



Welcome to Full Circle Newsletter

■ **Unique Visit to Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians**

We were very excited to offer our second training and site visit of 2019, for the Tribal Superfund Working Group (TSFWG), this October. For this visit we worked closely with Traven Michaels, Environmental Response Specialist for the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians (LTBB), who has been a very active member of the TSFWG. Traven invited Eric Hemenway, Repatriation and Archives Director of LTBB) to start the course off with a powerful history of the Tribe and their relationship to the lands and waters of northern Michigan.

We visited four sites: the Charlevoix Municipal Well Superfund Site, the Big Rock Nuclear Site, the Petoskey Manufacturing Company Superfund Site, and the Bay Harbor Cement Kiln Site. At each site we toured the area and heard presentations by site staff. There were lots of questions and discussions during each visit, as well as opportunities for attendees to share stories about their own sites. On our last day together we had a special presentation on the Topock Compressor Station Site by Dr. Charlie Schlinger, and concluded with our regular Talking Circle.

It was exciting to offer our first non-mining site training and visit for the TSFWG, and we are very appreciative of our friends at LTBB who made this unique opportunity possible!



■ **ITEP's Tribal Solid Waste Codes and Ordinance Project Starts Its Third Year**

Working in cooperation with the Indian Health Services and the United States Environmental Protection Agency, we have begun work with our third cohort of Tribal solid waste professionals on code development. The first course with this cohort, designed to help attendees to develop and implement Tribal solid waste codes and ordinances, was held in Tucson,

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:
www7.nau.edu/itep/waste

Arizona, October 15-17, 2019. Each tribal professional that attended was provided legal and technical support, email/web based meeting communication and one-on-one assistance in developing and implementing their codes and ordinances.

One attendee said “The most important thing I learned today is that the issues I am seeking to address in the community I work for are similar throughout the communities present in the training session. I will explain that “nothing is new under the sun.” That we can learn from everyone’s experience.”

■ **Onsite Mentor Match Project: Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe at Chickasaw Nation**

Lisa Furnace, Solid Waste Program Manager for the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, applied for ITEP’s onsite mentor match to learn the best practices that could be applied to her community. Her Tribe is interested in possibly opening a community Thrift Store, to reuse various items instead of having them enter the waste stream, as well as providing Tribal members with quality products at reasonable prices. ITEP paired her with the Chickasaw Nation, whose ReUse Center won the 2018 Visionary Leadership Award. In 2018 alone this center diverted over 211,000 pounds of materials from the landfill, and served over 16,000 people. Lisa was able to visit the ReUse Center and see it in action, as well as spend time with staff from Chickasaw Nation learning how the Center was developed and how it is efficiently managed. After her visit, Lisa stated “I spent time with the director, Phillip Cravatt and we discussed what the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe is doing in their solid waste program. I hope to share more information including our solid Waste Code which is in the process of being revised. He was very interested in how our transfer station works since they don’t currently have one. They have programs to benefit their people in addition to the reuse center.”

One of the most powerful aspects of these onsite mentor visits is how often both the mentor and the mentee benefit, sharing ideas and brainstorming possible strategies that end up benefitting both Tribes. We are very thankful to our colleagues at both the Chickasaw Nation and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe for making this such a successful site visit.

■ **Upcoming Trainings, Grants, Events**

5th Annual Tribal Nations Training Week- The Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) will host the 5th Annual Tribal Nations Training Week during the week of March 28 – April 4, 2020 on the CDP campus in Anniston, AL. CDP training is completely funded for state, local, tribal and territorial emergency responders to include roundtrip airfare, meals, lodging, training and any equipment required during training.

Visit the CDP Website at Apply for Training <https://cdp.dhs.gov/apply> to complete the online registration. Remember your FEMA SID number and Password, you will need this throughout the registration process, leading up to your attendance, and while attending training.

