesva Environmental Excellence Award** Further information and nomination form can be accessed at the [TAMS Website](#).

Virgil Masayesva Tribal Air Programs Excellence Award

- https://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tams/docs/forms/TAMS-VMAward-NomForm_2023.docx

Deadline for the VM Award Nominations - March 24, 2023

Top Stories

The Hill - [EPA outlines another \\$550 million toward addressing environmental inequity](#)

Forbes - [Air Pollution Might Make People 16% More Likely To Die From Heart Disease](#)

NACAA Washington Update - [This Week in Review](#)

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/Tribes News

Science Alert - [Air Pollution Is Making Human Bones More Brittle, Study Suggests](#)

Science News - [Air pollution made an impression on Monet and other 19th century painters](#)

The Tyee - [Can We End Deaths from Air Pollution?](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Afro News - [EPA moves to restore rule on mercury from power plants](#)

The Guardian - [Ohio rail crash: toxic waste removal suspended amid contamination fears](#)

Alaska Beacon - [Alaska lakes' levels of 'forever chemicals' revealed as officials ponder actions to reduce risks](#)

Indoor Air Quality/Environmental Justice

WKYT - [Home air quality could be a threat to cardiac health](#)

Forbes - [Clean Air Can Boost Children's Lung Capacity](#)

Grist - [Why the White House's environmental justice tool is still disappointing advocates](#)

UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES/NOTICES!

NTAA Upcoming Calls

Contact Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu if you have any questions about any call! NTAA will be transitioning to Zoom. A Zoom link will be sent with calendar invites for future NTAA work group calls.

Woodsmoke Work Group: This work group meets Bi-Monthly and includes Tribal and EPA professionals with an interest in woodsmoke issues in Tribal communities. Contact Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu to join the call!	Thursday, March 16, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
Mobile Sources Work Group: This work group meets Bi-Monthly and includes Tribal and EPA professionals with an interest in mobile source issues in Tribal communities. Contact Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu to join the call!	Thursday, April 6, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
Alaska Air Work Group: Join this work group to hear updates from EPA and Alaskans working on air quality. Contact Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu to join the call!	March 29, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
NTAA / EPA Air Policy Update Call: Join this monthly meeting to hear updates from EPA on important air quality and climate policy updates as well as updates around the country related to Tribal Air Programs. Calls are usually on the last Thursday of every month unless it falls on a national holiday. Contact Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu to join the call!	Thursday, February 23, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Work Group: This work group meets Bi-Monthly and includes Tribal and EPA professionals with an interest in indoor air quality in Tribal homes and other buildings. Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu to join the call!	TBD, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP)

[Click Here](#) for ITEP's new Tribal Environmental Management and Planning Online Courses. Sign up for a self-paced course hosted by ITEP's Waste and Response and Tribal Air Quality programs.

ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program (AIAQTP) hosts the Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Cold Climates, Residential Building Science Review, Radon Fundamentals, Quality Assurance Fundamental, Writing a Quality Assurance Project Plan, Emissions Inventory Fundamentals, and Emissions Inventory Advanced.

[AIAQTP Schedule and Registration](#)

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

NEW! You are invited to participate in EPA Region 10's [2023 Smoke Management in the Northwest Conference](#).

- **When: April 18-20, 2023**
 - o Tuesday April 18, 1:30 – 5:00 pm PT, Wednesday April 19, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm PT, Thursday April 20, 8:30 am – 12:00 pm PT
- **Where: Seattle, Washington** in the EPA Region 10 Office **and** virtual via Microsoft Teams. Hotel room block information to follow.
- **Who:** All who are interested in issues related to wildfire smoke, forest management, air quality, and public health
- **Cost:** Free
- **How to register:** **Register via [Ticketleap](#) today!**
- **Additional background:**
 - EPA Region 10, along with help from private and public partners, has grown this thriving meeting for many years to address evolving needs.

