

Region 9 Tribal Newsletter

United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, Pacific Southwest

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Musings from U.S. EPA Staff

EPA Region 9 Welcomes Kori Cordero as Senior Tribal Advisor

In December 2023, we welcomed Kori Cordero to the Region 9 (R9) team as our Senior Tribal Advisor. This new position is within the Office of the Regional Administrator—working directly with RA Guzman and across all R9 divisions to help ensure we are meeting our obligations to our sovereign Tribal partners.

Mx. Cordero spent their entire professional career working to support Native nations' law and policy efforts across various issues. Before joining the EPA, Kori worked as a Tribal government in-house counsel; Tribal corporate counsel; Tribal Office of Self-Governance Director; Tribal training and technical assistance provider; and CEO for a Tribal telecoms company. Their previous legal practice includes civil and criminal litigation, telecommunications, energy, cultural and environmental resource

protection, and restorative justice across tribal, federal, and state forums.

Mx. Cordero joined the EPA because Pres. Biden and EPA Administrator Michael Regan and RA Guzman's progressive policies and efforts to improve the relationship between the federal government and Native nations, particularly regarding the protection of Tribal natural and cultural resources, inspired them.

Outside of work, Kori dedicates their time volunteering to advance the rights of Tribes and increase the number of Native people entering the legal profession. Kori currently serves on the board of the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA) and ACLU-Northern California and has held a myriad of leadership positions within the American Bar Association and NNABA. Mx. Cordero graduated from the UCLA School of Law with two specializations in Critical Race Studies and Public Interest Law and Policy. Outside of work, Cordero is an amateur birder and photographer who dedicates time volunteering to advance the rights of Tribes and increase the number of Native people entering the legal profession.



Regulatory News

The EPA provides external links in this newsletter for informational purposes only. EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of non-EPA information provided by any third-party sites or any other linked site. EPA does not endorse any nongovernment websites, companies, internet applications or any policies or information expressed therein.

U.S. EPA | Memorandum Implementing Climate Resilience in Hazardous Waste Permitting

On June 5, 2024, EPA issued a final memorandum that provides guidance to EPA Regions, states, and territories on when and how to consider potential adverse climate change impacts in the hazardous waste permitting process under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. This guidance includes recommendations for conducting climate change vulnerability screenings and assessments for treatment, storage, and disposal facilities to determine whether there are climate vulnerabilities that hazardous waste permits should address. The memo's recommendations ensure that controls provide long-term effectiveness through resilience to adverse climate change impacts into the future.



Photo of Clear Lake taken from 3rd Annual Shigom Natural Environmental Day, hosted by Robinson Rancheria Pomo Indians of California.

[EPA Webpage | Implementing Climate Resilience in Hazardous Waste Permitting Memorandum](#)

Program Updates

U.S. EPA | EPA's Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJECR) announces new OEJECR Grants News and Updates webpage

EPA's Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJECR) announced the new OEJECR Grants News and Updates webpage. Visit the page to find grantee success stories, program deadline reminders and updates, and information about upcoming and past engagement opportunities.

[EPA OEJECR Grants News and Updates webpage](#)



Mountains around the Confederated Tribes of The Goshute Reservation.

U.S. EPA | *EPA Releases New Science-Based Recommendations to Help More States, Tribes, and Territories Reduce Exposure to PFAS in Fish*

On July 11, 2024, the EPA issued updated recommendations under the Clean Water Act for contaminants that states, Tribes, and territories should consider monitoring in locally caught, freshwater fish. EPA has added several per- and polyfluorinated substances (PFAS) to the contaminant list alongside lead, three cyanotoxins, a flame retardant, and amphetamine. The recommendation to monitor for twelve PFAS fulfills a key commitment in Administrator Regan's PFAS Strategic Roadmap and helps protect communities from exposure to these "forever chemicals."

[EPA Press Release | EPA Releases New Science-Based Recommendations to Help More States, Tribes, and Territories Reduce Exposure to PFAS in Fish](#)

U.S. Department of Energy | *Tribal Nations and Native Communities Resource Guide*

The U.S. Department of Energy published the Tribal Nations and Native Communities Resource Guide in February 2024 as part of the Biden-Harris Administration commitment to working closely with Tribal Nations and Native communities to apply for and deploy transformative federal funding opportunities to build bright clean energy futures. This guide provides resources for Tribal governments and nongovernmental partners to navigate, access, and utilize funding opportunities.

