**Creating a GAP Success Story**

EPA Region 10 Indian Environmental Assistance Program

EPA Region 10 encourages GAP grant recipients to tell their stories in a written or video format, and to share those stories with their community and with EPA. Sharing information about your tribe’s accomplishments can help your community understand the work you do through GAP and help other tribes learn new ways of achieving their environmental goals.   
  
Region 10 has no required format for a success story, but recommends including the following elements:

* The author’s first and last name and job title.

**Optional Template and Examples**

EPA has an **optional template** that tribes may use to develop a written success story and several **examples** of case studies that you may wish to refer to when developing your story. Please visit [EPA Region 10 Tribal Environmental GAP Success Stories](https://www.epa.gov/tribal/region-10-tribal-environmental-gap-success-stories) (https://www.epa.gov/tribal/region-10-tribal-environmental-gap-success-stories).

* Name of the tribe and geographic location.
* Date.
* At least one photo of your community with a caption that clearly describes the image.\*
* Year the tribe received its first GAP grant.
* Year the project/activity was completed.
* The environmental problem the tribe addressed and why it was a priority.
* Key accomplishments.
* How this effort made a difference for your community and/or your region.

These elements can add depth to your story:

* Additional photos with captions; before and after images can be especially informative.
* Charts, tables, maps.
* Statistics, such as pounds recycled, number of trainings provided, or number of samples collected.
* Quotes from Tribal Council members or other members of the community.

For a ***video success story*,** the following elements may help you tell your story in an engaging way:

* Interviews with tribal leaders, Council members, or others who want to talk about the project.
* A written script.
* Footage of places important to the story.

There are no limits on the length of a video, but 1-3 minutes is usually sufficient. You can use whatever equipment you have available to film your video, such as a smartphone.   
  
*\*We recommend requesting written permission from parents or guardians if you wish to include images of children in your story.*

**Sharing Your Story**

We recommend sharing your story with:

* Your Tribal Council, your community, and your region through newsletters, social media, your website, community meetings, etc.
* Your EPA Project Officer via email or GAP Online.
* At conferences through session presentations.

If you take a video on your phone, you can try emailing the file. If the file is too big, upload it to YouTube or another video platform and then email the link. Posting it to YouTube or another venue will also make it easier to post on your tribal web page or share on social media.

**Contact**

If you need ideas or have questions about how to create a success story, please [contact your Project Officer](https://www.epa.gov/tribal/region-10-tribal-contacts#grant-officers).