- Last year, the meeting was 100% virtual with over 300 people participating. Materials and recordings of last year's sessions are available [here](#).
- The meeting is an opportunity to meet and learn from professionals on air quality, land management, community engagement, public health, academic, and a range of other wildfire smoke related issues.
- There will be a mix of session formats including presentations, panel discussions, break-out sessions, and interactive exercises.
- We are planning opportunities to gather in person for food, drink, and socializing Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

REMINDER! The Particulate Matter (PM) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) reconsideration proposal has published in the Federal Register. The public comment period is open from **January 27 to March 28**.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/01/27/2023-00269/reconsideration-of-the-national-ambient-air-quality-standards-for-particulate-matter>

REMINDER! The Tribal Healthy Homes Network is seeking Tribal insights on the ways you are working to protect Elders when climate events impact them inside their homes (e.g., wildfire smoke, high heat, and Ozone events). Your information will help other Tribes to create solutions, and will help inform their Spring, 2023 seminar: "Climate-Ready Housing for Tribal Elders."

Please, take 3 minutes to fill out the survey. **All participants receive a \$5 Amazon Gift Card, courtesy of Partnership for Air Matters.** Click here to take the survey:

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7084851/Tribal-Elders-Climate-Response-Survey>

REMINDER! Nominations for candidates to participate on the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee are open!

Currently there are 2 Tribal Representatives on the Committee, Jeremy Fincher – Sac and Fox Nation, and Elizabeth Jacobs – Akwesasne Housing Authority. Natalene Cummings – Forest County Potawatomi Community, will complete the 3rd, 2-year term that is permitted at the Spring meeting of this year.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites nominations from a diverse range of qualified candidates to be considered for appointment to its Clean Air Act Advisory Committee (CAAAC). Vacancies are anticipated to be filled by August 2023. Sources in addition to this Federal Register Notice may also be utilized in the solicitation of nominees.

ADDRESSES: Submit nominations in writing to: Lorraine Reddick, Designated Federal Officer, Office of Air and Radiation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460. **The nomination period closes on March 30th. Electronic and mailed applications must be received by that date.**

For further information or to email nominations, include in the subject line CAAAC Membership 2023 and send to caaac@epa.gov.

To talk with Natalene more about what being a member of CAAAC involves, you can reach her at 715-478-7211.

REMINDER! Hold the Date! Call for Speakers!

What: **Residential Wood Smoke Training Workshop (Workshop)**

When: April 11 – 13, 2023

Where: Denver, CO

Who: State, local, tribal, and federal officials, non-profit organizations, and educational institutions

Workshop topics will be wide-ranging, e.g.:

- Regulatory Programs (e.g., curtailment programs, Wood Heater New Source Performance Standard, test methods, enforcement)
- Voluntary Programs (e.g., proper operation education campaigns, recreational fires/firepits, identifying and understanding the best devices for appliance incentive programs – emphasis on heat pumps)
- Residential wood smoke and PM NAAQS
- Residential health effects, indoor air quality
- New and existing funding opportunities (e.g., Environment and Climate Justice Block Grants, tax credits, heat pump direct rebates)
- Understanding heating appliances (wood stoves, electric heat pumps) & recreational devices (fireplaces, firepits)- including field trip to a retail store

A major focus of the Workshop will include how to leverage funding from the Inflation Reduction Act (e.g., Environment and Climate Justice Block Grants, direct rebates, tax credits) and overcome barriers to encourage and incentivize the installation of heat pumps in homes currently using wood as their primary or secondary source of heat.

Unlike past years, the workshop will *not* be held in conjunction with the Hearth, Patio and Barbeque Association Trade Show/Expo, but we do plan to have speakers from the hearth industry and learn about various recreational and heating appliances. We are planning a 3 hour field trip to a large retail store for an opportunity to see and learn about several different types of heating appliances (EPA-certified wood stoves, pellets stoves, gas appliance and electric heat pumps) and recreational devices (fireplaces and firepits/chimeneas).

Hotel and Registration: The Workshop is planned to run from the Tuesday afternoon, (April 11) until 4:30 pm, Thursday (April 13). We intend on reserving a block of rooms at the government rate at a hotel in downtown Denver. There will be no registration cost for the Workshop.

Call for topics and speakers: EPA, with the support of the Western States Air Resources Council (WESTAR) is coordinating the Workshop. As we formulate the agenda over the next 3-4 weeks, we are requesting *suggestions* on specific discussion topics and critical issues you face in tackling residential wood smoke and would find valuable to discuss with your counterparts across the nation. If you have any recommendation on speakers or have an issue or program that you would be interested in presenting, please contact Larry Brockman, brockman.larry@epa.gov or 919-824-1579. Feel free to share this email with others who may have an interest and they can email me to be added to the distribution list.