[DOE | Tribal Nations and Native Communities Resource Guide](#)

RTOC and Tribal/U.S. EPA Annual Conference

The Regional Tribal Operations Committee (RTOC) is a working committee of the EPA and tribal personnel co-chaired by an EPA representative and a tribal representative. The EPA designates its RTOC representatives through internal mechanisms. All tribes within Region 9 are considered members of the RTOC. Tribal representatives to the RTOC are selected through government-to-government communication, by tribal leaders in various geographical areas within Region 9.

Spring RTOC Recap

During the week of May 27, Region 9 Regional Tribal Operations Committee (RTOC) Co-Chair Roman Orona (Ak-Chin Indian Community) and Co-Chair Kristin Gullatt (EPA) convened the hybrid Spring 2024 RTOC meeting at the Table Mountain Casino in Friant, CA. The three-day meeting included a Tribal caucus, a discussion on the proposed National Tribal Caucus revisions, a presentation on mining, and several technical break-out sessions. The Spring RTOC presentations and meeting materials are available online.

[Region 9 RTOC Meeting: Spring 2024 | Presentations and Meeting Materials](#)

Summer RTOC Information

The Summer RTOC is scheduled to be a hybrid meeting, which will take place at the Soboba Casino Resort in San Jacinto, CA, the week of August 26. To register, please see the RTOC website.

2024 Tribal/EPA Region 9 Annual Conference

The 32nd Tribal/EPA Region 9 Annual Conference cosponsors, the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians, and EPA Region 9 are pleased to announce this year's conference will take place October 22-24, 2024, at the Hayes Mansion in San Jose, California. The conference brings together up to 500 participants from Tribal nations located

across Arizona, California, and Nevada, and representatives from federal, state, and local agencies, nonprofits, and academia.

Conference organizers are planning a hybrid event wherein attendees can view sessions in person or virtually via a live stream. For presentations to run as smoothly as possible, presenters are asked to plan on attending and presenting in-person. Session proposals are being accepted until August 16, 2024.

Registration is open now! Visit the registration page to get your ticket for in-person or virtual attendance: [Conference Registration](#)

Session proposals are being accepted now! If you'd like your session proposals to be considered for inclusion in the agenda, be sure to submit it by August 16, 2024. To submit a session proposal, please fill out the form located on the conference website submissions page: [Session Proposal Form](#)

Nominations for the Connor Byestewa Jr. Award are being accepted now! In recognition of Conner Byestewa Jr.'s commitment to environmental protection and Tribal heritage, we are accepting nominations that showcase those who have demonstrated leadership in Tribal environmental protection. We welcome nominees whose work strengthens Tribal sovereignty and self-determination, improves human health, and enhances community relationships. If this sounds like a person or organization you know, please submit a nomination by August 31, 2024 using the nomination form on the Conner Byestewa Jr. Award page: [Connor Byestewa Jr. Award Nominations](#)

For more information on the location, room block rates, registration, session proposals, the Connor Byestewa Jr. Award, and all other conference information, please visit the conference website: [Tribal/EPA Region 9 Annual Conference](#)

Tribal Resources

U.S. EPA | *Climate Resources for Tribes*

EPA's National Climate Resources for Tribes website contains resources to help Tribes address climate change impacts and develop climate adaptation and climate mitigation strategies.

[EPA National Climate Resources for Tribes](#)

U.S. EPA, USDA, and FDA | *National Strategy on Food Loss and Waste*

On June 12, EPA, USDA, and FDA announced the release of the National Strategy for Reducing Food Loss and Waste and Recycling Organics as part of President Biden's whole-of-government approach to tackle climate change, feed people, address environmental justice, and promote a circular economy. The goal of the strategy is to prevent



EPA General Assistance Program Project Officer, Mark Rayos (far right), visits the Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation Environmental Department staff (left to right): Specialist Marjle Pete, Director Clell Pete, and Specialist Genevieve Fields.

the loss and waste of food, where possible, increase recycling of food and other organic materials to support a more circular economy for all, reduce GHG emissions, save households and businesses money, and build cleaner, healthier communities.

[National Strategy for Reducing Food Loss and Waste and Recycling Organics EPA Press Release](#) | [National Strategy to Reduce Food Loss and Waste](#)

State of California | *California Grants Portal and Funding Workbook for California Tribes*

The California Grants Portal is a great resource where Tribes can find all state grant funding opportunities in one place. The Grants Portal allows you to search by keyword to find specific funding opportunities.

