



# 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  
Navajo Nation Environmental Workforce Development Program  
September/October 2015 Vol. 7, Issue 5

### Welcome to Full Circle Newsletter

#### ■ The TWRAP Steering Committee Welcomes Arvind Patel

The newest member of the TWRAP Steering Committee is Arvind Patel, who is the Utility Director for the Pueblo of Acoma, overseeing not only solid waste but also water and wastewater programs for the Pueblo. Arvind has worked for the Pueblo for ten years, serving as the Solid and Hazardous Waste Coordinator, UST Inspector, and Tribal Engineer before being named the head of the Utility Department.

Arvind brings a wealth of experience to the steering committee. His work in solid waste, hazardous substances, UST programs, and a variety of waste diversion activities will certainly benefit the work undertaken by the steering committee. Prior to working for the Pueblo of Acoma, Arvind was employed by a private environmental consulting firm, where he worked on Superfund sites and Federal Facilities throughout New Mexico and southern Colorado.

At the same time that Arvind was selected to serve on the steering committee, four of the current members were also selected to serve new, two-year terms. Congratulations to Victoria Kotongan, Katie Kruse, Virginia LeClere, and Rob Roy! All of the members of the steering committee work very hard to represent the interests of all tribes and we at ITEP want to say thank you to them for all they do.



#### ■ ITEP's On-Site Mentoring Program: The San Carlos Apache Tribe Visits the Pueblo of Santa Ana

Recently we completed our second of three on-site mentoring activities for tribes interested in developing waste diversion programs. The San Carlos Apache Tribe submitted an application to our on-site mentoring program earlier this year. They are interested in creating a robust and effective recycling facility for their tribe. We worked with Alan Hatch and his team at the Pueblo of Santa Ana, who run a widely respected recycling facility. Mr. Hatch and his team were quite happy to host Cassie Moses from the San Carlos Apache Tribe, and spend a few

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■ **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](http://www4.nau.edu/itep/waste)

days showing her their facility and suggesting some ideas for how her tribe might develop their recycling facility.

As part of this USDA-funded project, we arranged for Ms. Moses to stay at the Pueblo's Tamaya Resort for three nights and spend time with Mr. Hatch and his team. She was able to tour the recycling facility, seeing how the Pueblo collects, stores, and ships all their recyclables. This opportunity allowed her to see different types of equipment as well as procedures for effectively managing a recycling program. "The staff was all so friendly" said Ms. Moses. "And they do a great job on outreach. They made sure I understood how important outreach and community education is to a successful program and provided a lot of great ideas." In addition to the recycling at their facility, the Pueblo of Santa Ana run a reuse center where Pueblo members can drop off, and take, items that can be reused instead of being added to the waste stream, something the San Carlos Apache Tribe are also interested in developing.

An additional benefit of this onsite mentoring experience was noticed by the mentoring tribe. Alan Hatch said "As a mentor, it was valuable to me to think back to the beginning of our project and walk through all the steps we undertook, the challenges we faced, what we could have done differently, what we succeeded with and where we failed, and how we can move the program forward."

We at ITEP want to thank the Pueblo of Santa Ana for their willingness to help another tribe in this way, and we wish the San Carlos Apache Tribe all the best as they create new waste diversion and source reduction strategies!

We will be offering more on-site mentoring opportunities in 2016 for tribal solid waste professionals looking to create waste diversion and source reduction projects. If you are interested in being considered for this special program, please contact Todd Barnell at [todd.barnell@nau.edu](mailto:todd.barnell@nau.edu) or Julie Jurkowski at [julie.jurkowski@nau.edu](mailto:julie.jurkowski@nau.edu) for an application.

### ■ Oil Spill Response Training in Nome, Alaska

Collaboration between Kawerak, Nome Eskimo Community, USEPA, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, and ITEP resulted in an Oil Spill Response Training in Nome, Alaska. Attendees from Nome, Diomed, Elim, and White Mountain participated in lectures, class discussions specific to rural Alaska villages, and hands-on field training over three days. The course was focused on prevention, planning, and safety of personnel that act as first responders to hazardous substance releases in their community, and provided resources and regulatory information that will help rural communities if a spill occurs. During field activities at the Department of Transportation's warehouse, attendees learned how to patch a drum, examined a variety of local response equipment stored by ADEC in Nome, and participated in a response exercise. During the response exercise, participants were able to use the Emergency Response Guidebook that they had learned to use in class prior to going out into the field. The training also provided an opportunity for tribes in the region to network with other potential responders. (To see more about ADEC's Community Spill Response Agreements and Local Response Equipment please visit [http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/perp/local\\_resp.htm](http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/perp/local_resp.htm)).



Since 2010, Jennifer Williams, working under ITEP's Tribal Waste and Response Assistance Program, has assisted with coordinating Oil Spill Response Training in the Alaskan communities of Cordova, Craig, Fairbanks, Glennallen, Kalskag, and Port Heiden.