REMINDER! The White House: FACT SHEET: How the Inflation Reduction Act Helps Tribal Communities

By signing the Inflation Reduction Act, President Biden is delivering on his promise to meet the climate crisis and build an economy that works for working families, including Tribal nations and American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian families. The Inflation Reduction Act lowers prescription drug costs, health care costs, and energy costs. It's the most aggressive action we have taken to confront the climate crisis. It'll lower the deficit and ask the super wealthy and corporations to pay their fair share. And no one making under \$400,000 per year will pay a penny more in taxes. [Click Here for FACT SHEET.](#)

Climate Change / Energy

The U.S. EPA Landfill Methane Outreach Program (LMOP) has published an enhanced National Map of Landfill Gas (LFG) Energy Projects and Municipal Solid Waste Landfills. The newly published version incorporates layers for Tribal lands and environmental justice demographic data so that users can identify areas where LFG energy projects may warrant additional consideration, analysis, or outreach to surrounding communities.

Link: <https://www.epa.gov/lmop/lmop-national-map>

Regional Tribal Environmental Health Summits

The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) is partnering with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to host a series of regional summits on the topic of environmental health in Indian Country. Each summit will feature Tribal leaders, environmental health practitioners, subject matter experts, and federal partners engaging on topics relevant to each region. A total of eight summits will be held between 2022 and 2024. The goal of each summit is to connect people from different backgrounds and Tribes, communities, federal agencies, Tribal organizations and state and local entities to address various environmental health and environmental justice issues of mutual concern across all regions as well as issues specific to individual regions. The first confirmed summit is **May 1 - May 2, 2023**, in Anchorage, Alaska.

Toxics/Mobile Sources

REMINDER! The National Transportation in Indian Country Conference (NTICC) will be held in Anchorage, Alaska, Sept. 24-28, 2023

The National Transportation in Indian Country Conference is the one-stop-shop transportation conference FOR TRIBES, BY TRIBES. NTICC offers access to relevant training and an opportunity for Tribal transportation professionals to engage with federal officials and their Tribal transportation peers regarding Tribal transportation issues and challenges.

NTICC provides information and resources for all who are committed to improving the transportation infrastructure of Indian Country and the safety of those who live, work, and travel the roadways of Alaska Native and Native American lands.

For more information and to register, visit: <https://www.nticc.org/>

REMINDER! EPA's Office of Emergency Management is offering training that would be of interest to people working on air quality issues as related to emergency situations.

Overview of Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure and Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO) Software Suite Webinar for Tribal Partners Participants should only register for one of the five offerings below, as all sessions will cover the same material. Please note whether times are listed in Eastern Standard Time (EST) or Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

Date	Time	Registration
March 2, 2023	1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST	Register here
April 6, 2023	3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. EDT	Register here
August 24, 2023	1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EDT	Register here
September 7, 2023	3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. EDT	Register here
September 22, 2023	12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. EDT	Register here

This hour and a half, EPA-hosted session will provide a basic overview of the Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure oil spill prevention program and how the Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO) software suite can be used to help

communities prepare for and respond to chemical and oil spills. The session will also include a question-and-answer segment where participants can interact with the Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure national program manager and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act program coordinator that oversees the CAMEO software suite.

REMINDER! Announcing the 2023 [National Air Toxics Conference](#) April 18-20, 2023 for your consideration for attending and/or presenting!

More details are available at the website: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/save-the-date-2023-national-air-toxics-conference-tickets-473488295237>.

Opportunity to provide input: the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is developing a proposed rulemaking to review the Clean Air Act (CAA) New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) and Emission Guidelines (EG) for the Large Municipal Waste Combustors (LMWCs) source category (40 CFR part 60 subpart Eb, and 40 CFR part 60, subpart Cb, respectively). Pursuant to the EPA's Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes, the Agency is initiating pre-proposal consultation with federally recognized Indian tribes to obtain input on the upcoming action to update regulatory requirements for the Large Municipal Waste Combustors (LMWCs). If you are interested in requesting government-to-government consultation with EPA during the pre-proposal period, please contact Regina Chappell at (919) 541-3650 or email at chappell.regina@epa.gov. Please contact us before February 3, 2023, to request the consultation. EPA will strive to accommodate the requests as time and resources permit. Tribes may also submit OFFICE OF AIR QUALITY PLANNING AND STANDARDS written comments at <https://www.regulations.gov/> Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0920, any time during the pre-proposal tribal consultation process and until **June 6, 2023**. If there are any questions, please email Charlene Spells at Spells.Charlene@epa.gov Additional background information about the air regulations for LMWCs can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/large-municipal-waste-combustors-lmwc-new-source-performance>