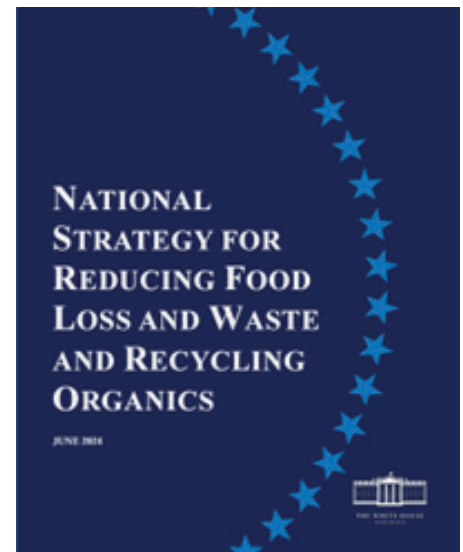
The California Climate Investments' new Funding Workbook is a resource that guides Tribal leaders and Tribal staff through identifying whether funding opportunities available through California Climate Investments may be a good fit.

[California Grants Portal](#)
[Funding Workbook for All California Tribes](#)

U.S. EPA | *Healthy Child Care & Early Learning Facilities Self-Assessment*

The Healthy Child Care & Early Learning Facilities Self-Assessment is a free, simple to use checklist that helps identify common environmental exposures and risks. It provides easy to implement solutions helping users tackle environmental challenges. Facilities can use this checklist quarterly to provide an environment with greater health, safety and quality for children, families, and staff. While the assessment was created to focus on child care and early learning centers, many of the questions and resources are applicable to all learning environments.

[Healthy Child Care & Early Learning Facilities Self-Assessment](#)



Tribal Consultation

A full list of active EPA Tribal Consultation opportunities are available on the EPA's Tribal Consultation Opportunities Tracking System (TCOTS) [webpage](#). If interested, join the TCOTS Listserv by sending a message to, Join-epa_tcots@lists.epa.gov to receive email notifications on the latest U.S. EPA Tribal Consultations.

U.S. EPA Region 9 | *Water Division: Development of the Clean Water Indian Set-Aside Emerging Contaminant Program*

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 9 is offering federally recognized Indian Tribes the opportunity to consult to inform development of the Clean Water Indian Set-Aside Emerging Contaminant (CWI-SA-EC) Program. Region 9 will be developing prioritization methodology to select projects that are eligible for funding under the CWISA-EC Program and is currently requesting input on the following aspects of the Program:

1. Proposed funding process,
2. Proposed funding timeline, and

3. Potential emerging contaminants for regional sampling programs.

Tribal Consultation period: **July 1, 2024 to September 2, 2024**

Region 9 Contacts: Nancy Sockabasin, Sockabasin.Nancy@epa.gov and Amita Muralidharan, Muralidharan.Amita@epa.gov.

Informational Webinar: **July 31, 2024 from 10:00am – 12:00pm (Pacific Time)** - [Click here to join the meeting.](#)

Tribal Consultation Webinar: **September 11, 2024 from 10:00am – 12:00pm (Pacific Time)** - [Click here to join the meeting.](#)

Website: [CWISA-EC Program Consultation Opportunity](#)

U.S. EPA Region 9 | Air and Radiation Division

The EPA Region 9 Air and Radiation Division (ARD) is currently reviewing the following State Implementation Plan (SIP) submittals from state and local air agencies. These SIP submittals address requirements under the Clean Air Act related to plans to attain the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), New Source Review (NSR) permitting programs or rules, and prohibitory rules to reduce air pollutant emissions. The plans and rules submitted by states and local air districts would not apply in any areas of Indian Country. If you would like information on any of these SIP submittals, please email the point of contact for the submittal.

Plan Submittals:

Contact: *Idalia Perez, Manager of the Planning Section*, perez.idalia@epa.gov

- Yuma Redesignation Request Maintenance Plan 8-hour Ozone (2015 Standard)
- Yuba City-Marysville 2006 PM2.5 2nd Maintenance Plan
- San Joaquin Valley 1979 Ozone Redesignation Request Maintenance Plan
- Mammoth Lake 1987 PM10 2nd Maintenance Plan
- San Joaquin Valley 2008 Ozone NAAQS Contingency Measures SIP
- Phoenix-Mesa Nonattainment for 2015 Ozone NAAQS: Potential Reclassification Serious
- Las Vegas Nonattainment Area for 2015 Ozone NAAQS: Potential Reclassification Serious
- Pechanga Tribal Nonattainment Area for 2015 Ozone NAAQS: Potential Reclassification Serious

Contact: *Rory Mays, Acting Manager of the Geographic Strategies & Modeling Section*, mays.rory@epa.gov