### ■ **Our New Superfund Website is Up – And We'd Love Your Feedback**

As part of our work with the Tribal Superfund Working Group, we have developed a new Superfund Resources website, which can be found at [http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Waste/waste\\_superfund](http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Waste/waste_superfund).

This new website is going to be a continuous work-in-progress, and we are counting on you to provide us with ideas you'd like to see included on it. If your tribe has example documents, policies, spreadsheets, or guidelines that you would be willing to share on this website please contact either Todd Barnell at [todd.barnell@nau.edu](mailto:todd.barnell@nau.edu) or Julie Jurkowski at [julie.jurkowski@nau.edu](mailto:julie.jurkowski@nau.edu).

If you would like to be added to the TSWWG emailing distribution list, so you receive announcements about upcoming conference calls and trainings specific to Tribal Superfund issues, please email Todd Barnell at [todd.barnell@nau.edu](mailto:todd.barnell@nau.edu).

### ■ **Save the Date: Plans Have Started for the 2016 Tribal Lands and Environment Forum**

We have already started work on planning for the 2016 Tribal Lands and Environment Forum. We've just started working with the TWRAP Steering Committee on this planning process and will have online registration up and running by January 2016. Next year's TLEF will once again be held the third week of August, so the dates for next year will be **August 15-18, 2016**. We look forward to seeing you then!

### ■ **Resources of Interest**

**National Tribal Energy Summit Presentations Online.** The National Tribal Energy Summit was held in Washington DC this September. A variety of very interesting presentations from this meeting are now online and can be accessed at: <http://www.ncsl.org/research/energy/national-tribal-energy-summit.aspx>

**Online Environmental Management and Planning Training: October 26 - November 8, 2015** (linked to <http://www.nau.edu/Professional/Tribal-Environmental-Management/>)

***Register by Wednesday, October 21 to attend the online Environmental Management and Planning for Tribal Professional module if you are interested in learning more about how to develop tribally specific, cohesive environmental plans for effective implementation. This module is equivalent to 1.0 CEUs and requires approximately 10 hours of total learning time over the course of two weeks.***

**Webinar on Assessment and Treatment of Contaminated Sites: October 29, 2015.** Webinar on Assessment and Treatment of Contaminated Sediments. The following speakers will present in the webinar: Dr. Todd Bridges (U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center) and Dr. Kevin Sowers (University of Maryland). For more information on this and other webinars in the series, please visit:

<https://www.serdp-estcp.org/Tools-and-Training/Webinar-Series>

**Tribal Consultation Extended until October 30, 2015.** DRAFT Guidance for Discussing Tribal Treaty Rights. Consultation Calls: September 22, 2015 2:00-3:30pm EDT and October 6, 2015 2:00-3:30pm EDT. The call-in number for both calls is 1-866-299-3188, access 202-564-6633. For more information on this and other consultation opportunities please visit TCOTS for updated information.

<http://tcots.epa.gov/oita/tconsultation.nsf/x/8D54A5E88AC35F7785257EA50051F3DA?opendocument>

**November 2, 2015, 11:00AM-1:00PM EST.** Nanotechnology for Site Remediation Webinar. This is a follow-up to the Inaugural Conference on the Applications of Nanotechnology for Safe and Sustainable Environmental Remediations which was held in Hammond, Louisiana in the Summer '13. In this 2 hr webinar, the expert panel will give an update about the current state of engineered nanoparticles (ENP) workers' exposure scenarios in environmental remediation; an update of the U.S. EPA Superfund sites experience with the use of ENPs; an update on nano-zero-valent iron-based remediation experience in Europe; and an overview of ways to harness "informatics 4 impact" to meet your mission goals. For more information and to register, see:

<http://clu-in.org/live>

**Applications due November 13, 2015 for the 2016 Exchange Network Grants.** Please click on the link below for more details, including the solicitation notice, what's new, do's and don'ts, and required documents:

<http://www2.epa.gov/exchangenetwork/exchange-network-grant-program#SN2016>

**November 17, 2015, 12:00PM-2:00PM EST. Implementing Greener Cleanups through ASTM's Standard Guide Webinar.** The U.S. EPA and other agencies encourage use of the ASTM International Standard Guide for Greener Cleanups (E2893-13), which offers a step-wise approach for reducing the environmental footprint of site cleanup activities. This two-hour webinar sponsored by the U.S. EPA will provide participants with an overview of the Guide, show how the Guide can inform project decisions, and describe experiences in using the Guide at sites across the U.S. under state or federal cleanup programs. The webinar also will provide a virtual exercise in prioritizing greener best management practices (BMPs) based on their anticipated environmental footprint reductions. For more information and to register, see:

<http://clu-in.org/live>



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### Learn more...

➡ **[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.

➡ **[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.