



ITEC NEWS

Volume 26 Issue 2

June 2023

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 Tribe
- Iowa Tribe
- Jicarilla Apache Nation
- Kaw Nation
- Kialegee Tribal Town
- Kickapoo Tribe
- Kiowa Tribe
- Miami Tribe
- Modoc Tribe
- Muscogee 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 Nation
- Sac & Fox Nation
- Seneca-Cayuga Nation
- Shawnee Tribe
- Thlopthlocco Tribal Town
- Tonkawa Tribe
- United Keetoowah Band
- Wichita & Affiliated Tribes
- Wyandotte Nation
- Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
- Zuni Tribe



Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers (EJ TCTAC) Program

Background

The formation of the EJ technical assistance centers, in partnership with the Department of Energy, is in direct response to feedback from communities and environmental justice leaders who have asked for readily accessible technical assistance to help with their long-term EJ goals and to help build their capacity to access federal and other resources. There will be 17 regionally and nationally based TCTACs featuring over 160 partners to provide assistance benefiting communities throughout the US.

Examples of EJ Technical Assistance:

- ◆ Grant proposal preparation assistance
- ◆ Manage federal grants (e.g., accounting, policies, controls)
- ◆ Identify funding sources to apply for (federal, state, local, private)
- ◆ Navigate SAM.gov and Grants.gov registration process and other portals related to grants
- ◆ Provide capacity building to engage with decision makers at all levels of government.



Goal

This network of Regional and National Technical Assistance (TA) Centers will provide free technical assistance, training, and capacity-building support to communities and stakeholders who need it most.

- **National TCTACS:** Each will coordinate with the Regional TCTACs, develop national databases/clearinghouses, host TCTAC summits, etc.
- **Regional TCTACS:** Each will provide direct support and TA to communities and stakeholders in specific regional/geographic area(s)

For more information please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-thriving-communities-technical-assistance-centers>



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Director's Corner

Sylvester Luther, Wichita Tribe

Where is your Tribal Community located?

Our Tribal community is located primarily in Anadarko, Oklahoma.

How many community members are served by the Environmental department?

WDEP serves **895** community members in the **Anadarko, OK** area as well as **43** enrolled members in **Gracemont, OK**.

How long have you been the Environmental Director?

Seven Months



Lucius Saldana and Sylvester Luther, Wichita Tribe

What are the primary environmental concerns that affect your tribal community?

Unknown pesticides going into our tribal water. Lacking the knowledge of recycling, therefore no one does it.

As an Environmental Tribal Director tell us what you enjoy most about your work.

Answering questions for tribal members and staff and also going out into the field to take samples.

What are some of your current projects or future plans for your tribe's environmental programs to address tribal environmental needs or concerns?

As of right now there are no current projects, we do have future plans but I am unable to disclose that information.

What have been your biggest challenges?

Picking up where the previous director left off.



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Tribal Environmental Summit 2023

The 28th Annual Tribal Environmental Summit was held on April 26-28, 2023 at the Radisson Fort Worth North Fossil Creek. The General Assembly opened with the presentation of colors being posted by the Choctaw Nation Color Guard. Opening remarks were presented by Curtis Hicks EPA Tribal Project Officer..

Dr. Earthea Nance, EPA Region 6 Administrator, provided the welcoming address. Plenary speakers were Rafael Deleon, Principal Deputy Administrator, Office of International and Tribal Affairs, Kenneth Martin Director American Indian Environmental Office and Danny Gogal, Tribal and Indigenous Peoples Program Manager, EPA Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights..

EPA presented the EPA Environmental Excellence Awards, which recognize individuals who have conducted outstanding service in environmental areas. The opening plenary session ended with a session on Climate Change with speakers from EPA, BIA and NRCS..