Indoor Air Quality

Notice of Intent - DOE Grants for Energy Improvements at Public School Facilities - \$80 million

Deadline: Available until expended. Eligible Entities: Consortium of One Local Education Agency and one or more Schools, Non-Profits, For-Profits, and Community Partners

This funding is the first tranche of funding in a \$500 million investment, to make clean energy improvements in K-12 public schools. Funds will empower school districts to make upgrades that will lower facilities' energy costs and improve student learning environments. Visit [HERE](#) for more information.

Available Now: An Introduction to Radon Gas in Homes Webinar Recording

EPA's Indoor Environments Division recently hosted a webinar to provide an overview of the key basic facts of radon - what it is, what it does to us, how we measure it, how we reduce our exposure, and where to find resources and additional information. A recording of [An Introduction to Radon Gas in Homes](#) is now available online. The recorded webinar features a presentation by Bruce Snead, Director of Engineering Extension at Kansas State University, and director of the National Radon Program Services effort for EPA since 2009.

EPA: A Fact Sheet for Tribes on State and Tribal Indoor Radon Grants

EPA's Indoor Environments Division is pleased to announce the [State and Tribal Indoor Radon Grants \(SIRG\) Program Fact Sheet](#). This fact sheet has information on SIRG eligibility, matching requirements, allowable activities, EPA contacts, and more. EPA works collaboratively and values our Tribal partnership to support healthy indoor air quality (IAQ) in Tribal communities. We work together to develop tools and resources that address the health and the safety of Tribal members when it comes to indoor air quality.

Please visit the [Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Communities](#) or [State Indoor Radon Grants \(SIRG\) Program and Resources](#) pages to learn more and download the fact sheet.

Be sure to subscribe to [CodeTalk](#), HUD's Office of Native American Programs newsletter, for webinars and opportunities!

Environmental Justice

EPA Environmental Justice recordings and meeting materials for all calls are posted here: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/national-environmental-justice-community-engagement-calls>.

NOW HIRING!

NEW! Cultural Landscape Specialist

Come join the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community as a Cultural Landscape Specialist. In this role, you will be responsible for managing landscapes of cultural significance and directly oversees management of edible and medicinal landscaping, prairies, and maintained landscape around Hocokata Ti. Enjoy weekly pay, career growth opportunities, and health benefits.

<https://recruiting2.ultipro.com/SHA1014SKOP/JobBoard/39cbf9fe-a850-475c-98b7-fdbe0861611a/OpportunityDetail?opportunityId=de8f737c-9d2e-43f0-a571-dceaf609a511>

REMINDER! JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT Engineering Technician - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES Indian Health Service Office of Environmental Health & Engineering

Closing date: **March 3, 2023**

Summary: This position is located in the Office of Environmental Health at the District or one of its Field Offices. The primary function of the incumbent is to assist the engineering staff to perform technical duties related to the construction of water and waste facilities. Position may require infrequent travel. Works under the supervision of the District Engineer or Field Engineer, depending upon work location. To view this announcement, please visit the websites listed below: ESEP/MP: <https://www.usajobs.gov/job/693089700>

DE: <https://www.usajobs.gov/job/693089500>

For further information on the position located in Polacca, AZ, please contact: David Bates, Engineer (228) 364-2500 OEH&E - Hopi Field Office david.bates@ihs.gov drdavidbates1@gmail.com

or Andrew Larson, Engineer OEH&E - Hopi Field Office (928) 737-6283 andrew.larson@ihs.gov

We are seeking to fill the vacant position located on the Hopi reservation in Polacca, AZ

REMINDER! The following positions are open for the Prairie Island Indian Community Applications can be found on their website under Employment & Opportunities

<http://www.prairieisland.org>

Food Systems Specialist

REMINDER! The Department of Religious Studies is hiring an 1855 professorship in the position of Great Lakes Anishinaabe Knowledge, Spiritualities, and Cultural Practices. *Applications closes: July 8, 2024, | [Click Here for Full Job Description](#)*

