



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

**ITEC
MEMBER TRIBES**

Absentec-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 (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 Nation
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

Hazard Standards and Clearance Levels for Lead in Paint, Dust and Soil (TSCA Sections 402 and 403)

In December 2020, EPA [announced](#) a new action to better protect American children from the dangers of lead. This final rule will lower the clearance levels for the amount of lead that can remain in dust on floors and window sills after lead removal activities.

EPA's new clearance levels are 10 micrograms (μg) of lead in dust per square foot (ft^2) for floor dust and 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ for window sill dust, significantly lower than the previous levels of 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ for floor dust and 250 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ for window sill dust.

[Read the final rule that strengthens the dust-lead clearance levels.](#)

These new clearance levels will reduce lead dust-related risks to children in pre-1978 homes and childcare facilities where lead abatement activities take place. After actions are taken to remove lead from a building, those buildings must then be tested to make sure that the cleaning activities were successful. These “clearance levels” indicate that lead dust was effectively removed at the end of the abatement.





IN THE DIRECTORS CORNER:

Kerstien McMurl, Iowa Nation



Where is the Iowa Nation Community located?

The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma's Tribal Headquarters & Complex are located about 4-miles south of Perkins, which is roughly halfway between Tulsa and Oklahoma City. While located in north Lincoln County, the Tribe's boundaries also include portions of Payne, Logan, and Oklahoma Counties. Our norther boundary follows the Cimarron River, while our southern boundary follows the Deep Fork River.

How many community members are served by the Environmental department?

Our services are open to all ITO community members, which number somewhere around 1,000 individuals. That said, a number of our community members do not live locally, so outreach plays a big role, especially towards youth engagement.

How long have you been the Environmental Director?

I took on the role of Environmental Director in early 2021 amid the pandemic. Before that, I had served as the ITO OES Environmental Scientist & Water Quality Specialist for about two years, where I focused primarily on stream monitoring, outreach, and rebuilding our Nature Center area.

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

Arguably, impacts of drought and severe weather, especially on food security and infrastructure, are of major concern to the department. Drought and wildfire are a more obvious issue, but with the Tribe being very rural and bordered on two sides by rivers that often flood, it is easy to imagine climate change exacerbating both issues. Water quality is a constant concern much in the same way.

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

The people, and the opportunities. OES currently consist of a small, close knit, 3-person team. While we're somewhat limited in scope, we're constantly striving for positive and impactful things to complement the community. We take every opportunity to partner with other ITO departments to broaden our community outreach and bring in an environmental perspective. That involvement has been well received and seems to open additional opportunities for us to benefit the community, and hopefully to grow the department in the future.

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

OES continues its focus on water quality and stream monitoring. Our outreach efforts continue to grow as well. We recently implemented a modest recycling program and have seen an uptick in participation as folks return to work. We hope to grow the recycling program slowly, while keeping it to a manageable size for our team. We are in the process of implementing a community composting program too, which will accompany a handful of various gardening projects that other departments have brought us into. We anticipate several stream and road-side cleanup events once the weather cooperates. Future projects and plans most certainly include a few stream restorations and pollinator habitat establishments, but also potentially a focus on other wildlife such as quail and bats, or possibly culturally significant plants. OES is always open to opportunities and suggestions.





Phase I Assessment Course

On January 11, 2022 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.

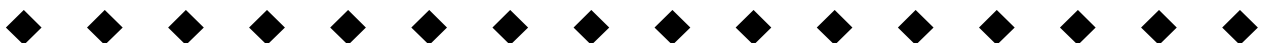


Photos Courtesy of Peoria Tribe



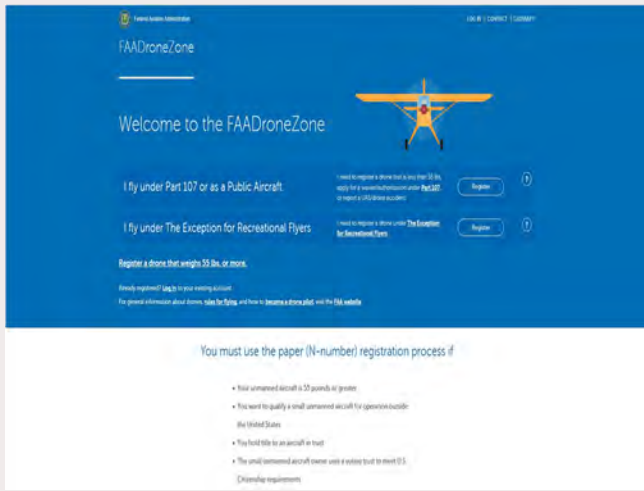
IBRP Wants Your Sites

The ITEC Brownfields Response Program (IBRP) is here to help you. In order to do a better job at that, ITEC needs your help gathering site information. Staff is currently making a master list of all the possible Brownfields sites within the ITEC member tribe's service areas. If your tribe has a site that may be a potential Brownfields site, ITEC wants to know about it. Tribes are the ideal information source for the inventory since they are the most familiar with their own communities. Even if you are not sure what qualifies as a Brownfields site, send ITEC the site information and we can help determine if it is one. This is an ongoing list; so feel free to send site information to us now as well as in the future. For more details, please contact Sheila Sevenstar-Horn at ssevenstar@cherokee.org 918-453-5108.