There was a full day on Thursday April 27, 2023 that included 18 sessions of speakers on a wide range of environmental topics important to Tribal participants. The final day was completed with a closing plenary session conducted by the Office of Communities, Tribes and Environmental Assessment. This session covered topics such as Gap Guidance, ETEPS, Consultation, Environmental Justice and Environmental Education.



There were approximately 220 attendees which included representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 Tribes, various tribal organizations, environmental consultants and environmental organizations. Equipment manufacturers also displayed their products and services at this year's Summit..





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8-Hour Hazwoper Refresher

Brownfields & Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) Webinar



PRESENTED BY:
ITEC
SHEILA SEVENSTAR-HORN

On February 21, 2023 ITEC held a Phase I Assessment Course virtually on WebEx. There were 33 participants from 22 tribes in attendance. The training consisted of classroom discussions on the components of a Phase I and the relationship of a Brownfields site and a Phase I ESA, Phase I ESA and Environmental Review differences, ASTM Assessments and Processes and ASTM newly established revisions.

Food Initiative Training

On May 25, 2023 ITEC hosted the Tribal Food Initiative Workshop at the Tulsa Zoo. There were 22 in attendance from tribes in Region 6. Some of the topics at the workshop included Cave Springs School Aquaponics and Freeze Dried Food Program, The Eastern Shawnee Tribe's Gardening Programs, the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry's Farm to School Program, EPA's How to Reduce Your Food's Environment Impact Program and Cherokee Nation Environmental Programs Food Waste Audits. The attendees could also participate in a zoo tour.

The Tribal Food Initiative Workshop was intended to bring awareness to food sustainability and/or in connection with food initiative programs and ways to help reduce food waste.





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

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Region 6 RTOC Meeting

The Regional Tribal Operations Committee meetings were held April 24-25, 2023 at the Radisson Ft. Worth North Fossil Creek. Approximately 30 Tribes and EPA representatives attended. Topics of discussion included: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Inflation Reduction Act, OITA/AEIO Consultation, Guidance for Tribal Treaty Rights and EPA Policy on Consultation with Tribes. Kenneth Martin AEIO Director was in attendance and Rafael Deleon Deputy Principal Administrator Office of Tribal and International Affairs attended by phone.





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Upcoming Trainings

 **TLEF 2023**

Tribal Lands and Environment Forum
August 14 - 17, 2023
Syracuse, New York
Marriott Syracuse
Downtown
nau.edu/TLEF2023



 **BROWNFIELDS 2023**
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES START HERE

NATIONAL BROWNFIELDS TRAINING CONFERENCE

DETROIT, MICHIGAN
AUGUST 8 - 11, 2023

brownfields2023.org





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Western Regional Lead & Healthy Housing Conference
August 22 – 23, 2023
Held At The Embassy Suites in Downey, CA



SNAPPPY!

Keep your food fresher, longer.

[Plan Well](#) [Store Well](#) [Eat Well](#)

Storage tips at [StopFoodWaste.org](https://www.stopfoodwaste.org)



The 37th annual
Indoor Environments 2023™ – The Radon and Vapor Intrusion Symposium

(Formerly AARST International Radon and Vapor Intrusion Symposium)

October 29th – November 1st, 2023

will take place at the Renaissance Nashville Hotel
“Hotel” 611 Commerce Street | Nashville, TN | 37203 | USA



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Upcoming ITEC Trainings:

ITEC Conference— July 25-27, 2023, Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tulsa

Check the website for details

Intro to Drones— August 9, 2023. Tahlequah, OK



Check out ITEC’s YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC42GM_3wppOEPkgFEUj_CgQ

ITEC on the web

Check out the ITEC webpage for information on upcoming events, training and newsletters.

Please visit us at:
www.itecmembers.org

Have a story to share or upcoming training?

ITEC News is looking for Tribal environmental information and upcoming training to share in future issues. If you would like to contribute any articles or have suggested topics, please email [Ashley Wagnon](mailto:Ashley.Wagnon) or [Shaun West](mailto:Shaun.West).



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

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“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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