



ITEC NEWS

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

Volume 22 Issue #2

June 2017

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

Wyandotte Nation 10th Annual Environmental Festival

The Wyandotte Nation held its 10th Annual Environmental Festival on April 28, 2017. Due to inclement weather, it was held indoors at the Bearskin Fitness and Wellness Center Gymnasium. There was a total of 572 attendees, which included 10 Tribal Booths and 28 workers, 6 Community Booths and 10 workers, 470 students, 27 teachers, 18 Wyandotte Nation Employee Volunteers, and 19 general public. The students and teachers represented Wyandotte Public Schools. Each booth gave presentations and talked to the students about a variety of environmental issues. Without the support of Wyandotte Nation and its employees, and the various NE Oklahoma Tribes and local community agencies, this would not be a successful event. Each year it gets better and better.



2017 NRDAR Conference

Cherokee Nation hosted the 3rd National Tribal Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) Conference on May 23rd through 25th, 2017 at the Hard Rock Casino and Resort in Catoosa, OK. Several Tribes and Federal agencies came from all over the United States to learn more about restoring natural resources injured and impacted as a result of oil spills or hazardous releases into the environment. Several Tribes, the U.S. Department of Interior and other government agencies presented during this conference and this event was a great opportunity for Tribes to network with other Tribal, Federal and State NRDAR practitioners. A variety of topics were discussed including: unique aspects of Tribal NRDAR Restoration, organizing a NRDAR Case with Tribal/Federal case coordinator experiences, and the development of successful partnerships to restore injured resources.



Fish Tissue Monitoring Program

Many Federal, State, and Tribal agencies monitor mercury levels in fish samples to identify streams and lakes susceptible to mercury contamination in fish, to assess trends over time, to determine the factors that make waterways susceptible to contamination, and to develop fish consumption advisories for mercury.

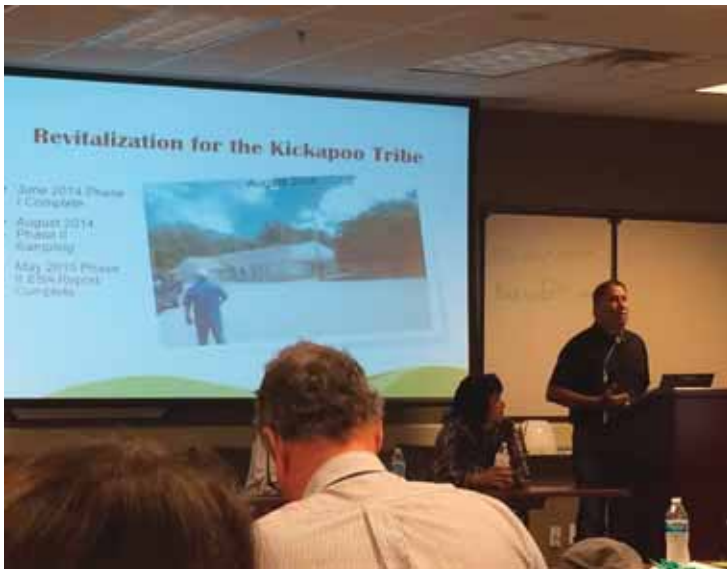
The objective of the Fish Tissue Monitoring Program is to protect and enhance public health by giving technically sound, practical advice about the risks and benefits of consuming fish. The analyses of fish samples help to determine the potential for human health and environmental effects associated with elevated levels of chemical contaminants. The program also establishes a comprehensive historical database to evaluate contaminant concentrations which can affect the issuance or removal of human health fish consumption advisories and/or environmental impact assessments. Reviewing and identifying the extent and magnitude of chemical contaminants in fish enables tribal citizens to make informed decisions about where to fish and safely consume their catch. Fish Tissue Monitoring Programs are designed to ensure that all fish tissue sample results are of consistent, high quality, and that the tribal citizens receive the best information possible about fisheries on tribal waters. It also ensures that the tribe obtains the best data possible to evaluate and protect fishery resources.

Cherokee Nation's Fish Tissue Program is currently electro-fishing on 1 stream and 1 watershed that is within the jurisdictional area for 2017. Cherokee Nation plans to continue its Fish Tissue Program to gather more data on as many streams as possible to protect and inform its tribal citizens.



