



# NTAA Weekly Update

*Week of June 24 – June 28, 2024*

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

# NTAA NEWS!



## 2024 ITEP OFFICE HOURS

### TAMS OFFICE HOURS

Second Tuesday  
11:00AM Pacific

- July 9
- September 10
- November 10

### TAMS STEERING COMMITTEE AIR MONITORING WORKGROUP

11:00 AM  
Pacific

- August 13
- October 8
- December 10

### INDOOR AIR QUALITY OFFICE HOURS

Third Thursday  
11:00 AM Pacific

- July 18
- August 15
- September 19
- October 17
- November 21
- December 19

### GRANTS OFFICE HOURS

First Wednesday  
10AM Pacific

- July 3
- August 7
- September 4
- October 2
- November 6
- December 4

### OUTREACH & EDUCATION OFFICE HOURS

Third Thursday  
12:00 PM Pacific

- July 18
- August 15
- September 19
- October 17
- November 21
- December 19



ZOOM MEETING ID: 659-096-3943  
PASSWORD: AIAQTP

Join ITEP staff for various Office Hours to ask questions and learn more about pertinent air quality and monitoring issues using this [Zoom Link](#).



## AIAQTP IN PERSON COURSE SCHEDULE

**July 2024 - June 2025**

**INTRODUCTION TO AIR QUALITY**

JULY 30-AUGUST 1, 2024, FLAGSTAFF, AZ

**MANAGEMENT OF TRIBAL AIR PROGRAMS & GRANTS**

AUGUST 20-22, 2024, QUAPAW, OK

**INDOOR AIR QUALITY IN TRIBAL COMMUNITIES**

SEPTEMBER 17-19, 2024, ALBUQUERQUE, NM

**FUNDAMENTALS OF AIR MONITORING**

OCTOBER 15-17, 2024, TAMS CENTER, LAS VEGAS, NV

**AIR QUALITY IN ALASKA NATIVE COMMUNITIES**

NOVEMBER 5-7, 2024, FAIRBANKS, AK

**PM 2.5 AIR MONITORING**

DECEMBER 10-12, 2024, TAMS CENTER, LAS VEGAS, NV

**AIR QUALITY OUTREACH & EDUCATION IN TRIBAL COMMUNITIES**

JANUARY 14-16, 2025, TAMS CENTER, LAS VEGAS, NV

**AIR POLLUTION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

FEBRUARY 25-27, 2025, PHOENIX? -TBD

**PROJECT PLANNING, QAPPS, & GRANTS FOR ALASKA**

MARCH 18-20, 2025, ANCHORAGE, AK

**AIR QUALITY DATA MANAGEMENT**

APRIL 15-17, 2025, TAMS CENTER, LAS VEGAS, NV

**AIAQTP OFFICE HOURS TOPICS**

GRANTS, AMBIENT AIR MONITORING, EMISSION INVENTORIES,  
OUTREACH & EDUCATION, INDOOR AIR QUALITY

**[AIAQTP PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PAGE](#)**



## FIREWOOD BANK ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

GRANTS OF UP TO \$15,000 AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT PROGRAMS  
DELIVING WOOD TO ELDERS OR TO HOMES EXPERIENCING  
HEATING EMERGENCIES

[firewoodbanks.org](https://firewoodbanks.org) for more information



Grants of up to \$15,000 for firewood banks or programs to assist elders with firewood are available! Our funding can be used to buy equipment or anything else that is needed to run - or to start a - firewood bank. The term "firewood bank" includes any and all efforts to process and deliver free or extremely low-cost wood to households who can't afford to buy it. More details at [www.firewoodbanks.org](https://www.firewoodbanks.org).



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

EPA's Office of Research and Development is 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.

For more information and access to the loan request webform, please visit [EPA WSMART](https://www.epa.gov/epaosr/air/monitoring/monitoring-equipment/monitoring-equipment). For technical questions, please contact [smoketech@epa.gov](mailto:smoketech@epa.gov).

## TRIBAL HOME ENERGY REBATES

Up to \$225M for Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates -- provides up to \$14,000 per household for energy efficiency and electrification home upgrades.

**Qualified Projects Include:**

- **HVAC:** Electric heat pumps for water heating and space heating or cooling
- **Cooking:** Electric stoves, cooktops, ovens
- **Laundry:** Heat pump clothes dryer
- **Building Materials:** Electric Load Service Center, Insulation, Air Sealing, and Ventilation

**Deadline: May 31, 2025**

**SCEP**

Learn more here!

## Interested in learning more about the EJ TCTAC program? Join our webinar!

**WEST ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CENTER**  
AZ, CA, HI, NV & USAPI

**TCTAC**  
THRIVING COMMUNITIES  
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER  
Powered by ICMA

**CEEJ**

### Local Impact: Leveraging TCTACs for Thriving Communities

Thursday, June 27th  
2:00-3:30pm PT  
via Zoom

[Click here to register](#)





# NTICC 2024 CONFERENCE TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP

**Anchorage, Alaska  
September 9-12, 2024**

The conference is able to offer a limited number of scholarships to attend the NTICC in-person. This scholarship will prioritize Tribal and Indigenous attendees and presenters from federally recognized Tribes in the U.S.

- If awarded a scholarship, you will still need to pay the registration fee of \$250. [REGISTER HERE](#)
- If you are selected for a scholarship, ITEP will prepay for up to five nights of lodging at the downtown Hilton Anchorage.

**Application Deadline:  
Monday, July 8, 2024**

*Awardee announcement via individual email:  
By or before Monday, July 15th*

*\*National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference (NTICC)*



**For registration & further information**



 email: [nticc@nau.edu](mailto:nticc@nau.edu)

We are excited to announce a travel scholarship opportunity for Indigenous students and leaders from federally recognized U.S. tribes to attend the National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference in Anchorage, Alaska, from September 9-12, 2024! If awarded, you will still need to pay the [registration](#) fee. Fill out: [Scholarship form](#)

**Deadline:** Monday, July 8, 2024

**Eligibility:** Must be a member of a federally recognized U.S. tribe interested in climate action and Indigenous resilience

**Benefits:** ITEP will prepay 5-nights of lodging Offered up to \$1,500 reimbursement for other travel expenses Networking with leaders and experts in climate action #NTICC2024 #Scholarship #IndigenousClimateAction #ClimateChange

## ***Top Stories***

NADP - [Widespread impacts to precipitation of the East Palestine Ohio train accident](#)

Clean Technica – [U.S. EPA, DOE Announce \\$850 Million to Reduce Methane Pollution from the Oil & Gas Sector](#)

CBS News - [Extreme wildfire risk has doubled in the past 20 years, new study shows, as climate change accelerates](#)

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

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

USA Today - [Bad air quality, spurred by wildfire smoke, blankets US: See maps](#)

The Hill - [US acknowledges harm to tribes from Pacific Northwest dams](#)

Alaska's News Source - [Illinois may soon give land to make up for what the US stole from a Prairie Band Potawatomi chief](#)

USA Today - [California returns land to Shasta tribe as Klamath River returns](#)

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

ABC News 15 - [EPA testing hundreds of properties in Yavapai County town for hazardous metals](#)

E&E News - [Supreme Court could curb NEPA reviews next term](#)

Clean Technica – [Are Drivers Giving Up On EVs & Returning To Fossil Fuels?](#)

## ***Indoor Air Quality/Environmental Justice***

\*Any items endorsed in articles are not the recommendation of the NTAA.