Contact Information: Should you have any questions, please contact David Hall, CDP Western Region and Tribal Nations Training Coordinator at David.Hall@fema.dhs.gov or 866-213-9548

2019 Intertribal Agriculture Council Annual Conference-Agriculture: Investing in Sovereignty. December 9-12,2019

The Intertribal Agriculture Council Annual Conference is the largest gathering of American Indian agriculture producers, Tribal natural resource professionals and USDA service providers. Set in sunny Las Vegas, the 2019 IAC Annual Conference is a three-day event focusing on Native agriculture production, sustainability and conservation. Attendees include Native pre-college and college students, educators, and professionals as well as representatives from Tribal

Nations, Tribal enterprises, Native owned businesses, and government partners. The renowned American Indian Foods Exhibit Hall features government agencies, nonprofit organizations, Tribes, and Native artisans, featuring handcrafted art and value added food products, many of which utilize our Made By American Indians™ trademark.

USDA Pre-conference sessions and the 4th Annual Youth Conference, kick off on December 9th. For information about IAC's Annual Conference, please visit: www.indianag.org/events

The Indian Land Tenure Foundation has funding available for land office internships.

Are there high school students in your community who are interested in exploring a career in tribal land? ILTF is offering grants for interns (Up to \$10,000 for one intern or \$15,000 for two) to work in tribal land offices in 2020. **Application deadline is January 7, 2020.**

<http://www.indianag.org/post/the-indian-land-tenure-foundation-has-funding-available-for-land-office-internships>

For questions please email thuberty@iltf.org or call 651-766-899

USDA Farm to School Grants

The FY 2020 Farm to School Grant Program Request for Applications (RFA) is now available here. The solicitation will remain open until 11:59pm ET on December 13, 2019. FNS seeks to award up to \$10 million this fiscal year.

Schools and school districts, Indian tribal organizations, State agencies, local agencies, non-profits, and small- and medium-sized agricultural producers are encouraged to apply. The Implementation and Planning tracks return from previous years, and FY 2020 also marks the first time that a separate track is available specifically **for State agencies (please see the RFA for additional eligibility requirements)**

Application link: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cfs/farm-school-grant-program>

EPA announces 2020 EPA Brownfields grant funding opportunities - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is accepting applications for the Fiscal Year 2020 Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grant program. The deadline to submit an application is December 3, 2019 at 11:59 PM (ET). These grants may be used to address properties contaminated by hazardous substances and/or petroleum. The proposals must be submitted through www.grants.gov, using the applicant tab.

FY20 State and Tribal Funding Guidance - The FY20 CERCLA 128(a) State and Tribal Funding Guidance's Notice of Funding Availability was posted in the Federal Register on September 23. Funding requests are due to the Regions December 6, 2019.

EPA Tribal Webinar Lithium-ion Battery Recycling - Date: Tuesday, December 10, 2019.

Time: 2:00 – 3:30 PM (EST). Click on this link to register:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3086811127628446988>. (If you have difficulty opening the link, please try it in a different browser.) Lithium-ion batteries are becoming more prevalent in our homes and businesses as battery containing electronic devices like laptops, tablets, smartphones and headphones become smaller, more portable and more integral to our daily lives.

Federal Facilities Online Academy: Coordinating with Tribes at Federal Facilities

Coordinating with Tribes at Federal Facilities is a two-hour webinar course that will provide an overview of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) policy on consultation and coordination with Indian Tribes at federal facilities. This webinar will also provide tips on how to work more collaboratively during this process. <https://clu-in.org/live/#Federal-Facilities-Online-Academy:Coordinating-with-Tribes-at-Federal-Facilities-20191202>

■ Other News of Interest

New Mexico Native American tribe building solar farms amid state's renewable transition

<https://www.currentargus.com/story/news/local/2019/10/25/new-mexico-native-american-tribe-solar-farms/4087750002/>

What western states can learn from Native American wildfire management strategies

https://newsmaven.io/indiancountrytoday/opinion/what-western-states-can-learn-from-native-american-wildfire-management-strategies-niV8JphxKkKqbhf136fX1Q/?fbclid=IwAR0qa9OgTs7cFC4tjeEovsUlezGt2pM_CJTNji5gXuoi38PUm79jQqDcAr0

Alaska Federation of Natives declares climate emergency

<https://newsmaven.io/indiancountrytoday/news/alaska-federation-of-natives-declares-climate-emergency-mkTHoLoqAkKpeKmNRjZkvw/>

