



FULL CIRCLE



Newsletter for Tribes

Waste Management & Tribal Response

Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals



NORTHERN ARIZONA
UNIVERSITY

Tribal Solid Waste Education and Assistance Program
Tribal Waste and Response Assistance Program
National Tribal Toxics Council Program
Navajo Nation Environmental Workforce Development Program
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Welcome to Full Circle Newsletter



Mathy Stanislaus (center) with members of the TWRAP National Steering Committee and ITEP Staff

■ A Personal Message From Mathy Stanislaus, OSWER Assistant Administrator

I am pleased to announce the award of EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) Tribal Support Cooperative Agreements. This year we awarded two cooperative agreements to Northern Arizona University's Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) for a total of total of \$2.9 million dollars for a grant period of five years. This is the second time EPA has offered these grants to support tribal professionals involved in solid and hazardous waste management, brownfields, underground storage tanks, Superfund cleanups, and emergency response programs. The award this year increased by about 1/3 over the previous cooperative agreement awarded in 2008. This is over a million dollar boost for Indian country and Alaska.

Building upon a strong foundation developed under the first cooperative agreements, ITEP plans to hold five annual Tribal Lands and Environment Forums (TLEF) under these cooperative agreements. The 2013 TLEF drew nearly 400 tribal leaders and environmental

Meet Our Staff:

Todd Barnell, Program Manager, TSWEAP and TWRAP
Todd.Barnell@nau.edu

Jennifer Williams, Program Coordinator Sr, TWRAP, and NTTC
Jennifer.Williams@nau.edu

John Mead, Program Coordinator Sr, TWRAP
John.Mead@nau.edu

Roberta Tohannie, Program Coordinator Sr TWRAP, and NNWDP
Roberta.Tohannie@nau.edu

Julie Jurkowski, Program Coordinator, TSWEAP, TWRAP, and NTTC
Julie.Jurkowski@nau.edu

■ **Full Circle Network**
Did someone forward this newsletter to you? Send an email to Todd Barnell to subscribe or unsubscribe to the newsletter. Archived issues can be found at:
www4.nau.edu/itep/waste

professionals. This year, thanks to additional funding from EPA's Office of Water, for the first time ITEP will be able to offer water and wastewater sessions at the Forum. These new sessions will provide an opportunity to investigate the connections between water and waste in Indian Country.

EPA recognizes training as an important component to building tribal capacity that supports sovereignty. Under this grant, ITEP will continue to provide trainings associated with tribal code development, Superfund, Brownfields and underground storage tank cleanups, emergency response preparedness and sustainable waste management. ITEP staff will also be developing various web-based resources and will provide assistance to the Tribal Superfund Working Group.

This grant also funds the administration of the Tribal Waste Response and Assistance Program Steering Committee. This national partnership group is composed of tribal professionals, involved in solid waste, brownfields, underground storage tanks, Superfund, and emergency response programs, who assist EPA in understanding the needs and priority of tribes by providing feedback to myself and other EPA officials.

We are very pleased to have ITEP on board and continuing their work in helping build capacity to cleanup and preserve tribal lands. I look forward to seeing you all at this year's Tribal Lands and Environment Forum in Minneapolis!

To register for the 2015 TEF, or submit a session proposal, please visit our website at: http://www4.nau.edu/itep/conferences/confr_tlf.asp

■ **Two New Courses On Recycling and Composting Have Been Added to Our Calendar**

We are happy to announce that we are now accepting applications for our "Recycling Strategies for Tribes" and "Composting Strategies for Tribes" training courses, both of which are funded through a grant from the USDA. Details and application deadlines are listed below and can also be found on our website at:

http://www4.nau.edu/itep/waste/training_wastemgmt.asp

- **Recycling Strategies for Tribes** will be held May 19-21st in Spokane, Washington. This course will have a strong emphasis on creating and running recycling programs as businesses. Instruction will be provided on researching recycling markets, equipment needs, facility design and operations, and developing a business approach to recycling. Attendees will have the chance to speak with a variety of businesses specializing in recycling as well as participate in a tour of a local recycling facility and engage in a variety of small group activities.
- **Composting Strategies for Tribes** will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota June 16-18th. Highlights of this course include developing a business plan for composting operations, researching creative funding opportunities, facility design and operations, and the science of composting. Small group activities, networking opportunities, and a tour of a local tribal composting facility are also integrated into this course content.

