



FULL CIRCLE

Waste Management & Tribal Response



Newsletter for Tribes

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
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Welcome to Full Circle Newsletter

■ Thank You to All Who Attended the 2016 TLEF

The 2016 Tribal Lands and Environment Forum has come and gone, and we want to thank all of you who attended this year's forum. We had 490 attendees this year, representing 124 Tribes, six tribal organizations, 13 government agencies, 20 companies, and nine universities and nonprofits. The attendees were offered five field trips, 15 trainings, two plenaries, 49 breakout sessions featuring 79 different presentations, and our first ever Multi Media Meetup activity.

A big thank you to the nearly 100 people who shared their knowledge and passion as presenters at this year's TLEF. You really are the reason this event is such a success and we appreciate your dedication and willingness to share. We also want to thank Sissy Kotongan, chair of the TWRAP Steering Committee, and Kathie Brosemer, from the National Tribal Water Council, for providing such heartfelt and moving comments during our closing plenary. It was the perfect way to wrap up a productive and educational week.

We want to extend a special thank you to our hosts, the Mohegan Tribe. They organized special field trips to their tribal museum, and also provided a wonderful Color Guard and drummers for our plenary sessions. We are particularly grateful to Mohegan Tribal Chief Dr. Lynn Malerba and Medicine Woman Melissa Zobel for speaking at our plenaries as well.

We are in the process of putting the various presentations up on our website at: http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_tlef, so be sure to drop by that website in the next week or so. And if you would like to see some additional photos from this year's TLEF be sure to stop by ITEP's Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/ITEPnau/>



Members of the TWRAP Steering Committee who play a big role in making the TLEF such a success!

Meet Our Staff:

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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



Members of the National Tribal Water Council at the TLEF – we were so happy to have you join us!

■ **Upcoming ITEP Training Opportunities**

ITEP was recently awarded another year of funding from the USDA to continue our trainings on solid waste, as well as offering onsite mentoring activities. We have a brand new training coming up in just a few weeks. We've been working with a terrific group of tribal professionals from various tribes in Minnesota on a **Waste Diversion Strategies and Tribal Food Sovereignty** course, which will take place in Minneapolis September 27-29, 2016. This training will focus on tribal case studies, highlighting successful strategies for implementing and managing various waste diversion activities (such as recycling, composting, and others) and also explore the connections and opportunities for collaboration between waste management programs and growing and protecting traditional foods. There are a few spots available in this course so if you are interested email Todd Barnell at todd.barnell@nau.edu for an application.

We will be offering two additional training courses in early 2017 that will also focus on waste diversion and source reduction strategies. Once those trainings are finalized we will be sending out applications and additional information on them.

In addition to our in-person training opportunities, we have been working to expand our selection of online trainings, so that you can learn at your own pace from your office. To learn more about our growing selection of online training, visit our new website at www.nau.edu/itep/elearning or email professional@nau.edu with questions.

■ **OLEM Plan for Early Engagement with its Partners on FY 2018-2019 Priority Setting**

EPA's Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM) announces an early engagement process with tribes on the FY 2018-2019 National Program Manager (NPM) Guidance. Specifically, we are inviting tribal officials and representatives to join us for an opportunity to discuss the OLEM National Program Manager Guidance by conference call on Thursday, September 22, 2016, 3:00-4:30pm EDT.

Conference call in number: 1-866-299-3188

Conference Code: 202-564-1478

During this call, OLEM will:

- Provide an overview of the purpose of the NPM Guidance;

- Provide an overview of the program specific areas of focus;
- Review the process/timetable for tribes to provide input on the NPM Guidance; and
- Allow for questions and answers related to this effort.

We invite you to review the Early Engagement Plan and other relevant documents in preparation for these calls and/or to inform your early input. They may be obtained on the internet as follows: For the timeline and schedules outlining the NPM Guidance Early Engagement Plans: <https://www.epa.gov/planandbudget/fy-2018-2019-national-program-manager-guidance-early-engagement-plans> For the National Areas of Focus, which remain the same as the FY 2016-2017 NPM Guidance, please visit: <https://nepis.epa.gov/Exc/ZyPURL.cgi?Dockey=P100ME9J.txt>

■ **USEPA Encourages Tribes to be Notified When Spills Occur**

The National Response Center functions as the sole point of contact for reporting oil, chemical, radiological, biological, and etiological discharges into the environment anywhere in the United States and its territories. The NRC also takes maritime reports of suspicious activity, security breaches, and terrorist related activities for the U.S. Coast Guard and railroad incident reports for the U.S. Federal Railroad Administration.

The EPA is assisting with an outreach effort to encourage tribes to submit applications to the NRC to receive notifications when oil and hazardous materials incidents happen in Indian Country. Tribes are encouraged to apply to receive notifications directly from the federal NRC.

In order to be included in this process, they must complete an application agreement. To request the application document, email nrc@uscg.mil or fax 202-267-1322.

For specific questions about the application or to discuss the process further please feel free to contact the NRC at nrc@uscg.mil or Nick Nicolas, Nichols.Nick@epa.gov, 202-564-1970.

■ **Resources and News of Interest**

National Tribal Mining Workgroup: Upcoming Training Opportunity

The Nez Perce Tribe and the National Tribal Mining Workgroup are hosting a special training called The Mining Lifecycle: Tribal Engagement and Environmental Responsibility. This three day training takes place in Phoenix, AZ November 2-4 and will include a mine tour on the last day. For more information please visit: www.ntmw.org/mining-lifecycle-201-training.html.

Protecting Pollinators Through Sustainable Superfund Reuse

On September 8 (2:00 – 3:30 pm EDT) the Superfund Redevelopment Initiative will be offering this special webinar. The webinar will explore the sustainable and conscientious reuse of Superfund sites and other blighted properties as pollinator habitats. To learn more and register for this free webinar visit: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund-redevelopment-initiative/quarterly-webinar-series>

New Pollinator Risk Assessment Guidance

And speaking of pollinators, the USEPA Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) recently posted two guidances related to pollinator protection: 1) *Guidance on Exposure and Effects Testing for Assessing Risk to Bees* and 2) *Process for Requiring Exposure and Effects Testing for Assessing Risk to Bees During Registration and Registration Review*. Both documents can be accessed by visiting: <https://www.epa.gov/pollinator-protection/pollinator-risk-assessment-guidance>.



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➔ www.facebook.com/ITEPnau

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.