The Department of Religious Studies is hiring an 1855 professorship in the position of Great Lakes Anishinaabe Knowledge, Spiritualities, and Cultural Practices. We seek a scholar with a focus on Anishinaabe communities, and more broadly, Great Lakes Native American cultures. The scholar's areas of interest should include Anishinaabe worldviews, ceremony, knowledge systems, and communal cultural practices in the context of colonialisms, resistance, resiliency, and sovereignty. The specific area of focus is open with preference to knowledge of traditions of Anishinaabe communities, and more broadly, Native American communities. We are particularly interested in scholars whose work and teaching complement cross-university strengths in environmental practices, North American Indigenous Law, communal health and wellness, and social justice. In keeping with our land-grant mission, we seek a scholar engaged in public-facing conversations about how contemporary Native American knowledge, language, spiritualities, and culture can inform larger discussions around law, public policy, land stewardship, resource management, community health and wellbeing, Tribal governance, museum collections and archives, and environmental justice movements.

RESOURCES & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES!

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

REMINDER! Recognizing the ever-increasing availability of air sensors, expanding user base, and growing scientific knowledge, **the US EPA updated the popular Air Sensor Guidebook**, originally published in 2014. The refreshed version, called "[The Enhanced Air Sensor Guidebook](#)", includes updated content and new topics that incorporate best practices, current knowledge, and recommendations to guide the use of air sensors. The Guidebook can help sensor users learn about: the basics of air quality, air pollution monitoring, and air sensors; planning and conducting an air quality monitoring study; the selection, setup, and use of air sensors; and analyzing, interpreting, communicating, and acting on results.

REMINDER! Selections for the ARP Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring Competitive Grant

EPA selected 132 projects, in 37 states, to receive a total of \$53.4 million to conduct ambient air monitoring of pollutants in communities across the country with environmental and health outcome disparities stemming from pollution and the COVID-19 pandemic. EPA will start the process to award the funding by the end of 2022, once the grant applicants have met all legal and administrative requirements. This table can be sorted by clicking on each column header. A downloadable version is available [HERE](#).

EPA Resource: EPA is pleased to announce that we have updated our [Local Greenhouse Gas Inventory Tool](#) and our [Tribal Greenhouse Gas Inventory Tool](#).

Updates include:

- Revised Emissions & Generation Resource Integrated Database (eGRID) factors from through 2020, as available.
- Updated default stationary energy emission factors and heat contents from the latest Climate Registry, EPA GHG Emissions Factor Hub, and US Inventory publications.

- Global Warming Potential (GWP) values are now editable on the Factors tab. The bottom of the Control Sheet tab also contains new guidance on updating the GWP values and a navigation button to the GWP Entry section on the Factors tab.

Download the updated [local community and government operations tool and users' guides](#).
Download the updated [tribal community and government operations tool and users' guides](#).

Find our State Inventory and Projection Tool and additional State and Tribal greenhouse gas data and resources [here](#).

EPA Resource: EPA's Home Heating Fuel Use Web App

Are you curious about how people heat their homes? EPA has developed a [Home Heating Fuel Use Web App](#) that lets you visualize American Community Survey 5-year average home heating fuel data across the U.S. by census tract. Use this data to inform outreach or implementation planning related to energy efficiency, residential electrification, wood stove change-outs, and more.

EPA Resource: EPA's Tracking Matrix

Does your community have climate goals to meet or brownfields that might be suitable for solar? Check out [EPA's Tracking Matrix](#) to learn more about geothermal, biomass, solar and wind installations being built on contaminated lands across the country. EPA's RE-Powering America's Land Initiative 2022 [Tracking Matrix](#) shows current trends in the development of renewable energy on contaminated lands. Project examples include successful community solar projects in Nashville, Tennessee; Schenectady County, New York; Morrisville, Vermont; and Spanish Fork, Utah.

Tribal Air Quality Flag Program Packet

Customize this flyer/poster template to share information with your community about air quality, how it can affect health, and actions to take on a bad air quality day. You may need a PDF reader to view files on this page. See EPA's [About PDF page](#) to learn more. [Tribal Air Quality Flag Program Packet](#)

Department of Energy (DOE) Announces \$32 Million to Reduce Methane Emissions from Oil and Gas Sector

All interested applicants must register and submit application materials through [Fed Connect](#); [register here](#) for an account. All questions must be submitted through FedConnect.