- Arizona 2012 PM2.5 Infrastructure SIP (non-transport elements)
- Arizona Regional Haze 2023 Progress Report
- Arizona 2015 O3 Infrastructure SIP - Prong 4 Visibility
- Arizona Regional Haze - 2nd Implementation Period Plan 2022
- Arizona 2012 PM2.5 Infrastructure SIP - Element D Transport Prongs 1 and 2

Rule Submittals

Contact: *Doris Lo, Manager of the Rules Section*, Lo.Doris@epa.gov

- California Advanced Clean Cars Regulation - 2012 and 2018 Amendments
 - CARB Heavy-Duty Inspection and Maintenance Regulation
 - Eastern Kern APCD Rule 402.2 Agricultural Operations
 - Eastern Kern APCD Rule 402 Fugitive Dust
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Contact: Lisa Beckham, Manager of the Control Measures Section, beckham.lisa@epa.gov

- Maricopa County Rule 350 Storage and Transfer of Organic Liquids (Non-Gasoline) at an Organic Liquid Distribution (OLD) Facility
- Maricopa County Rule 351 Storage and Loading of Gasoline at Bulk Gasoline Plants and at Bulk Gasoline Terminals
- Maricopa County Rule 352 Gasoline Cargo Tank Testing and Use
- Maricopa County Rule 353 Storage and Loading of Gasoline at a Gasoline Dispensing Facility
- San Diego 2008 Ozone - Severe RACT
- San Diego 2015 Ozone - Severe RACT

U.S. EPA Region 9 | Tribal Operations Committee Consultation Workgroup

Each month, the Region 9 Tribal Operations Committee Consultation Workgroup meets to share information and discuss consultation topics of interest. This RTOC workgroup is jointly chaired by Cliff Banuelos, Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, and EPA Region 9. For more information or to become involved, please contact Cliff at Cbanuelos@itcn.org.

U.S. EPA Region 9 Water Division | Tribal Engagement Opportunities for National and Regional Water Actions Visual Calendar

In response to ongoing requests from Tribes in Region 9 for more outreach on current Tribal consultations, we have compiled a schedule of upcoming consultation engagement opportunities for all the various EPA proposed water actions on deck. This document provides a visual calendar component to track important consultation dates and includes a narrative component that briefly summarizes all current actions with more specific resources. To access the most current and future visual calendars, please follow the links below.

[Tribal Consultation | EPA Pacific Southwest \(Region 9\)](#)

[Tribal Clean Water Act Programs and Grants | EPA Pacific Southwest \(Region 9\)](#)

Funding Opportunities

Stay up to date on federal grant opportunities by using the [Grants.gov](#) search page.

U.S. Forest Service | Tribal Access to Emerging Private Markets for Climate Mitigation and Forest Resilience

- Purpose: The Inflation Reduction Act provides the USDA Forest Service with funding to support the participation of underserved landowners in emerging private markets for climate mitigation or forest resilience. Emerging private markets for climate mitigation or forest resilience include but are not limited to formal markets for carbon sequestration, water quality and quantity, habitat protection, biodiversity conservation, and wetland restoration. Whether regulatory or voluntary, these markets have the potential to attract private capital to land conservation and create additional revenue streams for Tribes and individual Tribal members. With this funding opportunity, the USDA Forest Service intends to support Tribes that self-determine interest in gaining access to these emerging markets.
- Funding: Applicants may submit one proposal requesting up to \$2 million.
- Eligibility: Open to federally recognized Tribes, Alaska Native Corporations/Villages, and Tribal Organizations.
- Application due date: **August 21, 2024.**

[Application | Tribal Access to Emerging Private Markets for Climate Mitigation and Forest Resilience](#)

U.S. Department of Transportation | *Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program*

- Purpose: This program provides two funding categories of grants: (1) Community Charging and Alternative Fueling Grants (Community Program); and (2) Charging and Alternative Fuel Corridor Grants (Corridor Program). The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides \$2.5 billion over five years for this program to strategically deploy electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure and other alternative fueling infrastructure projects in urban and rural communities in publicly accessible locations, including downtown areas and local neighborhoods, particularly in underserved and disadvantaged communities.
- Funding: Up to \$800 million to fund CFI Round 2 applications.
- Eligibility: Includes Indian Tribes (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. § 5304)).
- Application due date: **August 28, 2024.**

[Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program Website Application | Charging and Fueling Infrastructure \(CFI\) Discretionary Grant Program](#)

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation | *WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program – Phase 1*

