



ITEC NEWS

"The Official Newsletter of the Inter-Tribal Environmental Council"

Volume 16 Issue #6

ITEC MEMBER TRIBES

Absentee-Shawnee Tribe
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe
Alabama-Quassarte Tribe
Apache Tribe
Caddo Nation
Cherokee Nation
Cheyenne/Arapaho Tribes
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
Comanche Nation
Delaware Nation
Eastern Shawnee Tribe
Fort Sill Apache
Iowa Tribe
Jicarilla Apache Nation
Kaw Nation
Kialagee Tribal Town
Kickapoo Tribe
Kiowa Tribe
Miami Tribe
Modoc Tribe
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Osage Nation
Otoe-Missouria Tribe
Ottawa Tribe
Pawnee Nation
Peoria Tribe
Ponca Tribe
Pueblo of Laguna
Pueblo of Santa Ana
Pueblo of Santa Clara
Pueblo of Taos
Pueblo of Tesuque
Quapaw Tribe
Sac & Fox Nation
Seminole Nation
Seneca-Cayuga Tribe
Thlopthlocco Tribal Town
Tonkawa Tribe
Wichita & Affiliated Tribes
Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
Zuni Tribe

NEW REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR ATTENDS RTOC MEETING



The Regional Tribal Caucus and Operational Committee meetings were held in Albuquerque, New Mexico on March 9th & 10th. Dr. Al Armendariz, EPA Region 6 Administrator, served as co-chair and was welcomed by attendees of the full RTOC meeting. Representatives from 31 Tribes and EPA Region 6 Senior Management and staff also participated in the meeting. During the Tribal Caucus meeting, Antonio Chavarria with the New Mexico Museum of Indian Arts and Culture provided an informative presentation regarding the environmental hazards associated with storing and handling cultural artifacts. Secretary Ron Curry from the New Mexico Environment Department provided a summary to the full RTOC on the history leading to the current status of state and tribal relations in New Mexico. Cecilia Flores with the Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas lead the discussion on a recruiting tool proposal for EPA to consider student loan paybacks similar to the process utilized by Indian Health Services.

Additional topics discussed during the RTOC meeting included a presentation and discussion on issues related to permitting and enforcement in Indian Country. The Superfund program provided an overview of ongoing activities related to the Grants Mineral and Uranium mining belt. Tribal and EPA priorities were discussed to clarify tribal needs in EPA Region 6 and the potential effects of Administrator Jackson's priorities in Indian Country.





EARTH DAY APRIL 22

Environmental Progress

EPA was born in 1970 - a time when rivers caught fire and cities were hidden under dense clouds of smoke. We've made remarkable progress since then in protecting human health and safeguarding the natural environment. To learn about environmental progress since EPA's creation, see the dates below.

In the 1970s

1970

Twenty million people celebrate the first Earth Day.

President Richard Nixon creates EPA with a mission to protect the environment and public health. Congress amends the Clean Air Act to set national air quality, auto emission, and anti-pollution standards.

1971

Congress restricts use of lead-based paint in residences and on cribs and toys. EPA bans DDT, a cancer-causing pesticide, and requires extensive review of all pesticides. **In 1996, the bald eagle was removed from the endangered species list, reflecting its recovery since the 1972 DDT ban.**

1972

The United States and Canada agree to clean up the Great Lakes, which contain 95 percent of America's fresh water and supply drinking water for 25 million people. Congress passes the Clean Water Act, limiting raw sewage and other pollutants flowing into rivers, lakes, and streams. **In 1972, only 36 percent of the nation's assessed stream miles were safe for uses such as fishing and swimming; today, about 60 percent are safe for such uses.**

1973

EPA begins phasing out leaded gasoline. OPEC oil embargo triggers energy crisis, stimulating conservation and research on alternative energy sources. EPA issues its first permit limiting a factory's polluted discharges into waterways.

1974

Congress passes the Safe Drinking Water Act, allowing EPA to regulate the quality of public drinking water.

1975

Congress establishes fuel economy standards and sets tail-pipe emission standards for cars, resulting in the introduction of catalytic converters.

1976

Congress passes the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, regulating hazardous waste from its production to its disposal. President Gerald Ford signs the Toxic Substances Control Act to reduce environmental and human health risks. EPA begins phase-out of cancer-causing PCB production and use.

1977

President Jimmy Carter signs the Clean Air Act Amendments to strengthen air quality standards and protect human health.

1978

Residents discover that Love Canal, New York, is contaminated by buried leaking chemical containers. The federal government bans chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) as propellants in aerosol cans because CFCs destroy the ozone layer, which protects the earth from harmful ultraviolet radiation.