Environmental Health News - [Portable air filters in daycares can reduce indoor pollution by 83%: Study](#)

Public Health Insider - [LEARN HOW TO IMPROVE INDOOR AIR QUALITY WITH NEW TRAINING VIDEO](#)

The Hill - [Restoring Great Salt Lake could have ecological and environmental justice benefits: Study](#)

Bloomberg - [Summer's Hottest Accessory? A HEPA Filter to Clean Indoor Air](#)

# UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES/NOTICES!

## NTAA Upcoming Calls

Contact [Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu](mailto:Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu) if you have any questions about any calls. A Zoom link will be sent with calendar invites for future NTAA work group calls.

<b>Wildfire Smoke Workgroup:</b> Email <a href="mailto:Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu">Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu</a> for a calendar link or to join the listserv. The Wildfire Smoke Workgroup aims to provide resources to Tribes to help prepare before and during wildfire smoke events.	July 11, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
<b>Woodsmoke Work Group:</b> This work group meets Bi-Monthly and includes Tribal and EPA professionals with an interest in woodsmoke issues in Tribal communities. Contact <a href="mailto:Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu">Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu</a> to join the call!	TBD, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
<b>Clean Transportation Bimonthly Roundtable Calls:</b> The Tribal Clean Transportation Program (TCTP) is the go-to source of all information related to Clean Transportation. Roundtable calls will be held bi-monthly on the first Wednesday of the month. For more information, email <a href="mailto:TCTP@nau.edu">TCTP@nau.edu</a>	August 7, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
<b>Alaska Air Work Group:</b> Join this work group to hear updates from EPA and Alaskans working on air quality. Contact <a href="mailto:Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu">Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu</a> to join the call!	July 31, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
<b>NTAA / EPA Air Policy Update Call:</b> 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 held on the last Thursday of every month unless it falls on a holiday. Contact <a href="mailto:Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu">Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu</a> to join the call!	Thursday, June 27, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
<b>Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Office Hours:</b> The IAQ WG is teaming up with ITEP's IAQ Office hours with Mansel Nelson. Please join us for ITEP's next IAQ office hours, we would love to have you there!	July 25, 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): [AIAQTP Schedule and Zoom Link](#)

**ITEP Grants Office Hours:** July 3, from 9-10 AM Alaska, 10-11 AM Pacific, 11-12 PM Mountain, 12-1 PM Central, 1-2 PM Eastern. Bring your grant questions and concerns. [Join Zoom Meeting](#): Meeting ID: 659 096 3943 Password: AIAQTP

**TAMS Air Monitoring Workgroup Meeting:** July 9, 11:00 AM Pacific Time

This Workgroup is an opportunity for Tribes to discuss concerns and issues regarding air monitoring programs and projects together and to learn about available equipment for loan and more. [Join Zoom Meeting](#): Meeting ID: 659 096 3943 Password: AIAQTP

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

### **NEW! Technical Webinar on the Final Amendments Impacting 2024 Reporting for Subpart W**

EPA will be holding a webinar to provide more detailed technical information about the final amendments that are effective for the 2024 reporting year followed by a Q&A session on **Tuesday, July 2, 2024, 1:00-2:30 PM EDT**. Please submit your questions in advance of the webinar through the webinar registration form. This will provide more detailed information for reporters in addition to the overview previously provided in webinars on May 21 and 30. Information from these webinars is available on the [GHGRP website](#).

[Register for the Technical Webinar here.](#)

[Learn more about the details in the Final Rule and read the full press release.](#)

### **NEW!**

#### **EPA Grants Training for EPA Pass-Through Grant Applicants, Recipients, and Subrecipients**

The EPA Grants Training for EPA Pass-Through Grant Applicants, Recipients, and Subrecipients Webinar will be held on **Thursday, June 27, from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm ET**. This training is intended for EPA grant applicants and recipients that plan to use EPA funding to provide grants to other entities through “subawards.” This type of EPA grant recipient is considered a pass-through entity because the goal of the grant is to further award EPA funds. This training will focus on:

- Oversight responsibilities of EPA pass-through entities
- Federal regulations that govern pass-through entities and the recipients of subawards (subrecipients)
- EPA’s specific requirements for subrecipients

Participants will be able to ask questions of EPA presenters during the webinar. Advance registration is required. [Click here to register](#). If you have already registered, you should have received a confirmation email with the link to the webinar.

Presentation materials and a list of helpful links will be available on EPA’s website before the webinar: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/training-epa-pass-through-grant-applicants-recipients-and-subrecipients-june-27-2024>. After the webinar, a recording will be posted to the same webpage.

**NEW! EPA is seeking nominations from representatives of nonfederal interests to serve on the Mobile Sources Technical Review Subcommittee (MSTRS). Interests include, but are not limited to:**

- Future and emerging transportation technology and options, including shared mobility interests
- Community and/or environmental and/or mobility justice interests



- State, tribal, and local government interests
- Mobile source emission modeling interests
- Transportation and supply chain shippers
- Marine and inland port interests
- Environmental advocacy groups
- Mobile source consumer advocacy groups

EPA values and welcomes opportunities to increase diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility on its Federal Advisory Committees. In an effort to obtain nominations of diverse candidates, EPA encourages nominations of people from all racial and ethnic groups. MSTRS members are appointed by the EPA Administrator for three-year terms with the possibility of reappointment to a second term. Through its expert members from diverse stakeholder groups and from its various workgroups, the subcommittee reviews and addresses a wide range of developments, issues, and research areas such as emissions modeling, emission standards and standard setting, air toxics, innovative and incentive-based transportation policies, heavy-duty engines, diesel retrofit, and fuel quality.

The MSTRS, a federal advisory committee chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, provides the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee with independent advice, counsel, and recommendations on the scientific and technical aspects of programs related to mobile source air pollution and its control. The subcommittee's website is at <https://www.epa.gov/caaac/mobile-sources-technical-review-subcommittee-mstrs-caaac>.

For more information on how to submit a nomination, please see the [Federal Register Notice](#) announcing the request for nominations. Nominations must be received by **July 31, 2024**. If you have any questions, please contact: Sarah Roberts, Alternate Designated Federal Officer; email: [roberts.sarah@epa.gov](mailto:roberts.sarah@epa.gov).