- Purpose: To fund projects for Watershed group development, watershed restoration planning, and watershed management project design.
- Funding: Up to \$300,000 per year for three years for eligible watershed activities.
- Eligibility: Applications accepted from federally recognized Tribes in the 17 Western States, Alaska, Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.
- Application due date: **September 3, 2024.**

[WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program – Phase 1](#)

U.S. Department of Agriculture | *Composting and Food Waste Reduction Cooperative Agreements*

- Purpose: This program will assist local and municipal governments with projects that develop and test strategies for planning and implementing municipal compost and food waste reduction plans.
- Funding: The award floor is \$75,000; the ceiling is \$400,000. The grant requires a 25% match.
- Eligibility: Includes State-designated Indian Tribes, Native American Tribal governments (Federally recognized), and Native American Tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized Tribal governments).
- Application due date: **September 4, 2024.**

[USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction Cooperative Agreement Program](#)

U.S. EPA | *Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside Lead Service Replacement program*

- Purpose: EPA is pleased to invite Tribes to apply for Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside (DWTSA) Lead Service Replacement (LSLR) program funding available through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, to support the investigation and removal of lead service lines in drinking water infrastructure.



- Funding: Approximately \$26.5 million in FY24 funds will be available to support eligible projects to investigate and remove lead service lines.
- Eligibility: Open to federally recognized Tribes in Region 9. Projects must be otherwise Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside eligible and be a lead service line replacement project or associated activity directly connected to the identification, planning, design, or replacement of lead service lines. This includes investigatory work to meet the compliance requirement for service line inventories for community water systems and non-transient non-community water systems.
- Application due date: Please make special note that for service line inventory projects there is an expected 6- month timeline from proposal submission to funds awarded and the inventories must be completed and submitted to EPA by **October 16, 2024**. Proposals for lead service line replacement projects will be accepted on a rolling basis.

[DWTSA Lead Service Line Replacement \(LSLR\) Program](#)

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation | *WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grants*

- Purpose: For the implementation of on-the-ground water management improvement projects, including projects that conserve water and address water supply reliability.
- Funding: Up to \$5 million for water conservation projects.
- Eligibility: Applications accepted from federally recognized Tribes in the 17 Western States, Alaska, Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.
- Application due date: **October 30, 2024**.

[WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grants](#)

U.S. EPA | *Community Change Equitable Resilience Technical Assistance and Grants*

- Purpose: With a special focus on disaster-prone and vulnerable communities, Community Change Grants are available to provide free design and project development assistance, community engagement, and partnership development workshops. Climate resilience projects that qualify for technical assistance include a focus on new or expanded green infrastructure, open spaces, and/or retrofits of existing community buildings or streets to address climate change impacts. Requests for technical assistance are being accepted on a rolling basis until 50 recipients have been identified. Eligible projects must show the following:
 - Intent and eligibility to apply for a grant under the Community Change Grant Notice of Funding Opportunity.
 - Agreement to host EPA contractors for site visits.
 - Project location in a disaster-prone area.
 - Site description, ownership status, and environmental and land use information (if available).
 - Potential resilience benefits for disadvantaged community.
 - Engagement opportunities.
- Funding: Up to \$20 million.
- Eligibility: A partnership between community-based non-profit organization and a federally recognized Tribe.
- Application due date: Accepted on rolling basis until **November 21, 2024**.

[Community Change Equitable Resilience Technical Assistance Website](#)

[Community Change Grants Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)

U.S. EPA | *2024 Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Tribal and Territory Grants Competition*

- Purpose: To implement projects aimed at reducing diesel emissions from older diesel engines. Legacy
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diesel engines emit large amounts of NOx and PM2.5, which contribute to serious public health problems, including asthma, lung disease, and various other cardiac and respiratory diseases.

- Funding: EPA anticipates awarding approximately \$9 million under this announcement. A total of \$8 million will be made available to Tribal governments (or intertribal consortia) and Alaska Native Villages, and \$1 million will be made available to territory governments. EPA anticipates awarding twelve to eighteen grants or cooperative agreements to Tribal governments (or intertribal consortia) and Alaska Native Villages and three to five grants or cooperative agreements to territory governments.
- Eligibility: Applications will be accepted from federally recognized Tribal governments (or intertribal consortia), Alaska Native Villages, or government agencies of the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which have jurisdiction over transportation or air quality. Please note that although funding for both Tribes and territories is planned under this single NOFO, the applications will be competed separately.
- Application due date: **December 6, 2024.**

[2024 Diesel Emissions Reduction Act Tribal and Territory Grants Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation | *WaterSMART Small Scale Efficiency Projects*