1979

EPA demonstrates scrubber technology for removing air pollution from coal-fired power plants. This technology is widely adopted in the 1980s. Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accident near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, increases awareness and discussion about nuclear power safety. EPA and other agencies monitor radioactive fallout.

In the 1980s

1980

Congress creates Superfund to clean up hazardous waste sites. Polluters are made responsible for cleaning up the most hazardous sites.

1981

National Research Council report finds acid rain intensifying in the Northeastern United States and Canada.

1982

Congress enacts laws for safe disposal of nuclear waste. Dioxin contamination forces the government to purchase homes in Times Beach, Missouri. The federal government and the responsible polluters share the cleanup costs. A PCB landfill protest in North Carolina begins the environmental justice movement.

1983

Cleanup actions begin to rid the Chesapeake Bay of pollution stemming from sewage treatment plants, urban runoff, and farm waste. EPA encourages homeowners to test for radon gas, which causes lung cancer. **To date, more than 18 million homes have been tested for radon. Approximately 575 lives are saved annually due to radon mitigation and radon-resistant new construction.**

1985

Scientists report that a giant hole in the earth's ozone layer opens each spring over Antarctica.

1986

Congress declares the public has a right to know when toxic chemicals are released into air, land, and water. The United States signs the Montreal Protocol, pledging to phase-out production of CFCs. Medical and other waste washes up on shores, closing beaches in New York and New Jersey.

1988

Congress bans ocean dumping of sewage sludge and industrial waste.

1989

Exxon Valdez spills 11 million gallons of crude oil in Alaska's Prince William Sound.



In the 1990s

1990

Congress passes the Clean Air Act Amendments, requiring states to demonstrate progress in improving air quality. EPA's Toxic Release Inventory tells the public which pollutants are being released from specific facilities in their communities. **The number of chemicals listed in EPA's Toxic Release Inventory nearly doubled, from 328 in 1990 to 644 in 1999.** President George Bush signs the Pollution Prevention Act, emphasizing the importance of preventing—not just correcting—environmental damage. President George Bush signs the National Environmental Education Act, signifying the importance of educating the public to ensure scientifically sound, balanced, and responsible decisions about the environment.

1991

Federal agencies begin using recycled content products. EPA launches voluntary industry partnership programs for energy-efficient lighting and for reducing toxic chemical emissions.

1992

EPA launches the Energy Star® Program to help consumers identify energy-efficient products.

1993

EPA reports secondhand smoke contaminates indoor air, posing serious health risks to nonsmokers. **Today, more than 80 percent of Americans protect their children from secondhand smoke exposure at home.** A cryptosporidium outbreak in Milwaukee, Wisconsin's drinking water sickens 400,000 people and kills more than 100. President Bill Clinton directs the federal government to use its \$200 billion annual purchasing power to buy recycled and environmentally preferable products.

1994

EPA launches its Brownfields Program to clean up abandoned, contaminated sites to return them to productive community use. EPA issues new standards for chemical plants that will reduce toxic air pollution by more than half a million tons each year—the equivalent of taking 38 million vehicles off the road annually.

1995

EPA launches an incentive-based acid rain program to reduce sulfur dioxide emissions. EPA requires municipal incinerators to reduce toxic emissions by 90 percent from 1990 levels.

1996

Public drinking water suppliers are required to inform customers about chemicals and microbes in their water, and funding is made available to upgrade water treatment plants. **Today, the vast majority of American households have safe drinking water, and receive annual reports on the quality of their drinking water.** EPA requires that home buyers and renters be informed about lead-based paint hazards. President Bill Clinton signs the Food Quality Protection Act to tighten standards for pesticides used to grow food, with special protections to ensure that foods are safe for children to eat.

1997

An Executive Order is issued to protect children from environmental health risks, including childhood asthma and lead poisoning. EPA issues tough new air quality standards for smog and soot, an action that would improve air quality for 125 million Americans.

1998

President Bill Clinton announces the Clean Water Action Plan to continue making America's waterways safe for fishing and swimming.

1999

President Bill Clinton announces new emissions standards for cars, sport utility vehicles, minivans and trucks, requiring them to be 77 percent to 95 percent cleaner than in 1999. EPA announces new requirements to improve air quality in national parks and wilderness areas.

In the 2000s

2000

EPA establishes regulations requiring more than 90 percent cleaner heavy duty highway diesel engines and fuel.

2002

President George W. Bush signs the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act to reclaim and restore thousands of abandoned properties.

2003

President George W. Bush signs the Healthy Forests Restoration Act, helping to prevent forest fires and safeguard and preserve the nation's forests. EPA establishes the Clean School Bus USA program, retrofitting more than 40,000 school buses nationwide, which will remove 200,000 pounds of particulate matter from the air over the next 10 years. Clear Skies legislation and alternative regulations are proposed to create a cap and trade system to reduce SO₂ emissions by 70 percent and NO_x emissions by 65 percent below current levels.

