



“The Official Newsletter of the Inter-Tribal Environmental Council”

**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
- Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
- Delaware Nation
- Delaware Tribe
- Eastern Shawnee Tribe
- Fort Sill Apache
- Iowa Tribe
- Jicarilla Apache Nation
- Kaw Nation
- Kialegee 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 Pojoaque
- Pueblo of Santa Clara
- Pueblo of Taos
- Pueblo of Tesuque
- Quapaw Tribe
- Sac & Fox Nation
- Seminole Nation
- Seneca-Cayuga Nation
- Shawnee Tribe
- Thlopthlocco Tribal Town
- Tonkawa Tribe
- Wichita & Affiliated Tribes
- Wyandotte Nation
- Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
- Zuni Tribe

Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma Success Story

On May 19, 2016 Inter-Tribal Environmental Council Brownfields Response Program completed a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment for the Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma on their 160 Acre Apache WYE property. The property was an undeveloped pasture that was used for agricultural purposes. On May 18, 2018 the Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma opened their newest economic development on this site; The Fort Sill Apache Market.





National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTF)

The purpose of the NTF is to provide environmental professionals from tribes, EPA, and other organizations an opportunity to meet and discuss current policies, regulatory initiatives, funding, and technical topics in air quality. The conference is a cooperative effort co-sponsored by the Institute of Environmental Professional (ITEP) and the National Tribal Air Association (NTAA), with additional assistance provided by the Tribal Air Monitoring Support (TAMS) Center staff.

This year's NTF, held in Carlton, Minnesota and hosted by the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, was attended by over 200 individuals. The week began with optional training sessions which included a VW Settlement workshop, Radon technical workshop,



introduction to TAS, an Air Sensors workshop (pictured above), and sessions on Air Quality Grants and Communicating Climate Change. The day concluded with a birding trip to Jay Cooke State Park.

The conference opened on Tuesday with traditional drum, a pipe ceremony and posting of the colors. The keynote speaker was Karen Diver, who serves as the Faculty Fellow for Inclusive Excellence for Native American Affairs at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth. The annual NTAA meeting was held during lunch, and the afternoon highlight was the Networking Clubhouse, which gives attendees the opportunity to interact with individuals that have similar issues. The day concluded with breakout sessions covering technical, policy, climate change and indoor air quality.

Wednesday began with a presentation about air pollution and brain disease by Aaron Reuben from Duke University. This was followed by one of the highlights of the conference, the Eco-Café. This is an interactive outreach session where participants can browse exhibits and posters and talk one-on-one with exhibitors/presenters. Many attendees list this as one of their favorite conference activities. The afternoon consisted of more breakout sessions. That evening was another conference highlight, the Virgil Masayesva Tribal Air Programs Excellence Award Ceremony. This award recognizes tribal environmental staff, tribal air programs, or other environmental professionals that have demonstrated leadership and dedication in tribal air programs. The 2018 reward recipient was the Morongo Band of Mission Indians Tribal Air Program (pictured below with EPA's James Payne, who presented the award).



(NTAA Newsletter)

The final day began with a plenary session covering ETEPs and public health, followed by more breakout sessions. The conference closed with a plenary session called Tribal Big Ideas, where speakers presented their inspirational ideas in a Ted Talk-style format. For those participants still in town that evening, there was a Fun Run held that supported ITEP scholarships. It was a busy, fun and informative week for all who attended.



(NTAA Newsletter)



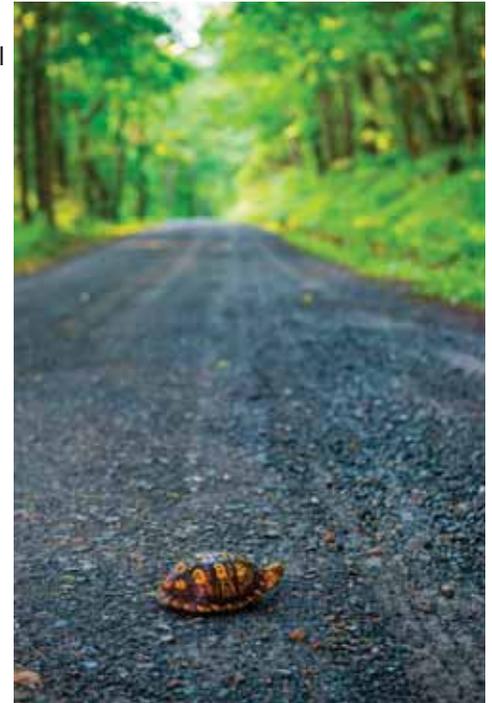
Turtles Are Crossing the Road

Tips for Helping Turtles Cross Safely

This time of year many wildlife, like turtles, are on the move. As the weather warms, turtles go in search for new territory, breeding opportunities and quests for food. Also many females will travel to find ideal places to lay their eggs and will often cross the roads. Please keep a lookout for them while you're driving this season.