- Purpose: For the implementation of small-scale water efficiency improvements that have been identified through previous planning efforts.
- Funding: Up to \$100,000 for water efficiency improvements.
- Eligibility: Applications accepted from federally recognized Tribes in the 17 Western States, Alaska, Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.
- Application due date: **January 14, 2025.**

[WaterSMART Small Scale Efficiency Projects](#)

U.S. Department of Agriculture | *Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program*

- Purpose: This program provides funding for improvements to drinking water systems, wastewater systems, sanitary solid waste disposal, and stormwater systems. Funds may be used to develop or update projects for drinking water sourcing, treatment, storage, and distribution; sewer collection, transmission, treatment, and disposal; solid waste collection, disposal, and closure; stormwater collection, transmission, and disposal.
- Funding: This program provides Grants and loans (low interest, long-term) to Tribes, nonprofit organizations, and public bodies in rural areas of 10,000 population or less.
- Eligibility: Open to federally recognized Tribes.
- Application due date: **Applications accepted year-round.** For more information call or email Luis Andrade at Luis.Andrade@usda.gov or (760) 355-2208 ext. 108.

[Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program webpage](#)

U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development | *Rural Energy for America Program*

- Funding: Water transmission line grants up to \$150,000 to construct waterline extensions, repair breaks or leaks in existing water distribution lines, and address related maintenance necessary to replenish the water supply. Water source grants up to \$1,000,000 to construct a water source, intake, or treatment facility.
- Eligibility: Open to federally recognized Tribes.
- Application due date: **Applications accepted year-round.**

[Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants webpage](#)

U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development | *Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants*

- Purpose: USDA Rural Development is partnering with rural small business owners and agricultural producers across the nation to lower energy costs and expand their businesses through the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). REAP helps agricultural producers and rural small businesses purchase and install renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements. REAP funds may be used for renewable energy systems, such as: wind, solar and other forms of clean energy. Funds may also be used for the purchase, installation, and construction of energy efficiency improvements, such as: high-efficiency heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems (HVAC), insulation, lighting, cooling or refrigeration units, doors, and windows and more.
- Funding: Loan guarantees on loans up to 75 percent of total eligible project costs, Grants for up to 50 percent of total eligible project costs, or Combined grant and loan guarantee funding up to 75 percent of total eligible project costs
- Eligibility: A Tribal corporation or other Tribal business entities that are chartered under Section 17 of the Indian Reorganization Act (25 USC 477) or have similar structures and relationships with their Tribal government without regard to the resources of the Tribal government (meaning only the applicant entity must meet the definition of a small business).
- Application due date: **September 30, 2024.**

[Rural America for America Program Webpage](#)

CA Strategic Growth Council and CA Department of Conservation | *Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program Draft Round 10 Guidelines*

- Purpose:
 - The California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) and the California Department of Conservation (DOC) will release the Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC) Draft Round 10 Guidelines for public comment on July 24, 2024. Key dates and timelines are noted below; look for updates and workshop announcements on the SALC website. Please feel free to reach out to salcp@conservation.ca.gov with any questions or to discuss potential projects.
 - ◊ Draft guidelines will be available for public comment on July 24, 2024, and the final guidelines and NOFA on October 31, 2024.
 - ◊ Public comments can be emailed to SALCP@conservation.ca.gov or mailed to the Department of Conservation, 715 P Street MC 1904, Sacramento, CA 95814.
 - The SALC program supports agricultural land conservation, economic growth, and sustainable development by providing grants for three types of projects: Land Use Planning grants that support the development of local and regional land use policies and economic development strategies to protect critical agricultural land; Agricultural Conservation Acquisition grants to permanently protect croplands, rangelands, and lands utilized for the cultivation of traditional resources from conversion to non-agricultural uses; and Capacity and Project Development grants to expand organizational capacity to develop agricultural conservation acquisition projects.
- Funding:
 - Planning grants: up to \$500,000; Acquisition grants: no maximum, depends on program fund availability; and Capacity grants up to \$250,000.
- Eligibility: Federally recognized California Native American Tribes, non-federally recognized California Native American Tribes on the contact list maintained by the California Native American Heritage Commission, and 501 (c)(3) nonprofits with a Native American-centered mission or majority Native American board and a Native American-centered mission are eligible to apply for all three SALC Grant types.

Please refer to the SALC guidelines for more details.

- Application due date: Pre-proposals (required for Acquisition and Capacity grants only) are due **January 31, 2025**. Applications (all grant types) are due **July 3, 2025**.



[Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program \(SALC\) Website](#)

BIA | *Tribal Access to Capital Clearinghouse*

- Purpose: The Tribal Access to Capital Clearinghouse was launched at the White House Tribal Nations Summit on December 6, 2023, to provide a one-stop-shop for Tribes to find federal funding. The clearinghouse was created from a multi-agency strategy to improve awareness of, access to, and utilization of federal funding resources for Tribal governments, and Tribal businesses.
- Funding: Funding amounts vary based on opportunity.
- Eligibility: Open to Tribal governments, Tribal enterprises, Native entrepreneurs, and Native Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs).
- Application due date: Varies based on funding opportunity.

[Tribal Access to Capital Clearinghouse](#)

U.S. EPA | *Funding Announcements from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act*

- Purpose: EPA developed this resource to provide an overview of current and upcoming funding opportunities from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act. The page is frequently updated with new funding opportunities. Funding amounts and deadlines are tentative and subject to change. See the link below for the overview of funding opportunities.
- Funding: Funding amounts vary based on opportunity.
- Eligibility: Varies based on funding opportunity.
- Application due date: Varies based on funding opportunity.

[EPA | Funding Announcements from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act](#)

Training & Technical Assistance

Training opportunities in this newsletter are either hosted, funded, or sponsored in collaboration with the EPA. Any links to websites outside of EPA are provided for additional information that may be useful or interesting to our readers. The EPA can neither attest to the accuracy of these third-party sites nor endorse any nongovernment websites, companies, or applications.

U.S. EPA | *Waste and Materials Management Training Series for Tribes*

Register today for upcoming, free, in-person training workshops on a variety of waste topics! These training workshops are intended for Tribal staff.

Please direct any questions about the training workshops to Jenny Stephenson (Stephenson.jenny@epa.gov).

Date	Location	Training and Registration Link
August 1, 2024	Reno, NV	Strategic Waste Management Planning: Making Your Integrated Waste Management Plan Useful
Aug 6 - 7, 2024	Shingle Springs, CA	Starting Community Composting Programs on Tribal Lands
Sept 18 - 20, 2024	Lakeport, CA	Household Hazardous Waste Collection Best Management Practices
Nov 13 - 14, 2024	Maricopa, AZ	Conducting Waste Characterizations

Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals | *Annual Tribal Lands and Environment Forum*

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals' (ITEP) Tribal Lands and Environment Forum hybrid event will take place on August 12-15, 2024, online and in person in Eugene, Oregon. This 14th annual forum provides a community for environmental professionals from Tribes, US EPA, State/Local/Federal agencies, community organizations, and other interested parties to network, share knowledge, and work together to improve management, protection, and restoration of Tribal lands.

[Tribal Lands and Environment Forum Website](#)

U.S. EPA | *Brownfields Job Training Funding Opportunity*

EPA's Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization (OBLR) is soliciting applications from eligible entities for Brownfields Job Training Grants funding. Eligible entities can include state and local governments, Tribes, and nonprofit organizations.

Through the Brownfields Job Training Program, graduates develop the skills needed to secure full-time, sustainable employment in various aspects of hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, and petroleum products within the larger environmental field. These green jobs reduce environmental contamination and build more sustainable futures for communities. The application submission deadline is **August 15th, 2024**.

[EPA FY 2025 Brownfields Job Training Grant Guidelines and Application Resources Webpage](#)

Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals | *National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference*

Save the date for the 2024 Biennial National Tribal and Indigenous Climate Conference (NTICC), slated for September 9-12, 2024, in Anchorage, Alaska. The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) Tribes and Climate Change Program is seeking proposals for presentations, trainings, working groups, and climate conversation breakout sessions.

[National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference Website](#)

Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona | Tribal Pesticide Inspector Training – September 10-13, 2024

Upcoming Tribal Pesticide Inspector Training provided by the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona in collaboration with the Gila River Indian Community, Department of Environmental Quality, Arizona Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. EPA Region 9.

The training will be held September 10-13, 2024 in Chandler, Arizona at the Wild Horse Pass Hotel and Casino. Information to be covered in this training includes Worker Protection, certification and training and other key pesticide topics, basic enforcement consideration, inspection techniques, and a mock inspection/field activity. If you have any questions, contact Africa Dorame-Avalos via email at Africa.Dorame-Avalos@itcaonline.com.