2004

New, more protective, 8-hour ozone and fine particulate standards go into effect across the country. EPA requires cleaner fuels and engines for off-road diesel machinery such as farm or construction equipment.

2005

EPA establishes the Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) program. Through CARE, 860 local organizations, including non-profits, schools and governments, work together to reduce local releases of toxic pollutants.

2006

WaterSense is launched to raise awareness about the importance of water efficiency, ensure the performance of water-efficient products and provide good consumer information. EPA initiated the National Mercury Switch Vehicle Recovery Program, which has removed over one million mercury-containing automotive switches, reducing mercury emissions by one ton.

2007

Through the Energy Star program, EPA in 2007 prevented greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those from 27 million vehicles, while helping Americans save \$16 billion on their energy bills. EPA's climate change efforts have prevented an estimated 500 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions since 2001, the equivalent of taking 55 million cars off the road.

2008

EPA issued new rules requiring home improvement contractors to follow work practice standards to reduce potential exposure to dangerous levels of lead during renovation and repair activities. EPA publishes on its Web site a list of fugitives accused of violating environmental laws and evading arrest.

2009

The "Change the World, Start with Energy Star" national campaign is launched to help fight climate change through energy efficiency. EPA issues a proposed finding that greenhouse gases contribute to air pollution that may endanger public health or welfare. EPA proposes significantly reducing mercury emissions from Portland cement kilns, the fourth-largest source of mercury air emissions in the U.S.



Cherokee Nation Home Energy Audit Program

Who is eligible? Tribal Citizens who own and occupy a home. Priority will be given to elders, disabled, Veterans, homes with young children under 6 years, and older homes built before 1980.

Why do an Energy Audit? Save money and energy, reduce pollution, improve comfort of the home, prolong the life of heating and cooling appliances.

What is an energy audit? Our Auditors will perform a blower door test and infrared camera inspection to find the leaks and insulation defects that are costing you energy dollars. A report will be sent to you with results and recommendations that you can use to fix those problems and make your home more energy efficient and comfortable.

How much can I save? An average home will lose \$450/year in energy costs due to air leakage and insulation defects. Simple measures such as caulking/sealing and adding insulation can save on average \$350/year. Reducing the load on heating and cooling appliances can extend their useful life.

40 Hr Hazwoper Training

The Gordon Cooper Technology Center in Shawnee, OK offers a 40 Hour Hazwoper Training the last week of each month. The course covers how to recognize hazardous materials and how to manage a hazardous material spill. This course offers hands on scenario training. The course instructors are: Tony Whitman, Mike Paschal, and Jimmy Barnett. For more information about this course please contact Carol McGuire at 405-273-7493 ext. 203 or carolm@gctech.org.



(Pictured left to right are members of the Home Energy Audit Program team: Marvin Hogshooter, Diane Stevenson, Chris Cochran and Cole Adair)

ITEC TRIBAL CIRCUIT RIDER PROGRAM

ITEC is pleased to announce the pesticides tribal circuit rider program. The program will provide technical assistance to tribes on issues pertaining to pesticides use and application, worker protection standards and pesticide educational outreach and training. ITEC will be requesting participation from a limited number of tribes to conduct a pesticides use assessment and inventory. If your tribe is interested in participating in the use assessment or if you need technical assistance with pesticide issues, contact Jackie Woodward at (918)453-5105 or email at jackie-woodward@cherokee.org.

The Home Energy Audit Program (HEAP) team was established through the support of DOE funding. Team members have trained on equipment use and becoming familiar with standard procedures. They initially utilized departmental office space, SIP homes and Mutual Help homes for training purposes. Since March 1st the team has been scheduling and performing 2 to 3 energy audits per day in the field.

Tribal Involvement; the UST way



Robert Largent and David Hayes, ITEC Underground Storage Tank (UST) staff members, recently attended a multi-function meeting in Miami, FL. to promote the ITEC UST program on a national stage. The focus of this meeting was to further the five basic commitments that the EPA has set forth for USTs in Indian Country. They include strengthening relationships, communication and collaboration, improving information sharing, implementing new UST provisions of the Energy Policy Act, as well as UST prevention activities through EPA and Tribal UST Programs and implementing Leaking UST cleanup activities. The final activity of the three day meeting was the course "An Introduction to Corrective Action for Leaking Underground Storage Tank Sites." Attendees of the meetings included representatives from the Apache Tribe of Oklahoma, Chickasaw Nation, Choctaw Nation, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, ENIPC, Hochunk Nation, ITCA, ITEC, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Miccosukee Tribe of Florida, Navajo Nation, Nez Perce Tribe, Oglala Sioux Tribe, Oneida Tribe of Indians, Poarch Creek Indians, Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Seminole Tribe of Florida, Seneca Nation of Indians, Shoshone Bannock Tribes, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, White Earth Nation, US EPA OUST, US EPA OECA, as well as representatives from US EPA Regions 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9.