Helping Turtles Cross the Street

1. **Always keep your own safety in mind**—watch out for oncoming vehicles, signal properly when pulling over and recognize your surroundings first before working to help save an animal.
2. **Be very careful when moving the animal** (it could be injured or it could bite you depending on what species). If possible, sometimes it is best to just stand guard as the animal crosses the road on its own.
3. **If the animal needs to be moved**, move it to the other side of the road **in the same direction it was going**. Using a car mat can be a good way to help the turtles across without actually picking them up. By using a car mat or putting something under the turtle, you can slide the turtle in the direction it was going.
4. **Do not pick the turtle up by the tail**. Some turtles may be frightened and will try to bite (like snapping turtles). Do not pick them up by the tail! Here's a great video showing ways to safely help a snapping turtle in the road such as the car mat trick, or by holding them at the base of the shell and not the side.
5. **Do NOT take it with you**—please only focus on helping it get safely to the other side.
6. **Learn more about wildlife laws in your state**. Contact your State and Territorial Fish and Wildlife Office to verify what is legal for your state and ways you can get involved. You also are always welcome to contact your closest National Wildlife Refuge to learn more about what species to look out for this summer.
7. If possible, snap a photo and report sightings to [Herp Mapper](#) to help track the movements of these reptiles.



<https://medium.com/usfws/turtles-are-crossing-the-road-96dafc2b3515>





FISH SHOCKING

Cherokee Nation Environmental Programs Staff completed a fish shocking event at the Stilwell City Lake on May 22-23, 2018. Fish shocking sends an electrical current through the water, momentarily stunning the fish so that they can be collected in nets. These fish are sampled for the benefit of Cherokee Nation citizen's health. Staff collected a total of 61 samples to be tested for total Mercury. The types of fish that were collected were Large Mouth Bass, Blue Catfish, Channel Catfish, Bluegill, Green Sunfish, Redear Sunfish and others. Currently, Cherokee Nation Environmental Programs is able to collect samples once per year. Some years they are able to collect samples twice depending on the funding for that fiscal year. After samples are taken, all fish are returned back to the lake unharmed.





CHEROKEE NATION ENVIRONMENTAL FESTIVAL



Cherokee Nation celebrated Arbor Week and Earth Day at the 7th Annual Environmental Festival held on Friday, April 27, 2018 at the MidAmerica Expo Center in Chouteau, OK. The festival, hosted by the tribe's environmental programs department, promotes awareness on vital environmental issues like recycling, water quality and land conservation. The festival was a huge success with over 300 participants. Several Federal, State, Tribal, local and Cherokee Nation Programs participated in this event. There were informational booths, presentations, and hands-on activities.





TRAINING

Upcoming ITEC Trainings:

8 Hour HAZWOPER Refresher Training in New Mexico - June 27, 2018 - This training will focus on Medical Monitoring, Chemical Safety, Spill Control, Emergency Procedures, Office Safety, Personal Protective Equipment and Decontamination.



Phase I Assessments in Oklahoma - date to be determined - This training focuses on the Principles of an Environmental Site Assessment, Records Review, and Preparing for Site Reconnaissance.

Indoor Air Solutions in New Mexico - date to be determined - This training will cover radon, radon testing kits and demonstration, mold, demonstration of mold kits, asbestos, demonstration of asbestos testing protocol/sampling forms, lead-based paint, lead testing demonstration and report completion, and lead certification.

More information about these trainings will be sent out at a later date.

For more information about ITEC trainings contact:

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UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT INFORMATION
July 23-24, 2018	AWRC Annual Water Research Conference, Fayetteville, AR	https://arkansas-water-center.uark.edu/annual-conferences.php
July 24-26, 2018	23rd Annual ITEC Conference, Catoosa, OK	http://itec.cherokee.org/Home/ITEC-Conference
August 13-16, 2018	2018 Tribal Lands & Environment Forum, Spokane, WA	https://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_tlef
August 19-23, 2018	2018 EPA Region 6 Stormwater Conference, Albuquerque, NM	http://tamuk-isee.com/conferences/epa2018conference/
September 26-28, 2018	Oklahoma Brownfields Conference 2018, Oklahoma City, OK	https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/oklahomabrownfields2018/Home/

Save the date!

**23rd Annual
ITEC Conference**

*July 24-26, 2018
Hard Rock
Hotel & Casino
Catoosa, OK*



ITEC NEWS

“The Official Newsletter of the Inter-Tribal Environmental Council”

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).