[ITCA Tribal Pesticide Inspector Training](#)

U.S. EPA | Emergency Planning, Preparedness & Response for Tribal Nations Workshop

On October 16, 2024, U.S. EPA Region 9 will host a virtual workshop for Tribal nations with participation from federal, state, and local agencies. The goal of the workshop is to provide information, resources, and peer-to-peer best practices to support Tribal emergency managers in planning for and responding to emergencies. Please visit the Region 9 Tribal Emergency Preparedness and Response Workshop page for access to the forthcoming agenda, presentation materials and links to additional resources. No password or login is required. For questions, please contact: Cat Looper (415-535-0136, looper.catherine@epa.gov); Tara Fitzgerald (415-243-6851, fitzgerald.tara@epa.gov); or Celeste McCoy (562-574-9817, mccoy.celeste@epa.gov).

Stay tuned for information on future webinars with additional case studies and peer-to-peer information sharing.

[Region 9 Tribal Emergency Preparedness and Response Workshop page](#)
[Microsoft Teams Meeting Link - Tribal Emergency Preparedness and Response Workshop](#)

Tribal Climate Health Project | 2024 Tribal Climate & Health Adaptation Summit

Hosted by the Tribal Climate Health Project, the Tribal Climate & Health Adaptation Summit will focus on arming Tribal-serving professionals with the knowledge and skills needed to act on the unique climate and health vulnerabilities, particularly wildfire, drought, and heat disasters. The summit will take place in person on November 6-7, 2024, in Pala, CA.

[Tribal Climate & Health Adaptation Summit Website](#)



SEPTEMBER 10-13, 2024
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
WILD HORSE PASS RESORT & CASINO
CHANDLER, AZ

Training will include:

- ✓ Worker Protection Standard
- ✓ Agricultural Use Inspections
- ✓ Current and emerging compliance and enforcement issues
- ✓ Certification & Training
- ✓ Inspection Reporting and requirements
- ✓ De-escalating techniques
- ✓ Field trip/mock inspection activity

For new and experienced **Tribal pesticide inspectors** and **pesticide program managers** who work under a FIFRA Cooperative Agreement

Questions?

Contact Africa Avalos
 (602) 558-0768

africa.dorame-avalos@itcaonline.com

Training provided by the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona in collaboration with Gila River Indian Community/ Department of Environmental Quality, Arizona Department of Agriculture and U.S. EPA Region 9

U.S. EPA | *Water Technical Assistance*

EPA's free Water Technical Assistance (WaterTA) services support communities to identify water challenges, develop plans, build technical, managerial, and financial capacity, and develop application materials to access water infrastructure funding. To implement WaterTA, EPA collaborates with states, Tribes, territories, community partners, and other key stakeholders.

[EPA Water Technical Assistance \(WaterTA\) Website](#)

U.S. EPA | *Region 9 Targeted Brownfields Assessments*

EPA offers help with researching historical property records, conducting environmental sampling, and identifying potential environmental concerns. EPA can provide communities with free environmental assessments, cleanup planning, and visioning services for brownfield properties with redevelopment potential.

[Region 9 Targeted Brownfields Assessment Application](#)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development | *Tribal Homelessness Network Series*

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is sponsoring virtual sessions in partnership with the Tribal Homelessness Network (THN) to share resources that address homelessness including the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program. THN members will identify topic areas and lead discussions based on issues and challenges communities encounter. These sessions are intended for current housing representatives of Tribes and TDHEs.

Session	Date and Time	Registration
Building Communities	July 30, 2024 12:30 - 1:30 PM EDT	Register Now
CoC 101 Training: Part 1	August 20, 2024 4:00 - 5:00 PM EDT	Register Now
CoC 101 Training: Part 2	August 22, 2024 4:00 - 5:00 PM EDT	Register Now

[Announcement of Continuum of Care Tribal Homelessness Network](#)



Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9 Intergovernmental Branch
Environmental Justice, Community Engage-
ment and Environmental Review Division

75 Hawthorne St.
San Francisco, CA. 94105

Get in Touch!

Get in Touch! Do you have an idea for inclusion in an upcoming newsletter? Do you have a question or comment about an article in this issue? Please submit ideas, questions, Tribal success stories, original photos, or other feedback to the R9 Tribal Newsletter Coordinator, Edem Yevo, at:

R9Communities@epa.gov

R9 Tribal Programs: www.epa.gov/tribal/epaspacificsouthwest-tribal-programregion-9

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Please see and subscribe to our [U.S. EPA in the Pacific Southwest Newsletter](#) for more general news about the U.S. EPA in Region 9.



To report environmental violations,

please call 1-800-300-2193,

operational during normal working hours, Monday through Friday.

To report oil or chemical spills, please call the emergency line. More information on reporting spills and environmental violations could be found here:

[How to Report Spills and Environmental Violations](#)