### **NEW! Last Chance to Register!**

**The Federal Interagency Committee on Indoor Air Quality will hold its next public webinar on **Wednesday, June 26, from 1 - 4:30 p.m. EDT.****

At the meeting, CIAQ member agencies will provide updates on their indoor environmental quality-related activities. Following member updates, Dr. Brett Singer and Dr. Jiayu Li will share a presentation titled “Air Pollutant Exposure Concentrations from Cooking a Meal with a Gas or Induction Cooktop and the Effectiveness of Two Recirculating Range Hoods with Filters.” [View the agenda.](#)

[Register Here](#)

Congress established the CIAQ in 1983 to coordinate federal indoor air quality research while facilitating information exchange and collaboration among federal agencies, state and local governments, the research community, the private sector, and the general public.

[Learn more about the CIAQ and its activities.](#)

If you have questions, a presentation topic, or other suggestions you would like considered for future meetings, please send them to [burton.laureen@epa.gov](mailto:burton.laureen@epa.gov)

### **NEW! EPA, DOE Announce \$850 Million to Reduce Methane Pollution from the Oil and Gas Sector**

On Friday, June 21, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy [announced](#) that applications are open for \$850 million in federal funding for projects that will help monitor, measure, quantify and reduce methane emissions from the oil and gas sectors. In particular, one area of interest (1c) focuses on mitigating methane emissions from wells and oil and gas infrastructure on tribal lands.

Read more details of this [funding opportunity](#). For any questions on the application, applicants must submit written questions through the FedConnect portal at FedConnect.net. For assistance with any technical issues with grants.gov, please contact 1-800-518-4726 or [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov). More information, including applicant eligibility, can be found on the [government grants page](#).

## **NEW! Trainings and Office Hours on EJSCREEN 2.3, EPA's Environmental Justice Mapping Tool**

This summer, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will update [EJScreen](#), the Agency's publicly available environmental justice (EJ) screening and mapping tool. The updated version, EJScreen 2.3, makes important improvements to better meet the needs of users, including new environmental indicators and map layers, interface improvements, and updated demographic and environmental data. This new version of EJScreen will make interface changes aimed at helping users better understand the data and modernizing aspects of the tool. The main purpose of these annual EJScreen updates is to incorporate the newest available demographic and environmental datasets.

Once released, the EPA's Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights will hold multiple trainings and office hours to help users with the update. Trainings are structured webinars on EJScreen 2.3. Office hours are a chance for the public to talk with EPA EJScreen experts about many topics including how to use and apply the tool, technical issues, and any other questions. Registration is not required for trainings or office hours. More information can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen/ejscreen-office-hours-training>.

### **Training and Office Hours Information:**

**Training Date and Time:** July 10<sup>th</sup> at 12pm EST – [Click here to join](#)

**Training Date and Time:** July 24<sup>th</sup> at 12pm EST – [Click here to join](#)

The trainings will feature the same content and will be accessible via Zoom. The trainings will provide an:

1. Overview Presentation on EJScreen 2.3
2. Discussion of the New Features
3. Live Demonstration
4. Q&A session

**Office Hours Date and Time:** August 21 at 12pm EST – [Click here to join](#)

We hope that you will test the new features of EJScreen 2.3 to see how it can serve your needs and [provide us feedback](#) on how we can continue to improve this tool. For more information on EJScreen, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>.

## **REMINDER! Protecting Building Occupants from Smoke During Wildfire and Prescribed Burn Events: Available for Public Review Through July 29**

[ASHRAE Guideline 44 - Protecting Building Occupants from Smoke During Wildfire and Prescribed Burn Events](#) is now available for a second public review. This public review draft makes proposed independent substantive changes to the previous public review draft. Only these changes are open for review and comment at this time. Changes to the previous draft can be seen in underline and strikeout. [Comment Here](#).

Guideline 44 recommends building measures and occupant behaviors to minimize occupant health impacts from wildfire and prescribed fire smoke events. It applies to commercial buildings, institutional buildings (including schools), multiunit residential buildings, and dedicated spaces within these buildings.

ASHRAE invites constructive comments. All activity for reviewing and commenting on public review drafts can be accomplished online.

**REMINDER! Tribal Leader Consultation on Budget Guidance per Executive Order 14112**

The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, the White House Domestic Policy Council, the White House Office of Management and Budget, and the White House Council on Native American Affairs invites Tribal Leaders to a virtual consultation with Biden-Harris Administration leadership on Monday, July 8, 2024, to discuss Section 4(a) of [Executive Order 14112](#) on *Reforming Federal Funding and Support for Tribal Nations to Better Embrace Our Trust Responsibilities and Promote the Next Era of Tribal Self-Determination*.

Date: **Monday, July 8, 2024**

Time: 3:30pm - 5:30pm ET

Location: Virtual

Registration Link: [here](#)

During this consultation, Biden-Harris Administration leadership will seek Tribal leader feedback on important considerations to include as part of the guidance to federal agencies on how to assess funding needs for Tribal Nations. Tribal leaders are invited to ask questions, provide

comments and recommendations. Please provide written comments and recommendations by Friday, August 9, 2024. Please submit written comments via email at [whcnaa@bia.gov](mailto:whcnaa@bia.gov).

**REMINDER! Reforestation Opportunity**

The [National Indian Carbon Coalition](#) has received funding to support tribes who want to reforest for carbon sequestration and climate resilience. The work is supported by a US Forest Service grant aimed at helping forest landowners to access private funding for climate resilience. Using this funding, NICC and American Forests intend to remove the barriers keeping tribal communities from implementing forest projects while increasing access to carbon project opportunities. Learn about the NICC and how they support this type of [project development](#).

**REMINDER! EPA is announcing the availability of two resources:**

- EPA has updated the [Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator \(MOVES\)](#) greenhouse gas (GHG) guidance: [MOVES Greenhouse Gas Guidance: Using MOVES for Estimating State and Local Inventories of Onroad Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy Consumption](#). This guidance covers how to estimate GHG emissions and/or energy consumption from onroad and nonroad vehicles and equipment in any geographic area.
- EPA has also updated our comprehensive [MOVES4 Hands-on Training](#) to include a new module on modeling climate pollutants and energy analysis that reflects the updated GHG guidance.

The transportation sector is the largest source of U.S. GHG emissions, accounting for about a third of national emissions. The MOVES GHG Guidance covers how to use MOVES to estimate GHG emissions to create GHG inventories, which will help state, metropolitan, and tribal air quality planners understand their circumstances and make choices about GHG reduction strategies in the transportation sector. The guidance describes how to create GHG inventories for



both baseline and future years and can be used for state, tribal, or local GHG planning, including EPA grant programs.