Air Monitoring Equipment Available for Loan to State, Local, and Tribal Agencies

In 2021, EPA's Office of Research and Development initiated the Wildfire Smoke Air Monitoring Response Technology (WSMART) Pilot, loaning air monitoring technologies to state, local, and Tribal air organizations to support supplemental air monitoring in areas affected by wildfire smoke and with observational data coverage gaps. During 2022, this pilot technology loan program will continue to provide several technology types – including stationary air sensor systems and a compact mobile monitoring system – to state and local air agency monitoring staff and professional Tribal air quality staff members upon request. The equipment is not available for public use. For more information and access to the loan request webform, please visit the WSMART website: <https://www.epa.gov/air-sensor-toolbox/wildfire-smoke-air-monitoring-response-technology-wsmart-pilot>

For technical questions, please contact smoketech@epa.gov.

Climate Change/Energy

NEW! EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants: noncompetitive planning grants webinar for tribes, tribal consortia, and U.S. Territories

March 9, 2023 10 AM AKST, 11:00 AM PST, 12:00 PM MST, 1:00 PM CST, 2:00 PM EST

Description: EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program will provide noncompetitive planning grant opportunities for Federally recognized Tribes, tribal consortia, and U.S. Territories interested in participating in the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program. The Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) program will provide grants to states, territories, tribes, air pollution control agencies, and local governments to develop and implement plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollution. Section 60114 of the Inflation Reduction Act provides an investment of \$5 billion to support these efforts to develop and implement strong, local greenhouse gas reduction strategies. This two-staged grant program provides funding of \$250 million for noncompetitive planning grants, and \$4.6 billion for competitive implementation grants. The CPRG program will provide significant resources to state, territory, local, and tribal governments to develop ambitious climate action and air pollution reduction plans and to implement measures from those plans. EPA is working to release the program guidance for planning grants as soon as March 1. This webinar is intended specifically for tribes, tribal consortia and U.S. Territories and will be recorded and posted to <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/climate-pollution-reduction-grants>

Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Speakers:

- Jennifer Macedonia, Associate Deputy Assistant Administrator for Implementation, Office of Air and Radiation
- Megan Brachtl, Associate Director, Air Quality Policy Division, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, Office of Air and Radiation
- Pat Childers, Tribal Program Manager, Office of Air and Radiation

Register Now:

<https://nau.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlvcOugrz8qE9dVkv2vwBF5aj4FlOoCK9a7>

EPA's State and Local Climate and Energy Program will use this newsletter to share updates and opportunities as they become available and to let you know how the EPA's IRA programs can help your jurisdiction.

Our [monthly funding newsletter](#) will also continue to provide information on climate and clean energy grant and technical assistance opportunities and deadlines for state, local, and Tribal governments. You can also visit the [White House's website about clean energy and climate action in the IRA](#). Use it to learn how you can save on utility bills, get support to purchase electric vehicles, energy-efficient appliances, and more. Share the news: Tax Credits for Energy-Efficient Home Upgrades have been Extended!

Under the IRA, federal tax credits for energy-efficient home upgrades have been extended. This means that if you made any qualifying home improvements to your primary residence after **December 31, 2021**, you may be eligible to claim credit on your federal taxes when you file for 2022. Qualifying upgrades include ENERGY STAR-certified products, as well as improvements to your home's envelope or exterior – such as windows, doors, and insulation. To learn more, read through ENERGY STAR's [property tax credit guidance](#).

[Renewable Energy tax credits](#) have also been extended and will be available through the end of 2023. These include incentives for Geothermal Heat Pumps, Residential Wind Turbines, Solar Energy Systems, and Fuel Cells.

What's New for Federal Tax Credits in 2023? There will be new efficiency tax credits in place starting January 1, 2023, lasting 10 years - through 2032. The tax credit amount is generally limited to 30% of the project cost. The previous lifetime cap of \$500 has been changed to an annual cap of \$1,200 to \$2,000 depending on the efficiency improvements you make. This means you will be able to claim credit for more projects, especially if they are spread out over multiple years.

For more information and to stay up to date on available tax credits, make sure to bookmark ENERGY STAR's page on [Federal Tax Credits](#) so you can maximize savings on your home energy efficiency projects.