NEW EMPLOYEES



Philip Ketcher is the newest member to the ITEC Clean Air Monitoring Program.



Dustin Little is the newest member to the ITEC Superfund Program.

TRAINING



ArcGIS II Training

The ArcGIS II training was held February 9th-11th, at the Cherokee Nation Environmental Programs office in Tahlequah, OK. There were 8 students in attendance, from the following tribes: Iowa Tribe, Sac & Fox Nation, Otoe-Missouria Tribe, Seminole Nation, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and Cherokee Nation.

GPS 101 Training



The GPS 101 training was held March 16th-17th at the Cherokee Nation Environmental Programs office in Tahlequah, OK. There were 5 students in attendance, from the following tribes: Delaware Nation, Kickapoo Tribe, Osage Nation, Iowa Tribe, and Citizen Potawatomi Nation.



Radon Training

January 26, 2010 a "Radon What is it" course was held in Tahlequah, OK at the Cherokee Nation Environmental Programs facility. There were 15 in attendance from 7 Tribes which included the following: Caddo Nation, Kickapoo Tribe, Apache Tribe, Peoria Tribe, Kiowa Tribe, Eastern Shawnee Tribe and Muscogee Creek Nation.



FREE !!

Brownfields Assessments!!

A brownfields site is defined as abandoned or underused properties where redevelopment is complicated by actual or perceived environmental contamination.

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All property transactions are confidential.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT INFORMATION
April 13-15, 2010	ArcGIS II Training, Taos, NM	Karen Dye 918-453-5109
April 20-22, 2010	Great Basin/Mojave Desert Climate Change Workshop, Las Vegas, NV	http://www.wr.usgs.gov/workshops/index.html
May 23-27, 2010	17th Annual National Tribal Environmental Conference, Albuquerque, NM	http://www.ntec.org/conference.htm
June 6-10, 2010	2010 National Tribal Science Forum, Traverse City, MI	http://epa.blhtech.com/2010TribalScienceForum
August 2010	Tribal WPS Pesticides Workshop	Jerrid Diffie 918-453-5096
Dates to be Announced		Larry Scrapper 918-453-5092

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2010 National Monitoring Conference



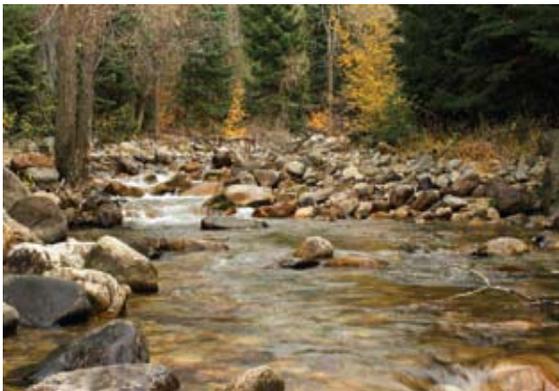
Monitoring From the Summit to the Sea

April 25-29, 2010
Denver, Colorado

[Conference Details:](http://acwi.gov/monitoring/)

<http://acwi.gov/monitoring/>

[Request for Nominations - Elizabeth J Fellows Award](#)
(Deadline March 1, 2010)



National River Rally 2010

May 21-24

[Snowbird, UT](#)

For More Information:

<http://www.rivernetwork.org/programs/national-river-rally>



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*The Cherokee Nation Environmental Program (CNEP) publishes **ITEC News** each quarter. The mission statement is to protect the health of Native Americans, their natural resources, and their environment as it relates to air, land and water. To accomplish this mission, ITEC provides technical support, environmental services, and assistance in developing Tribal environmental programs to the member Tribes.*

The viewpoints contained in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the USEPA or the CNEP/ITEC. Free and open discussion of all environmentally related issues is strongly encouraged. We also encourage submission of letters, comments, and articles from readers so as to promote a greater awareness among our people about environmental issues and to foster the free exchange of information, technology, and culturally relevant values of Tribal people.

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The ITEC NEWS gladly accepts and encourages your Tribal environmental information for upcoming issues and events. If you wish to contribute any articles in the next issue or for questions about this newsletter, please call 1-800-259-5376 to contact Karen Dye (Karen-dye@cherokee.org) ext. 5109.



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