This guidance reflects the latest model update, MOVES4.0.1, that provides additional options for GHG modeling for state, tribal, and local agencies. With MOVES4.0.1, EPA introduced the ability for modelers to incorporate local vehicle miles traveled and vehicle population data into the Default Scale. This additional method for conducting GHG analyses is covered in both the guidance and in the updated training. In addition, the June 2024 MOVES GHG Guidance also incorporates the following:

- An updated description of electric and fuel-cell vehicle modeling capabilities in MOVES
- An updated comparison of the Default and County Scales for onroad GHG modeling, and guidance for both scales on incorporating local data to estimate onroad GHG emissions
- A section about using MOVES to create nonroad GHG emissions inventories
- Updated cross-references to the MOVES training

EPA's [State and Local Transportation Resources web page](#) is the primary source for mobile source GHG information, including guidance for estimating emission benefits of transportation strategies. See the [MOVES web page](#) for information on the MOVES software as well as other technical reports that document the data and algorithms used in MOVES, and tools for use with MOVES. The updated MOVES training can be found on EPA's [MOVES4 Hands-On Training Course](#) web page.

### **REMINDER! Biden-Harris Administration Announces Recipients of nearly \$900 Million for Clean School Buses under President's Investing in America Agenda**

The 2023 Clean School Bus Rebate Selectees have been announced! [Click here to view the results.](#)

The EPA Clean School Bus Program has selected approximately 530 rebate applicants for funding totaling nearly \$900 million to support the purchase of over 3,400 buses, 92% of which will be electric. The EPA will distribute awards to school districts in nearly every state and Washington D.C., along with several federally recognized Tribes and U.S. territories. Prioritized school districts serving low-income, rural, and, or Tribal communities make up approximately 45% of the selected projects and will receive approximately 67% of the total funding.

Under the Program's multiple grant and rebate funding opportunities to date, the EPA has awarded almost \$3 billion to fund approximately 8,500 school bus replacements at over 1,000 schools.

#### **A Note to Those Selected:**

The EPA expects to officially notify 2023 Rebate Program selectees of selection via email within 7-10 business days; selectees must refer to that selection letter for their official award details and instructions on how to proceed.

#### **A Note to Those NOT Selected:**

Thank you so much for your interest in the 2023 Clean School Bus Rebate Program. Due to the overwhelming number of applications, the EPA unfortunately is not able to award your application.

Eligible 2023 CSB Rebate Program applications not selected during the lottery are listed in the [waitlist](#). If a selectee does not complete the remaining required steps early in the rebate process,

drops out, or is otherwise deemed ineligible, that selectee will be removed from the program. Those funds may be offered to other 2023 applicants on the waitlist. EPA will follow the selection process outlined in [Section 6 of the 2023 CSB Rebate Program Guide](#) when reallocating these funds. Applicants may be pulled from the waitlist up to 90 days after the initial selection notification in May 2024. However, EPA may opt to use returned funds for future CSB funding opportunities rather than award funds to applicants on the waitlist.

The EPA plans to administer future rounds of funding under this historic \$5 billion program. School districts not selected under the 2023 Rebate Program are encouraged to reapply to future CSB funding rounds, as well as to other funding programs. For instance, the [2024 Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant Program](#) **is accepting applications until 11:59 PM ET on July 25, 2024**; EPA is offering up to \$932 million in available grant funding and anticipates approximately 70% to fund new, zero-emission Class 6 or 7 school buses. Please continue to check the CSB Program website for more information and maintain an active [SAM.gov](#) account to ensure you are prepared to take advantage of future funding opportunities.

For the latest information on Clean School Bus Program funding opportunities, news, and resources, please visit: [www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus](http://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus) and [click here to sign-up for the Clean School Bus listserv](#)

**REMINDER!** Since we launched the EJ TCTAC website, [www.ejtctac.org](http://www.ejtctac.org), we have seen nearly 7,000 page views to the resources that we have available, from the grants database to the direct lines of contact to regional TCTACs for technical assistance.

Representatives from the national TCTACs are also excited to connect with regional TCTACs and partners at the [U.S. EPA Regional Roadshows](#) across the country, to spread the word about the TCTAC program and learn more about how we can support grassroots groups.

**REMINDER!** Following up on the Air Monitoring Asset Reporting Template (AMRT), as well as the "[Implementing an Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Asset Management Framework](#)" Memo, we are pleased to announce that the template upload tool is **now available**. Air agencies can now submit their template as an email attachment to [AMRT@epa.gov](mailto:AMRT@epa.gov) to complete their asset management report submission process. Please see attached for the template for asset management reporting, as well as a 10 minute tutorial (as a PowerPoint voiceover) for how to use the tool, along with tips and tricks for upload success.

**Air agencies can download and fill out the template now, as well as send an email to [AMRT@epa.gov](mailto:AMRT@epa.gov) with their file attached.** Please distribute this information to your air agencies.

Before agencies enter assets, please read the "ReadMe" tab thoroughly. This tab has instructions for how to fill out the template. The "Assets Data Entry Fields" more thoroughly details the field descriptions and validation rules. The "Asset Data Entry Template" tab can then be filled out with each air agency's assets.

We are asking SLTs and Region offices to work together to meet the July 1 deadline. While concurrent with the AMP submission day, this asset management report is *not* part of the AMP. It is in the best interest of each air agency to submit an accurate and comprehensive annual asset management report that is representative of their network. EPA anticipates reviewing the asset management framework as needed to improve the processes, maximize usefulness, or add requirements after the first year of implementation.

We appreciate the feedback your air agencies provided throughout the entire development process. We received feedback during the NAAMC, other discussions, the Fall 2023 pilot test, and by the AMRT beta testers. We used the information in the feedback to streamline and produce the final template format and fields, including utilizing outputs from the most commonly used data acquisition/management systems.

With questions, please contact Regi Oommen at ERG ([Regi.Oommen@erg.com](mailto:Regi.Oommen@erg.com)) or Berkley Hillis in OAQPS ([Hillis.Berkley@epa.gov](mailto:Hillis.Berkley@epa.gov)).

### **REMINDER! State and Tribal Indoor Radon Grants (SIRG)**

EPA's Indoor Environments Division (IED) receives funding for the state and tribal radon grants program annually. For FY2024, the State and Tribal Indoor Radon Grants Program will be funded at \$9.13M

The radon grant funding to states and tribes is essential to supporting many state and tribal radon programs in their risk reduction work. IED issued guidance encouraging Regional Offices to direct additional funding to new tribal grantees as well as encouraging state grantees to assist underserved and low-income communities.

EPA recently revised the SIRG allocation approach to include updated risk and population trends. As part of this revision, Regions, for the first time, will establish tribal set-aside funding targets for each Region. This approach is intended to help each Region further prioritize meeting Tribal SIRG funding needs within their Region. Our Headquarters radon program will be working with EPA Regional offices to set and manage their regional set-asides.

EPA Regions work with states and tribes annually to develop program budgets and workplans. They lead the important work of communicating with their tribal communities about the availability of funds, how to apply, conditions, limitations, as well as how to properly use radon funds.

The IED Radon Program continues to promote Tribal radon grants. In FY 23, there 16 radon grants to tribes, including 7 new tribal awards, totaling approximately \$560,000 to at least 16 tribes.

