



Welcome to Full Circle Newsletter

■ **Thank You to All Who Attended the 2017 TLEF**

The 2017 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 a great turnout – especially from Tribes across the country – who were able to take advantage of 15 trainings, five field trips, two plenaries, the Multi Media Meetup, and 49 breakout sessions featuring 79 different presentations.

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. And a special thank you to all the attendees from Oklahoma Tribes, especially those who put on such wonderful field trips and special presentations during our plenaries. This year attendees had the chance to tour the Natives Raising Natives Euchee Butterfly Farm, several Tribally-run recycling programs, the Tar Creek Superfund site, and multiple sustainability projects run by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. We were honored to have speakers from the Cherokee Nation, the Osage Nation Color Guard, and a wonderful keynote presentation by representatives from Muscogee (Creek) Nation during our opening plenary, and then a fascinating (and inspiring) presentation about the Iowa Nation's Grey Snow Eagle House raptor rehabilitation program during the closing plenary. (And a special thanks to Woody the Bald Eagle, for stopping by!)

You can access presentations, and a list of attendees, by visiting our website at:

http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_tlef. We hope to see you all August 13-16, 2018 in Spokane, Washington.



TLEF attendees tour the Tar Creek Superfund site with staff from the Quapaw Tribe

Meet Our Staff:

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■ ***Full Circle Network***
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Cynthia Naha, Environmental Specialist for the Santo Domingo Tribe and TWRAP Steering Committee, talks with attendees at the Multi Media Meetup



Woody, the Bald Eagle, and the wonderful team at the Grey Snow Eagle House

■ **Welcome to Our Newest TWRAP Steering Committee Member**

Mark Junker, Tribal Response Coordinator for the Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri, has recently been selected to serve on the TWRAP Steering Committee. Current members of the TWRAP SC who were successful in their applications for another term are Arvind Patel (Pueblo of Acoma), Virginia LeClere (Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation), Katie Kruse (Keweenaw Bay Indian Community), and Rob Roy (La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians). They all will work with Victoria Flowers (Oneida Nation), Cynthia Naha (Santo Domingo Tribe), Rebecca Stevens (Coeur d'Alene Tribe), John Wheaton (Nez Perce Tribe), and Ann Wyatt (Klawock Village). So congratulations to all the successful applicants, and thank you to everyone who applied, as well as the volunteers who composed the selection team.

The TWRAP SC has been quite busy lately, even though they were no doubt hoping for a bit of a break after the TLEF. They, along with many other highly engaged Tribal Partnership Groups, have been working with the National Tribal Caucus, providing their professional insights to discussions about priorities at the USEPA during these times of change. All of us at ITEP thank them for their incredible work, above and beyond their daily responsibilities, ensuring tribal priorities in the areas of solid waste, brownfields, Superfund, UST, and emergency response are heard and respected.

■ **ITEP Celebrates 25 Years**

On Monday, September 11, 2017, all of ITEP's staff came together for our annual retreat, and to

also celebrate our 25th Anniversary. It was an inspiring and wonderful opportunity for all of us to set aside our day-to-day work and concerns, and spend some great time together.

In the evening, we hosted a special event attended by approximately 500 guests from across the country. We had a wonderful lineup of speakers, who spoke about ITEP's history, the work, and the historical leaders of ITEP. The speakers included Ann Marie Chischilly, ITEP's Executive Director; Dr. Rita Cheng, Northern Arizona University's (NAU) President; Dr. Chad Hamill, NAU Vice President for Native American Initiatives; William Auberle, a Co-Founder of ITEP and ITEP Board Member; Steve Page, Director of the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at USEPA; Richard Jeanne, our founder Virgil Masayesva's brother-in-law; and Chelsa Seciwa, the daughter of our former Executive Director, Cal Seciwa. The memories, stories, and perspectives shared were extremely inspiring to us all, and a call to action for all people engaged in defending Mother Earth and ensuring a healthy environment for strong, self-sustaining tribal communities.

Our Keynote Speaker is a great friend of ITEP and an inspiring warrior to us all – Winona LaDuke. Needless to say her words, and the example she set for us all, left us all ready to continue our fight. (To learn more about Winona LaDuke and her amazing team please visit <http://www.honorearth.org/>.)

We want to thank everyone who traveled to Flagstaff to help us celebrate. And for those unable to be here in person, know you were there in our hearts! We look forward to another 25 years working side by side with you all.



■ Onsite Mentoring Opportunities for Tribal Solid Waste and Superfund Professionals

We are happy to announce that we have been awarded additional funding to allow us to continue offering onsite mentoring opportunities for tribal professionals. Keep your eye on your inbox as the next quarter's application will be sent out during the first week of October.

For the past several years we have been making these opportunities available to tribal staff working in solid waste. Individuals interested in being matched with a mentor submit an application to ITEP, and if they are accepted the ITEP we research the best mentor to assist them with their specific challenges and needs. An introductory call is arranged, and if the mentor and the applicant agree it is a good match then a site visit is arranged. The mentor may visit the applicant's tribe to see their operations in action, or the applicant may visit the mentor's tribe. Either way, ITEP reimburses all travel expenses.

These opportunities have become extremely popular, as well as highly effective. And it is very gratifying to hear from so many mentors that they also found themselves learning a great deal by

taking part.

We are now offering these onsite mentor matches to tribal professionals also working in Superfund and related fields. If you have any questions about these projects please contact Todd at todd.barnell@nau.edu or Julie at julie.jurkowski@nau.edu.

■ **National Association of Remedial Project Managers Training Program**

The 25th NARPM Training Program is planned for **December 4 through 8, 2017** in Denver, Colorado. The NARPM Training Program provides an excellent opportunity for Superfund Remedial Project Managers and those who work with them, such as States, Tribal Project Managers and Federal partners, to network, obtain training and discuss issues of regional and national concern. Over 45 individual training courses are offered concurrently in one week and fall within the following training categories: project management; community engagement and environmental justice; cleanup optimization; investigation, design, remediation and post-construction; and technology and contaminant-specific topics.

There are no registration or conference fees associated with the NARPM Training Program.

Information on registration and course will be available soon! Please contact Leslie Leahy at leahy.leslie@epa.gov for more information.

■ **2017 National Brownfields Training Conference**

The 2017 National Brownfields Training Conference will occur in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, **December 5 - 7, 2017**. Please join your colleagues for the premier brownfields and land revitalization event. Attendees will enjoy opportunities to participate in training events, observe success stories first hand during mobile workshops, listen to experts regarding best practices for meeting brownfields challenges, and network with thousands of other stakeholders. Brownfield 2017 Online Registration and Housing is Now Open!

Visit the official Brownfields Conference Website for registration and additional information at www.brownfields2017.org.



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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 Land and Emergency Management.

➡ **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 and diversion. This program is funded by the USDA, IHS, and USEPA.