Toxics/Mobile Sources

U.S. Department of Energy: Electric Vehicles with Final Assembly in North America

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 ([Public Law 117-169](#)) amended the Qualified Plug-in Electric Drive Motor Vehicle Credit ([IRC 30D](#)), now known as the Clean Vehicle Credit, and added a new requirement for final assembly in North America that took effect on August 17, 2022. For more details on the credit, see [Electric Vehicle \(EV\) and Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle \(FCEV\) Tax Credit](#). Also see the full list of [alternative fuel vehicle incentives](#) amended or created by the Inflation Reduction Act. [Click Here](#) for more information.

Indoor Air Quality

Resource for Healthy Indoor Air Quality:

Check out the website <https://forhealth.org/> for many resources related to healthy homes and 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](#).

Environmental Justice

REMINDER! The 2023 EJ Government-to-Government Program (EJG2G) Request for Applications is NOW OPEN!

EPA is soliciting applications for projects that transform overburdened and underserved communities into healthy, thriving communities capable of addressing the environmental and public health challenges they have historically faced, as well as current and future challenges. Applications must show successful partnerships with community-based nonprofit organizations (CBOs) and other stakeholders (e.g., local businesses and industry, medical service providers, academia, etc.) to develop solutions that will significantly address disproportionate environmental and public health harms related to pollution and climate change at the state and local level.

The EJG2G Program anticipates awarding approximately \$70,000,000 of funding through 70 cooperative agreements nationwide, organized in four tracks of funding as follows:

- \$20,000,000 annual appropriations for States partnering with CBOs proposing projects for up to \$1 million each. Approximately 20 awards for up to 1 million each are anticipated under this track.
- \$20,000,000 of Inflation Reduction Act appropriations for tribal governments partnering with CBOs proposing projects for up to \$1 million each. Approximately 20 awards for up to 1 million each are anticipated under this track.
- \$20,000,000 of Inflation Reduction Act appropriations for local governments partnering with CBOs proposing projects for up to \$1 million each. Approximately 20 awards for up to 1 million each are anticipated under this track.
- \$10,000,000 annual appropriations for U.S. Territories, Freely Associated States, Puerto Rico, and tribes in remote areas proposing projects for up to \$1 million each. Approximately 10 awards for up to 1 million each are anticipated under this track.

Cooperative agreements will be funded for a three-year performance period.

Note on Inflation Reduction Act Appropriations: EPA cannot extend the performance periods for EJG2G assistance agreements utilizing Inflation Reduction Act fundings beyond three years. Consistent with section 138(b)(2) of the Clean Air Act, applications submitted in response to this funding opportunity that will receive must address one of the following five broad categories:

- community-led air and other pollution monitoring, prevention, and remediation, and investments in low- and zero-emission and resilient technologies and related infrastructure and workforce development that help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants;
- mitigating climate and health risks from urban heat islands, extreme heat, wood heater emissions, and wildfire events; climate resiliency and adaptation;
- reducing indoor toxics and indoor air pollution; or
- facilitating engagement of marginalized communities in Local, State and Federal public processes, such as advisory groups, workshops, and rulemakings.

To apply for this opportunity, view the RFA on Grants.gov. **Applications packages must be submitted on or before April 10, 2023, at 11:59 PM (Eastern Time). Applicants should plan for projects to begin on October 1, 2023.** For more information, please visit:

<https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-government-government-program>

Newsletters, Calendars, and Recorded Webinars

Webinars that may be of interest:

Reducing Embodied Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Construction Materials Prioritization and Environmental Data Improvement

March 2, 2023 2–3:30 p.m. EST

This webinar will ask for feedback on how to prioritize construction materials and products and how to improve data on embodied greenhouse gas emissions through measurement, standardization, transparency and reporting criteria.

[Register for the March 2, 2023 webinar.](#)

Reducing Embodied Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Grants and Technical Assistance for Environmental Product Declarations

March 22, 2023 2–3:30 p.m. EST

This webinar will ask for feedback on new grant and technical assistance programs to help business calculate and report the greenhouse gas emissions data for construction materials and products through Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs).

Registration to come.

Reducing Embodied Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Carbon Labeling

April 19, 2023 2–3:30 p.m. EST

This webinar will ask for feedback on how the EPA should develop a new carbon labeling program for construction materials and products and products with substantially lower embodied greenhouse gas emissions.

Registration to come.

Join NCAI's [Climate Action email listserv](#) here!