Tribes that are interested in radon grant funding or learning more about the program are encouraged to work with their [regional radon program contact](#) to talk about the application process.

To learn more about State and Tribal Indoor Radon Grants, please visit:

- [Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Communities](#)
- [State Indoor Radon Grants \(SIRG\) Program and Resources.](#)
- [Kansas State University National Radon Program Services](#)

### **REMINDER! Recording and Meeting Materials Now Available!**

#### **Federal Interagency Committee on Indoor Air Quality**

March 20, 2024, Meeting

The meeting materials from the March 20, 2024 Federal Interagency Committee on Indoor Air Quality are now available on the [CIAQ website](#).

At the meeting, CIAQ member agencies provided updates on relevant activities. Our featured speakers, Dr. Elliott Gall shared a presentation titled "After the Smoke Clears: Exploring the Impact of Wildfire Smoke on Indoor Surfaces."

[View Presentation Recording](#)



**REMINDER! Desk statement on Nonregulatory Public Docket: Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Existing Gas Turbines at Power Plants**

As part of EPA's strategy to pursue a suite of rulemakings to address greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, air toxics, and emissions of nitrogen oxides from the power sector, on February 29 Administrator Michael Regan announced a new, comprehensive approach to reduce GHG emissions from the entire fleet of natural gas-fired turbines, as well as to set protective standards for toxic and criteria air pollution.

On March 26, 2024, EPA opened a non-regulatory docket and issued framing questions to gather input about ways we can design a stronger, more durable approach to greenhouse gas regulation of the entire fleet of existing gas combustion turbines in the power sector under Clean Air Act Section 111(d). EPA is committed to expeditiously proposing this and the other elements of a comprehensive approach to regulation of climate, toxic and air pollution from combustion turbines. Engagement over the next several months will be essential to shaping new proposals that protect communities, public health, and the environment. EPA is pursuing a robust stakeholder engagement process, consulting with energy workers, communities with environmental justice concerns, environmental justice leaders, industry, grid operators, and all interested parties to help develop these proposals. The non-regulatory docket will be open for public comment for 60 days – through May 28, 2024. Details are available at [Nonregulatory Public Docket: Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Existing Gas Turbines at Power Plants](#)

EPA plans to re-propose emission guidelines for existing electric generating unit (EGU) combustion turbines to address GHG emissions more comprehensively from this subcategory, achieving greater emission reductions and addressing the broad range of concerns stakeholders have raised. EPA welcomes input from states and all stakeholders that may inform the Agency's approach and assist in the development of this proposed rule. EPA also plans to hold a policy forum at EPA headquarters in Washington, D.C., on May 17<sup>th</sup> to bring stakeholders together to share ideas with EPA and each other on these issues. More details about the policy forum, and registration information, will be available in mid-April.

**REMINDER! Join the TCTAC Network News [HERE!](#)**

With this monthly internal newsletter, we will send you updates on our projects, share spotlights of the great work being done across the country, reminders for program events, and whatever else you may need.

**REMINDER! The EPA OAQPS AirKnowledge team is pleased to announce the availability of new AirKnowledge air quality training materials!**

The new materials include:

- A self-instructional course that describes the components of an exceptional events demonstration,
- A self-instructional module that identifies resources and tools that aid in protecting human health from wildland fire smoke, and
- A self-instructional module that explains the key aspects of the historical background of the Clean Air Act permitting programs.

More detailed information about the contents of these new materials can be found in the attached document.

We are also announcing the retirement of certain legacy course materials. These include the classroom course titled MACT Background Information (NACT 290), and e-learning modules titled Emissions Inventories, Fabric Filtration, and Overview of Air Pollution.

The new e-learning course and modules are available to tribal, state, and local air agencies through the AirKnowledge Learning Management System (LMS) at <https://epaapti.csod.com/client/epaapti/default.aspx>. To access the course and modules on the LMS, tribal, state and local air agencies and tribal and multijurisdictional organizations can register, log in, and refer to the “What’s New” section on the home page. The materials are available to all other users on the AirKnowledge website: [airknowledge.gov](https://airknowledge.gov). Questions and comments are always welcome and may be sent to [airknowledge@epa.gov](mailto:airknowledge@epa.gov).

### **REMINDER! EPA releases 2023 update to Equity Action Plan**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on February 14<sup>th</sup> released the 2023 update to its Equity Action Plan, as part of the Biden-Harris Administration’s whole-of-government equity agenda. This Equity Action Plan is part of EPA’s efforts to implement the President’s Executive Order on “[Further Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through The Federal Government](#),” which reaffirmed the Administration’s commitment to ensure equity and build an America in which all can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential.

“Equity is at the heart of all that we do at EPA. Striving for equity makes it possible for us to deliver on our mission to protect public health and provide a clean environment for all,” said **EPA Deputy Administrator Janet McCabe**. “The progress that we have made and this update to our Equity Action Plan show our continued commitment to uplifting everyone, and we are proud to be a part of this work.”

Following robust engagement with community stakeholders, EPA identified eight priority strategies, which include four previously identified priorities carried forward from the 2022 Equity Action Plan and four newly identified strategies to support communities that have been historically underserved, as well as all communities across our Nation, these eight priority strategies are:

- Improve access for Communities to Federal Assistance.
- Reduce Cumulative Impacts and Health Disparities.
- Strengthen our Civil Rights Compliance Program.
- Protect Children from Exposures to Environmental Harms.
- Address Inequitable Access to Resources for Rural Communities.
- Ensure Public Access to EPA Programs and Address Environmental Harms for People with Disabilities.
- Strengthening Community-Based Participatory Science to Achieve Environmental Equity.
- Improve Data and Analytic Capacity to Better Identify and Remove Barriers.

As the backbone of work at EPA under the Biden-Harris Administration, the focus remains on ensuring no one is left behind because of the color of their skin or the zip code where they reside.

As this work continues, updates will be posted on [EPA’s Equity Action Plan webpage](#). Learn more about the [Administration’s equity work](#) and check out all [Federal Equity Action Plans](#).

For up-to-date information about Environmental Justice funding opportunities, events, and webinars, subscribe to EPA's Environmental Justice listserv by sending a blank email to: [join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov](mailto:join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov). Follow us on Twitter: [@EPAEnvJustice](https://twitter.com/EPAEnvJustice)

**REMINDER! The National Transportation in Indian Country Conference (NTICC) invites you to apply for their [call for presentations](#).** The 2024 NTICC Planning Committee is now accepting proposals for the 27th Annual NTICC. If you would like to submit a proposal,

complete the form. The 2024 NTICC is an in-person event, set for August 25, 2024, at the Choctaw Casino & Resort. Please review the call for presentation information at <https://www.nticc.org/call-for-presentations> prior to completing this form.