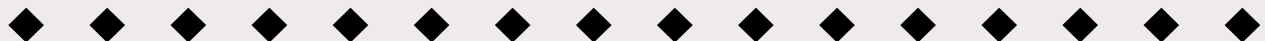
Drone Registration and Part 107 Certification Training Course

On February 2, 2022 ITEC held a Drone Registration and Part 107 Certification Training Course virtually on WebEx. There were 23 participants from 14 tribes in attendance. The training consisted of discussions on the procedure to register a drone with the FAA, how to apply for and schedule a 107 Remote Pilot Test and topics to expect on the Part 107 Drone Pilot Test.



Solid Waste Dump Assessment Course

On March 3, 2022 ITEC held Solid Waste Dump Assessment Class virtually on WebEx. There were 23 participants from 14 tribes in attendance. The training consisted of discussions on I.H.S. WSTARS Program, dump assessment worksheet scoring system and conducting site visits.





U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development's Climate Action Plan

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released its Climate Action Plan in November 2021. The plan details a comprehensive strategy to reduce the agency's energy and carbon footprint and put our nation's communities on the path to building more equitable, efficient, and sustainable housing infrastructure. One of the three goals of the plan is to pursue environmental justice.

Environmental justice means ensuring equal protection from environmental and health hazards and providing equal and meaningful opportunity to participate in the decision-making process to achieve a healthy environment. In this plan, HUD commits to a variety of actions to empower communities to achieve climate resilience, facilitate economic opportunities, and eliminate health risks caused by environmental injustices. HUD has established environmental justice as a budget priority, ensuring that both HUD staff and its external stakeholders are aware of the significance of avoiding and reversing environmental inequities.

HUD will ensure equal protection from environmental and health hazards for these communities while investing in reversing disparities in health outcomes and economic opportunity by

- Helping Tribal communities achieve safe, resilient housing and infrastructure through improved access to data, technical support, and funding opportunities;
- Piloting new models for Section 3 compliance activities to support green workforce development in the communities that HUD serves;
- Providing resources and technical support to help communities improve equity in both community planning and community engagement;
- Reducing and preventing lead exposure and poisoning by expanding HUD's existing lead control programs and partnering with EPA to assess and remediate potential health risks to residents of public and assisted housing from Superfund sites;
- Developing targeted policy, guidance, and technical assistance for HUD customers to help minimize radon exposure in the Nation's housing stock; and
- Updating HUD's environmental review policies to ensure consideration of climate- and environmental justice-related hazards and health risks in all proposed site selection and placement of new assistance activities.



For more information:

<https://www.hud.gov/climate>

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/home/section3





OKLAHOMA SWANA CONFERENCE
Diversion and Disposal Hard Rock
Casino Catoosa Oklahoma March
29-31, 2022



BROWNFIELDS
2021 | SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
 START HERE

August 16-19, 2022
New Date

We hope this message finds you well and healthy. EPA and ICMA are closely monitoring the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and are adapting our in-person conference experience in consideration of your health and safety. We look forward to seeing you at the National Brownfields Training Conference in Oklahoma City.

SAVE THE DATE: OKLAHOMA CITY, OK | SEPTEMBER 27-30, 2021

EPA | ICMA

SAVE THE DATE!

MAY 2ND - 5TH, 2022
TULSA, OK



22ND
CONFERENCE

National Tribal Forum on Air Quality

Hosted by the Muscogee Nation, a national conversation on how Tribes are implementing the Clean Air Act in partnership with the US EPA to improve air quality for our communities.

Take the pre-registration survey [here!](#)

- Tribal Professional Development
- Information-sharing
- Networking opportunities
- Current regulatory initiatives
- Technical information
- Share practical knowledge relevant to Tribal programs



Upcoming ITEC Trainings:

8 Hour Hazwoper Refresher Training—Virtual, April 28, 2022.

Tribal Environmental Summit– Virtual, May 3– 17, 2022 (Tuesdays and Thursdays)

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



For more information about ITEC trainings contact:

Jurene Collis

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Email: Jurene-Collis@cherokee.org



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





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 1-918-453-5109 or contact Karen Dye at: Karen-dye@cherokee.org.