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

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

ITEP's [Tribal Air Quality Media Space Channel](#). Recent webinars include an Introduction to Air Quality Programs, Emissions Inventories, Remote Professional Assistance, and Woodstoves in Indian Country. Older classics include a series on Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke, Tribal Air Program and Grants, Data Management, and the Clean Air Act.

ITEP's [Tribes and Climate Change Calendar](#) includes conferences, trainings, webinars, and other events related to Tribes and climate change.

ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program newsletter, [Native Voices](#)

EPA Tools and Resources Webinar Series

Click [here](#) to see all past and upcoming webinars hosted by the EPA.

Information for IRA and other competitive grants

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8DsRrod7XKk>

EPA Rules from the Federal Register can be found here:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/agencies/environmental-protection-agency>

EPA's Community and Tribal Programs Group - [Tribal Actions and Events calendar](#)

This calendar is also linked under the "Tribal Air and Climate Resources" webpage under the "Policy and Planning" heading available at <https://www.epa.gov/tribal-air>. The purpose of the calendar is to ensure that our Tribal partners are kept apprised of EPA activities that are relevant to them. If you have any questions about the calendars or any recommendations on how EPA can improve upon the calendars, please do not hesitate to reach out to Amanda Kaufman (Kaufman.Amanda@epa.gov) with any feedback.

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

Recorded Webinars

Looking for more information check out the [Tribal Air Quality Media Space Channel](#). Recent webinars include an Introduction to Air Quality Programs, Emissions Inventories, Remote Professional Assistance, and Woodstoves in Indian Country. Older classics include a series on Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke, Tribal Air Program and Grants, Data Management, and the Clean Air Act.

OLDER UPDATES!

Updated Version of EPA's Air Sensor Guidebook Released!

Recognizing the ever-increasing availability of air sensors, expanding user base, and growing scientific knowledge, the U.S. EPA updated the popular Air Sensor Guidebook, originally published in 2014. The refreshed version, called “*The Enhanced Air Sensor Guidebook*”, includes updated content and new topics that incorporate best practices, current knowledge, and recommendations to guide the use of air sensors.

The Enhanced Guidebook supports users in planning and collecting air quality measurements using air sensors. The Guidebook can help sensor users:

- Learn the basics of air quality, air pollution monitoring, and air sensors
- Plan and conduct an air quality monitoring study
- Select, setup, and use air sensors
- Analyze, interpret, communicate, and act on results
- Understand the basics of air sensor performance

[Find out more and access the Enhanced Air Sensor Guidebook.](#)

[Visit EPA's Air Sensor Toolbox.](#)

[Find out more about EPA's Air Research.](#)

Air Knowledge E-Learning Content

The Air Knowledge training team is pleased to announce the availability of new air quality training materials!

These e-learning courses and modules are at the foundational learning level and are available to Tribal, state, and local air agencies through our learning management system (LMS) and to the public [here](#). The website was recently enhanced to provide additional self-instructional and instructor-led training materials.

The new materials include:

- A course that explains key historic events that led to air pollution control legislation and describes progress made with air pollution control since the passage of the Clean Air Act,
- A course that explains the basic components of state and Tribal implementation plans,
- A module that generally defines the transport and fate of air pollutants and how transport and fate are influenced by meteorology and topography,
- A module that explains the basic aspects of an air emissions inventory, and
- A module that explains the purposes and types of air emissions inventories, including the inventories that the EPA develops.

To access the courses and modules on the LMS (<https://epaapti.csod.com>), Tribal air agencies and organizations can register, log in, and refer to the “What’s New” section on the home page. All other users (the public, international community, academia, industry, EPA staff, etc.) can access the courses and modules on the Air Knowledge interim [website](#).

Follow up on the second session of the Million Hearts Climate Change and Cardiovascular Disease Collaborative, Interventions to Address Particle Pollution and Heart Disease. You can access a recording of the session [here](#) (passcode: W\$Bb8t*!)

Helpful links/resources from the chat

- Look at differences in air quality across cities using AirCompare - <https://www3.epa.gov/aircompare/#home>
- Learn more about air quality trends at <https://www.epa.gov/air-trends>
- Learn more about indoor air quality and steps that can be taken in home, schools, and other buildings at: <https://www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq>

- More information on using air cleaners in homes is available at:
<https://www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq/air-cleaners-and-air-filters-home>

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