**REMINDER! EPA and DOE announce intent to fund projects to reduce methane emissions from the oil and natural gas sectors**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced a Notice of Intent (NOI) on February 9, 2024 to make funds available to help measure and reduce methane emissions from the oil and gas sectors as part of President Biden's [Investing in America agenda](#). Methane is a climate "super pollutant" that is more potent than carbon dioxide and responsible for approximately one third of the warming from greenhouse gases occurring today.

If released, the corresponding funding opportunity would focus on three areas:

1. **Mitigating methane emissions and reducing other air pollution associated with existing wells and infrastructure.** Funds would be provided to mitigate and monitor methane emissions from low-producing wells and other oil and natural gas assets, that are owned and/or operated by small producers/operators, through a small number of awards, which would each fund a selected lead entity such as an organization that represents oil and natural gas producers, a non-governmental research institution, university, or Tribal organization. The intent would be for these organizations to manage and optimize the effective distribution of these funds to owners/operators with relevant oil and natural gas assets, including one award focused on mitigating methane emissions from oil and natural gas assets on Tribal lands. This area is anticipated to complement efforts currently being undertaken by states through [recently announced formula grants](#).
2. **Accelerating the deployment of innovative methane reduction solutions for reducing emissions from petroleum and natural gas systems.** This may include efforts to support the field demonstration of near-commercial solutions that can effectively address emissions from difficult-to-mitigate sources on a large scale, to accelerate the implementation of innovative methane emissions reduction technology solutions.
3. **Characterizing and quantifying methane emissions from oil and natural gas operations across multiple, large geographical regions through the creation of regional methane emissions measurement and monitoring consortia.** Activities may include, but are not limited to, methane emissions data collection and acquisition; development of annual emissions estimates at equipment-, facility-, and basin-levels; and training on data and technology usage for workers in the oil and gas industry and communities with environmental justice concerns. The intent would be to develop region-specific collaborative partnerships among oil and natural gas owners and operators, universities, environmental justice organizations, community leaders, workers, technology developers, Tribes, state regulatory agencies, non-governmental research organizations, Federally Funded Research and Development Centers, and DOE's National Laboratories.

The NOI was issued to give applicants ample time to prepare their proposals and form partnerships (if necessary) in anticipation of the upcoming issuance of the funding opportunity announcement. More information, including anticipated eligibility criteria for this NOI, can be found at the [FedConnect MERP NOI website](#). For more information about the Methane Emissions Reduction Program, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/methane-emissions-reduction-program>



**REMINDER!** The Department of Energy has funding available for Tribes through their **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program!** These are formula grants available to all Tribes. There are options for vouchers or technical assistance in place of a formal grant which would reduce the burden of applying. [Click here for more information!](#)

## **REMINDER! CPRG Updates**

### **Technical Assistance Forums**

Click [here](#) for the latest Questions and Answers from the Technical Assistance Forums: Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Technical Assistance Forums Questions and Answers (January 24, 2024).

EPA continues to update the [CPRG Planning Grantees Contact Information](#) on the CPRG website. If you're the lead organization for a CPRG planning grant and you have a public website for your CPRG planning effort, please email [CPRG.EPA@endyna.com](mailto:CPRG.EPA@endyna.com) to add the URL to our directory!

### **Planning Grant Trainings**

EPA's website contains links to several recorded trainings on the required elements for the Priority Climate Action Plans due in early 2024. Each training is 1-1.5 hours long including Q&A.

Visit the [CPRG Training, Tools and Technical Assistance webpage](#) to watch training recordings and view presentation slides and additional Q&A documents for questions that were not answered during the recorded Q&A session of the training. The webpage also includes links to resources organized by workplan elements.

To ensure you receive future communications, please add [CPRG.EPA@endyna.com](mailto:CPRG.EPA@endyna.com) to your address book. To subscribe to receive future newsletters, [sign up here](#).

**REMINDER!** The Alaska Solid Waste Burning webinars were broadcast on November 16<sup>th</sup> and December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The PowerPoint presentations and a recording of the webinar are available [HERE](#).

**REMINDER!** The EPA has launched a new climate resilience technical assistance program called **Community Change Equitable Resilience**. The program will consist of free design and project development assistance, community engagement, and partnership development workshops, with the intent to help eligible entities apply for grants under EPA's [Community Change Grants](#) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

Eligible projects for this technical assistance must be located in a disaster-prone area and benefit a disadvantaged community.

The requestor can propose up to three sites for design assistance. Climate resilience projects must have a direct community benefit and could include retrofits to community-serving buildings; design or redesign of public parks, open space, and waterways; redesign of streets; or other projects that address climate resilience and environmental justice.

Proposed projects should address climate change impacts such as extreme heat and more intense heat islands, wildfire and wildfire smoke, floods, storms, or other impacts that pose a greater risk to disadvantaged communities.

EPA intends to offer this technical assistance to up to 50 recipients nationwide and will accept requests on a rolling basis until 50 recipients have been identified.

We hope you consider submitting a request for assistance! You can find more information at: <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/community-change-equitable-resilience-technical-assistance>. Please email [equitableresilience@epa.gov](mailto:equitableresilience@epa.gov) with questions.

**REMINDER! SMOKE: State of the Science**

The recording for the virtual session [SMOKE: State of the Science](#) is now posted on the Rocky Mountain Research Station website in case you missed it or would like to share with others.

**REMINDER! A revised version of the AERMOD Modeling System (dated 23132) has now been posted to the EPA's SCRAM website and replaces the previous version (dated 22112).** Specifically, the AERMET and AERMOD executables, source code, documentation, and test cases have been updated. The respective links to the updated version of the AERMOD Modeling System are <https://www.epa.gov/scram/air-quality-dispersion-modeling-preferred-and-recommended-models#aermod> and <https://www.epa.gov/scram/meteorological-processors-and-accessory-programs#aermet>.

In addition, the MMIF meteorological preprocessor (version 4.1) has been posted to EPA's SCRAM website and replaces MMIF (version 4.0) to address new features for processing overwater prognostic data through AERMET v23132. MMIF v4.1, related documentation, and updated guidance on the use of MMIF for AERMOD applications can be downloaded at <https://www.epa.gov/scram/air-quality-dispersion-modeling-related-model-support-programs#mmif>.

**REMINDER! [Communities First Fund's \(CFF\) Rapid Response Fund](#)** will provide rapid response funding to support organizations' or coalitions' needs to position themselves or others to respond to infrastructure crises, movement moments, and time sensitive federal funding notices or rulemaking that require rapid mobilization. The Fund has a national scope with specific priority given to geographies that have historically received disproportionate public investment, including the Midwest and the South. **Applications will be reviewed bi-monthly (1st Friday and 3rd Friday of each month)**, and awards will be determined by the CFF team. **[The Rapid Response Fund is limited to \\$1,000,000.](#)** **Grants will be distributed on a rolling basis until the fund is spent down.** Awards will range between \$10,000 - \$100,000 depending on scope and scale of the work funded.