2017 Region 6 Brownfields Conference

The 2017 Region 6 Brownfields Conference was held in Addison, Texas on June 13th-15th. Region 6 State Affiliates, Employees and Communities throughout Region 6 who have worked on past and present Brownfields Projects, Tribal Brownfield Grantees or Tribes who have applied or plan to apply for a Brownfields Grant, CDFA Consultants, and many more were in attendance at the 2017 Region 6 Brownfields Conference. During the conference there was an Oklahoma Tribal Star Programs and Successes Panel which included Cherokee Nation, Absentee-Shawnee Tribe and Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma. During this Panel each Tribe discussed some of their Tribe's Brownfield Successes. Both Absentee-Shawnee Tribe and The Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma are ITEC Member Tribes. Sheila Sevenstar-Horn with Cherokee Nation, Ken Jones with Absentee-Shawnee Tribe, and Darren Shields with the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma all presented. Each speaker in this session had great success stories for their Tribe. The Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma was actually recognized during the conference for being awarded a Cleanup Grant this year. Other panels that were held during the conference included New Mexico Star Programs and Success, Texas Star Programs and Successes. Throughout the conference there were many opportunities to network with Project Officers, KSU TAB, and CDFA Consultants. The networking opportunities were great for Grantees to speak with their Project Officer, KSU TAB, or Consultants in person. The Region 6 Brownfields Conference is always a success, and ITEC always enjoys attending.



ITEC Superfund Program

The ITEC Superfund Program has evaluated 349 sites on behalf of member Tribes since 1991. These types of assessments include Pre-CERCLIS Screenings, Preliminary Assessments, Site Inspection and Site Inspection Prioritization activities.

The ITEC Superfund Program can provide non-emergency evaluation and site assessment activities on sites if the following criteria are met:

- Hazardous Waste (as defined in CERCLA) is known or suspected to be present on the site.
- The site, such as an industrial facility, is abandoned or inactive.
- Waste on the site has impacted, or has the potential to impact tribal lands or tribal populations.

If your Tribe would like to know more about the ITEC Superfund Program, or if you have a site that you are concerned about and would like to have Site Assessment activities conducted, please contact Jason White at jason-white@cherokee.org or (918) 453-5110.



Cherokee Nation Environmental Programs Underground Storage Tank

The underground storage tank program at Cherokee Nation Environmental Programs operates under the Inter-Tribal Environmental Council (ITEC). It is through ITEC that the program can offer a variety of services to tribes that are members of ITEC. Currently the UST program services 21 tribes and 38 facilities across New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.

The UST program offers compliance assistance and training to these 21 tribes and 38 facilities. This includes:

- A visit to the tribe's UST facility annually to perform a compliance assistance inspection.
- A detailed report of the compliance issues that were observed and steps to take to remediate these issues.
- Answers to UST related questions and contractor information for the tribe.
- On-site owner and operator training for the people who operate the UST facility.

The UST program will also assist your Tribe with the planning and installation of a new station or help investigate stations that the Tribe may be interested in purchasing. Along with that ITEC will monitor tank installs and removals to ensure they are done properly and by regulation.

If there are any questions regarding the UST Program please contact:

David Hayes: 918-453-5149 or 918-316-7531

david-hayes@cherokee.org



TRAINING



The 8 Hour HAZWOPER Refresher training was held at the Dancing Eagle Event Center on June 21, 2017 and was hosted by the Pueblo of Laguna. There were 20 participants from the Pueblo of Laguna, Pueblo of Santa Clara, Taos Pueblo, Jicarilla Apache Nation, Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council, and Pueblo of Picuris. This training discussed medical monitoring, toxicology, MSDS, placards, spill control, emergency procedures, personal protective equipment and decontamination.



UPCOMING ITEC TRAININGS

- Phase I Assessment Training August 9-10, 2017 at the Cherokee Nation Environmental Office

For more information about ITEC trainings contact:

Karen Dye

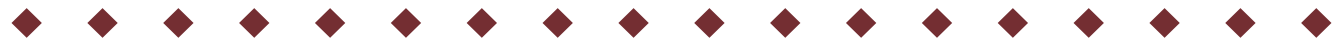
Phone: 918-453-5109

Email: Karen-dye@cherokee.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT INFORMATION
July 25-26, 2017	Arkansas Water Resources Conference, Fayetteville, AR	http://arkansas-water-center.uark.edu/annual-conferences.php
July 25-27, 2017	22nd Annual ITEC Conference, Catoosa, OK	http://itecmembers.org
August 13-18, 2017	2017 Tribal Lands & Environment Forum, Tulsa, OK	https://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_tlef
August 22-23, 2017	Western Regional Conference on Lead & Healthy Homes, Downey, CA	http://www.healthyhousingconferences.com/website/2017-western-regional-conference
December 5-7, 2017	2017 National Brownfields Conference, Pittsburg, PA	https://www.brownfields2017.org/



REGISTRATION & HOUSING NOW OPEN!

Brownfields2017
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES START HERE

NATIONAL BROWNFIELDS TRAINING CONFERENCE
DECEMBER 5-7, 2017
WITH PRE-CONFERENCE PROGRAMMING ON **DECEMBER 4TH**
PITTSBURGH, PA
WWW.BROWNFIELDS2017.ORG

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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.

Cherokee Nation Environmental Programs

Inter-Tribal Environmental Council

P.O. Box 948

Tahlequah, OK 74465

Phone: 918-453-5009

Fax: 918-453-2904

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).



Inter-Tribal Environmental Council

PO Box 948

Tahlequah, OK 74465

918-453-5009

Fax 918-453-2904