Any participant enrolled in either of these courses will have their lodging fully covered by ITEP but will be responsible for their own travel expenses and per diem costs.

These courses tend to fill up quickly! If you are interested please fill out an application and submit it to Todd Barnell at todd.barnell@nau.edu or fax it to his attention at 928-523-1266 if you would like to be considered for either of these courses.

■ **Session Proposals Are Being Accepted for the 2015 TLEF**

Do you have a case study you would like to share? Do you want to announce a new resource that would benefit tribal land and/or water programs? We are now accepting proposals for trainings and breakout sessions. We will be offering up to seven half or all day training courses on Monday, as well as nine 90 minute breakout periods, with seven concurrent tracks. Please visit our website (simply click on the “proposal” tab) at: http://www4.nau.edu/itep/conferences/confr_tlf.asp to access the online form. We look forward to hearing from you!

■ **Upcoming Webinars and Conference Calls**

USEPA Webinar: Meth Labs on Tribal Lands – What to Know and What to Do

Tuesday, March 31, 2:00 – 3:30 pm Eastern Time. This special webinar will include presentations by Kami Snowden, of the Tribal Solid Waste Advisory Network; Danny Joe Stensgar, of the Colville Confederated Tribes; and Jeff Kershaw, a Detective with the Washington State Patrol. To register, please visit: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2224677056154370>

Tribal Consultation Calls on National Contingency Plan Subpart J Product Schedule - Proposed Rule

USEPA wishes to consult with tribes on proposed amendments to the requirements contained in Subpart J of the NCP for listing chemical agents that may be used to reduce the effects of oil spills into or threatening waters of the US and the parameters governing the use and environmental monitoring of those chemical agents. Two of the four calls have already occurred. But, regardless of your region, you can still participate in two more upcoming calls:

- Tuesday, March 17, 11:00 am – 12:30 pm Eastern Time: This call is primarily for those in the Eastern US. Call: 866-299-3188; Passcode: 202-564-1970#
- Thursday, March 19, 2:00 – 3:30 pm Eastern Time: This call is primarily for those in the Central/Midwestern US. Call: 866-299-3188; Passcode: 202-564-1970#

Tribal Consultation Opportunity on Proposed Rulemakings

USEPA is initiating consultation and coordination with the federally recognized tribes on the following three proposed rulemakings: (1) the Hazardous Waste Generator Improvements Rule; (2) the Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals Rule; and (3) the Non-hazardous Secondary Materials Rule. The deadline for comments is Monday, March 23, 2015. To access the website related to this consultation opportunity, please visit: <http://tcots.epa.gov/oita/tconsultation.nsf/x/DFB25344859B926F85257BF60081DA1A>



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➔ [**Tribal Waste and Response Assistance Program \(TWRAP\)**](#)

TWRAP is a program focused on assisting tribes with all waste management, brownfields, USTs,

contaminated sites, and response programs. This program is funded by the USEPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.

➡ **[Tribal Solid Waste Education and Assistance Program \(TSWEAP\)](#)**

TSWEAP's focus is providing training and assistance to tribes working on solid and hazardous waste management.

➡ **[National Tribal Toxics Council \(NTTC\)](#)**

The NTTC is a USEPA Tribal Partnership Group that is focused on providing Tribes with an opportunity for greater input on issues related to toxic chemicals and pollution prevention.

➡ **[Navajo Nation Environmental Workforce Development Program \(NNEWDP\)](#)**

The NNEWDP provides training to members of the Navajo Nation so they may secure employment in the fields of environmental cleanup and remediation.