**REMINDER! WRI recently put out a report on [Catalyzing Local Clean Energy: A Roadmap for Maximizing Inflation Reduction Act Opportunities and Community Benefits](#).**

The guidebook provides a detailed breakdown of new clean energy tax credits and bonuses available to local governments and other eligible entities. It also includes several sample case studies showing how local governments can use these incentives in their clean energy planning as well as analyzing the savings and community benefits these incentives could provide to local governments of all sizes, types, and geographic locations.

**REMINDER! Thank you to those who attended the "Starting a Firewood Bank" webinar!**

For those who were unable to attend, here is your access to the recording:

[https://maine.zoom.us/rec/share/cIz\\_axl8dkMhsZtc2VCjJyFBWHbwIAkXWY-yhvjuLSHTfKYObni-fbU\\_hFLGh-Gq.gkd6u2SftO7MOI7G](https://maine.zoom.us/rec/share/cIz_axl8dkMhsZtc2VCjJyFBWHbwIAkXWY-yhvjuLSHTfKYObni-fbU_hFLGh-Gq.gkd6u2SftO7MOI7G)

Passcode: A^JqJ43g

**REMINDER! Now Available! Overview documents on EJ financial and technical resources for Tribes and Indigenous peoples:**

1. [EPA EJ Program Financial and Technical Assistance Programs and Resources, October 4, 2023](#)
2. [Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants Program, September 25, 2023](#)
3. [Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaker Program Subawards, September 14, 2023](#)

**REMINDER! EPA Announces New Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Resource for Planning Grants: Capacity Building Through Effective Meaningful Engagement Booklet**

Today, EPA announces a new resource for the Climate Pollution Reduction Planning Grant, Capacity Building Through Effective Meaningful Engagement Booklet. As CPRG planning grantees think through climate action planning, meaningful engagement with communities must be at the center. When this critical aspect of strategic planning is done right – from equitable design, inclusive decision-making, input touchpoints with all communities, community partners and interested parties throughout the process – there’s greater buy-in to support change and drive impact. Knowing that grantees are coming into this planning process with varying experiences, we wanted to provide a new resource. The “Capacity Building Through Effective Meaningful Engagement Booklet” is a tool intended to help create or expand plans for engaging meaningfully with communities. No two approaches to meaningful engagement will be exactly alike. We hope this tool helps spark ideas on how to build trust within communities through meaningful engagement. To learn more, please access the booklet at <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/cprg-training-tools-and-technical-assistance>

**To complement the Investing in America: Climate Action Funding Fair, the [Investing in America: Climate Action Funding Resource Guide](#) is now available!** This Guide identifies a variety of tracking tools as well as provides an extensive list of programs that reduce greenhouse gases.

**REMINDER! Grants Update: Required Use of ID.me to Sign into ASAP.gov and Establishment of New EPA General Terms and Conditions**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Office of Grants and Debarment has published [RAIN-2023-G03](#) and [RAIN-2023-G04](#).

[RAIN-2023-G03](#): This Recipient/Applicant Information Notice (RAIN) informs recipients and applicants of the U.S Department of Treasury’s Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) requirement to use ID.me to log into ASAP.gov by September 15, 2023.

[RAIN-2023-G04](#): This Recipient/Applicant Information Notice (RAIN) informs recipients of the addition of new General Terms and Conditions. Please see each RAIN for more information.

If you have questions about these RAINs, please send email directly to [EPA\\_Grants\\_Info@epa.gov](mailto:EPA_Grants_Info@epa.gov).

**REMINDER! EPA Grants Trainings Available!**

EPA’s Office of Grants and Debarment is pleased to announce the availability of several new and updated training resources for grant applicants and recipients.



- NEW—Learn how to [Register in SAM.gov and Grants.gov](#) to apply for EPA grants. This webpage will help you register your organization in SAM.gov, create an applicant profile in Grants.gov, and get familiar with using Workspace.
  - The [How to Develop a Budget training](#) was recently updated. This course will help you prepare work plans, budgets, and budget narratives for EPA grants.
  - The [EPA Grants Management Training for Applicants and Recipients](#) course introduces key aspects of the grant life cycle starting with preparing an application through closing out a grant. The six modules can be completed individually.
- Reminder: Stay tuned to [EPA's Grants Webinars](#) schedule to register for upcoming webinars and access recordings, helpful links, and FAQs.
- If you have any questions regarding these trainings or have suggestions for new training or webinar topics, please send an email to [EPA\\_Grants\\_Info@epa.gov](mailto:EPA_Grants_Info@epa.gov)

### **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 Tribal Climate Change Guide** is a searchable database that features up-to-date information on available grants, adaptation plans, climate programs, and climate tools to assist Native peoples in addressing impacts of climate change on their communities and ways of life. The guide also features national events, climate job postings, education resources, publications, and a directory of climate change scientists. <https://toolkit.climate.gov/tool/tribal-climate-change-guide>

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

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

**REMINDER! Did you know...** When a person smokes or vapes, they inhale the chemicals in the product. People around the smoker or vaper are also exposed to these chemicals – this exposure is called secondhand exposure.

[Secondhand tobacco smoke](#) exposure can cause lung cancer, cardiovascular disease like heart disease and stroke. It can result in premature deaths from these conditions **among non-smoking** adults.

In **infants and children**, secondhand tobacco smoke can cause health problems that include sudden infant death syndrome and respiratory and ear infections.

For **children with asthma**, secondhand tobacco smoke is [an asthma trigger](#) that can cause more frequent and severe asthma attacks.

Secondhand tobacco smoke can **move between rooms** of a home and may remain indoors for a long time – even after a person is finished smoking. Air cleaners cannot fully eliminate secondhand tobacco smoke from the air.

[Secondhand marijuana smoke](#) contains **many of the same toxic and cancer-causing chemicals** found in tobacco smoke and may contain some of those chemicals **in higher amounts**.

Even secondhand [aerosols from vaping](#) (secondhand e-cigarette aerosols) and secondhand tobacco smoke can contain similar harmful substances.

The **only way** to fully eliminate secondhand exposure is to prohibit smoking and vaping in indoor spaces, including in cars, and away from building air intakes, doors, open windows, and other enclosed spaces.

If you smoke or vape and want to quit, you can find a [list of resources here](#). Doing so will help you and your loved ones.

Learn more about:

- [Secondhand Smoke/Aerosol Exposure](#)
- [Indoor Air Quality](#)

### **REMINDER! Webinar Recording Available: Health Implications of Ozone- and PM-Producing Indoor Air Cleaners**

On Aug. 2, EPA hosted a webinar about indoor air cleaners featuring Dr. Jose-Luis Jimenez of the University of Colorado Boulder.

Some air cleaners produce ozone or particulate matter, which can degrade indoor air quality. In his presentation, Dr. Jimenez examined these types of air cleaners and compared the estimated reduction in mortality due to reduced airborne disease transmission (COVID-19 and flu) with the estimated increase in mortality due to degradation of indoor air quality. [Watch the recording here](#).

### **REMINDER! Factsheets Available for Schools Facing Climate Change**

Get Tips for School Staff and Parents for Creating Cleaner Air and Cooling Centers at Schools EPA's latest factsheets are designed to help schools and communities that are facing the consequences of climate change.

As extreme weather events such as wildfires and heatwaves overlap with other stressors such as infectious diseases like COVID-19, it's important for schools and their partners to work together to mitigate the health risks to students and the community.

Children are uniquely vulnerable to extreme heat and wildfire smoke, because of their size, physiology, and factors that include playing outdoors and having less control over their environment and exposure to harm.

**About the Factsheets:** The [Schools as Cleaner Air and Cooling Centers: Tips for Facility Managers, Principals, Teachers, and Parents and Caregivers](#) factsheets discuss a variety of approaches for mitigating the health consequences of these natural disasters such as:

- HVAC and maintenance considerations;
- Recommendations for planning and partner coordination;
- Emergency checklists; and
- A suite of additional resources

**REMINDER! IAQ Office Hours – June 18**, from 10-11 AM Alaska, 11AM-12PM PT, 12-1 PM MT, 1-2 PM CT, 2-3 PM ET.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nau.zoom.us/j/6590963943?pwd=bVlhWEZpa2pEajdvSFRQMjRxc05PZz09>

Meeting ID: 659 096 3943

Password: AIAQTP

Dial by your location

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 659 096 3943

Find your local number: <https://nau.zoom.us/u/kcbXOGGyF>

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

## NOW HIRING!

**NEW!** The Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association (MTERA) is currently recruiting for a Tribal Energy Program Manager position and an Executive Director position. They have received a limited number of applications for the Tribal Energy Program Manager position, and the application closes **June 30th**.

You can find more about the positions here: <https://www.mtera.org/job-openings>

**REMINDER!** The Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians is actively looking for a fisheries biologist to join their team of natural resources professionals to further our work “to sustain and manage HBMI’s natural resources for the continuing benefit of Maliseet human, cultural and ecosystem health”. Join us working with a variety of partners to achieve a shared vision of watershed restoration including restoring sea run fish to our Wolastoq-St. John Watershed.

This position is located in Houlton/Littleton, Aroostook County Maine and includes paid time off, paid insurance benefits, and 401(k). Application can be found at [Career Opportunities | Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians \(maliseets.net\)](#) along with the full job description [HBMI Fisheries Biologist Position DescriptionFinalApproved-02-27-24.pdf \(maliseets.net\)](#)

### **REMINDER! Hopi Tribe DNR... Now Hiring!**

There are several open positions with the Hopi Tribe Department of Natural Resources, positions include:

Wildlife Ecosystems Management Program

- Program Manager
- Forester/Woodland Ecologist
- Wildlife Biologist

Water Resources Program

- Water Resource Technician II

Range Management

- Range Technician
- Range Conservationist

<https://www.hopi-nsn.gov/tribal-services/human-resources/job-listings/>

**REMINDER! National Indian Health Board** – The National Indian Health Board has several positions open in Public Policy and Programs:

### **Climate Health Project Coordinator**

The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) seeks an experienced public health professional to work on environmental health projects specifically related to climate change. The position will have a focus on National Indian Health Board's Climate Ready Tribes Initiative, assisting Tribes with adaptation to the effects of climate change and elevating issues impacting Tribal climate health. The position is full-time, salaried, and may include travel up to 20% of the time. Position base in Washington, DC is preferred but not required.

### **Environmental Health Project Associate**

The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) seeks an entry-level public health professional to work on environmental health projects. The position will have a focus on National Indian Health Board's Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center, which connects Tribal environmental health programs to existing funding opportunities, provides technical assistance to Tribes on federal grant applications, and elevates issues impacting Tribal environmental health. The position is full-time, salaried, and may include travel up to 20% of the time. This position is based in Washington, DC.

### **Public Health Policy & Programs Project Coordinator (Climate & Environmental Health)**

The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) seeks an experienced public health professional to work on current and future public health projects and initiatives. The position will have a focus on creating and coordinating projects that focus on improving the state of Tribal environmental health and environmental justice and Tribal environmental health systems. The position will work on a team with an Environmental Health Program Director, Manager, Coordinators, Associates, and Interns. The Coordinator will also work with colleagues in the Public Health Policy & Programs Department and organization-wide, to coordinate and implement public health events, including the NIHB National Tribal Public Health Summit. Included in the above duties, the Coordinator will deliver technical assistance, coordinate and facilitate meetings with stakeholders, draft communications, and keep records of all project accomplishments. This position is based in Washington, DC, and requires up to 20% travel.

### **Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center Senior Manager**

The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) seeks an experienced environmental programs professional to focus on environmental technical assistance projects. The position will have a focus on National Indian Health Board's Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center, connecting Tribal environmental programs to existing funding opportunities, providing technical assistance to Tribes on federal grant applications related to environmental justice, and elevating issues impacting Tribal environmental health. The position is full-time, salaried, and may include travel up to 20% of the time. Position base in Washington, DC, is preferred but not required.

## **RESOURCES & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES!**

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

#### **REMINDER! EPA Grants Procurement, Subawards, and Participant Support Costs Webinar**

EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment is pleased to confirm that materials from the EPA Procurement, Subawards, and Participant Support Costs Webinar held on June 27, 2023, are now available on the [EPA Grants Procurement, Subawards, and Participant Support Costs Webinar webpage](#):

- Recording of the webinar with closed captions
- Helpful web links from the presentation
- A list of Questions & Answers based on questions submitted by attendees during the webinar
- Presentation slides in PDF format

If you have questions about the posted materials or need more information on EPA's grants award process, please email [EPA\\_Grants\\_Info@epa.gov](mailto:EPA_Grants_Info@epa.gov)



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

**Low-Income Communities Bonus Credit Program**: Eligible applicants can apply to receive a 10 or 20-percentage point boost to the energy investment tax credit for qualified solar or wind facilities that are in low-income communities or on Tribal land, are part of affordable housing developments, or benefit low-income households. **Submit applications by November 18th to be reviewed first.** After the 18th, applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis through early 2024. Go to #3 on [our website](#) for more information.

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

**WRI's Electric School Bus Initiative** is helping districts take advantage of this and other funding sources by providing free resources on the school bus electrification process, including a [step-by-step guide](#), a [power planner](#) for working with electric utilities, and a [market report/buyer's guide](#) detailing the electric school bus models on the road today. If you need help, please reach out to [WRI](#) for support.

## ***Indoor Air Quality***

**Factsheets & Resources: Choosing Safe, Effective & Affordable Air Cleaners:**

[Visit here for more information](#)

**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***

## **Newsletters, Calendars, and Recorded Webinars**

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](mailto: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.

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