**Welcome to Full Circle Newsletter**

- **Registration is Now Open for the 2017 TLEF!**
  This year’s annual Tribal Lands and Environment Forum – the seventh one already if you can believe it – will be held in downtown Tulsa, Oklahoma, August 14 through 17. Registration is now open! Please visit our website at [http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_tlef](http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_tlef):
  - Do you have a program or project you want to highlight? We are now accepting proposals for breakout sessions and trainings. We want to see even more tribal professionals share their stories and knowledge so click on the Session Proposal tab and submit your proposal!
  - We will once again be hosting a Multi Media Meetup during the TLEF. This is a great opportunity to set up a poster display, provide information on your projects, and network with your colleagues from tribes across the country as well as numerous federal agencies, nonprofits, consortia, universities, and businesses. Be sure to click on the Multi Media Meetup tab for more information and to reserve your free table. Last year we had nearly 50 different organizations at this special event, so don’t delay in reserving your spot this year.
  - If you would like a vendor/exhibitor table for the whole TLEF, rather than just during the Meetup, we have you covered as well – you can sign up by clicking on the Vendor/Exhibitor tab.
  - We have secured a special TLEF rate at two hotels - $91 +tax. These hotels will soon be setting up special registration pages so TLEF attendees can make their reservations online. We’ll be letting you know as soon as those reservation sites are up.
  - And don’t forget to actually register for the TLEF! You can register online by clicking on the Registration tab. The registration fee (which you can also pay online) is $100 until June 30, when it will increase to $125.

We look forward to seeing all of you at this year’s TLEF.

- **Recycling Training in Palm Springs**
  We recently held our Developing and Implementing Tribal Recycling Programs in Palm Springs, California. We ended up receiving over 60 applications for this course and accepted 20 individuals from 16 tribes across the country. We were fortunate to have three outstanding instructors – Tracy Horst of the Choctaw Nation, Cynthia Naha from the Santo Domingo Tribe, and Michael Northbird of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. All three of them run exceptional tribal recycling programs of different sizes, and were able to provide the attendees with a variety of strategies and approaches.

  We were also fortunate enough to visit the recycling operations at both the Morongo Band of Mission Indians and the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians. A big thank you to Dana Morey of Morongo and Shawn Muir of Twenty-Nine Palms (and their amazing teams!) for being such informative and gracious hosts.
Visiting the Twenty-Nine Palms Recycling area

Dana Morey shows attendees one of the recycling sites at Morongo

- **Special Training Opportunity for Tribal UST Staff**
  We are very excited to be working with Victoria Flowers and Mike Arce from the Oneida Nation on a special training for tribal professionals working on UST issues. Victoria and Mike will be conducting their popular Tribal UST Boot Camp training at the Pala Band of Mission Indian’s facilities in California, April 25-27, 2017. This special training will provide an overview of federal regulatory requirements for operating and maintaining a UST system, leak detection methodologies, reporting requirements, selecting contractors and implementing appropriate response actions. A field exercise will be used to demonstrate the functional components of a UST system, various release scenarios and identifying appropriate release responses. Special attention will be given to the development of conceptual site models and other Tribal environmental program involvement. The capstone of the Training will be a group exercise to help participants identify resources within their organization. Applications for this course are due March 10, so visit our training page at [http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_waste](http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_waste) to download the application.

- **Tribal Superfund Working Group Training and Site Visit**
  We will be offering a special training and site visit in Quapaw, Oklahoma, April 18-20, 2017.
This special event will include two days of classroom instruction, as well as an all-day trip to multiple areas of the Tar Creek Superfund Site led by staff from the Quapaw Tribe. The classroom training will include a background on the Quapaw Tribe’s assessment and cleanup activities, cleanup from the Quapaw Tribal government’s perspective, how to develop and use tribal cleanup standards, building tribal capacity to conduct cleanup activities, addressing land use issues, and land acquisition and future activities at Tar Creek.

Applications are due on **February 15**, so please visit our website to download the application at [http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/waste/waste_superfundVisits](http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/waste/waste_superfundVisits) and send it to Todd Barnell at todd.barnell@nau.edu. This will be a great opportunity to see the Tar Creek Superfund site and to hear about the progress made by the Quapaw Tribe.

You can also download an application for our special Superfund Onsite Mentoring opportunity by visiting our website at [http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/waste/waste_superfundMentor](http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/waste/waste_superfundMentor).

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**Resources and News of Interest**

**ITEP is Developing Additional Online Trainings**

ITEP is working on expanding our online trainings for tribal professionals even further. We currently have several free online trainings available, which you can access at: [itep.scholarlms.com/catalog/index.php?route=product/product&product_id=40](http://itep.scholarlms.com/catalog/index.php?route=product/product&product_id=40)

Keep your eye on your inbox as we will be announcing additional trainings in the next few months!

**EPA’s Brownfields Training Conference 2017 - Call for Ideas Is Open!**

Submit your educational programming proposals for the 2017 National Brownfields Training Conference, online using the submission form at [www.brownfields2017.org](http://www.brownfields2017.org). Please submit your session ideas on-line before **March 17, 2017**. A great Brownfields 2017 educational program will motivate brownfields stakeholders to engage, learn, and share their experiences and knowledge of community revitalization challenges and solutions. The National Brownfields Training Conference will be in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, December 5-7, 2017. In addition to the regular conference programming, EPA will hold pre-conference workshops on December 4.

**IHS and USEPA Sign MOU on Open Dumps in Indian Country**

Mary Smith the Principal Deputy Director of the Indian Health Service has counter signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to Improve Open Dump Data, Solid Waste Projects and Programs in Indian Country, which has been in the works as many of you know. This is a great move forward for tribal professionals working in solid waste, as well as their colleagues in various federal agencies. You can read Ms. Smith’s blog post about this MOU by visiting the IHS website at: [https://www.ihs.gov/newsroom/ihs-blog/](https://www.ihs.gov/newsroom/ihs-blog/)

**Webinar: Leveraging Resources for Brownfields Revitalization: Meet the Funders: Parks, Community Health, and the Arts**

Feb 28, 2017, 1pm EDT

Register Online at: [https://clu-in.org/conf/tio/BFLeveraging4/](https://clu-in.org/conf/tio/BFLeveraging4/)

Brownfield grants from the USEPA are one of many sources of funds that can support redevelopment of contaminated sites. This webinar will highlight a number of redevelopment resources available from the National Park Service (NPS), The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to leverage your brownfield dollars. The webinar will also feature a presentation from a community that has successfully used grants, loans and other support from these agencies for its revitalization efforts. It is the fourth in OBLR’s webinar series on what communities need to know to successfully leverage resources for brownfields revitalization.
EPA Extends Tribal Consultation on Proposed Financial Responsibility Requirements under CERCLA 108(b) for Classes of Facilities in the Hardrock Mining Industry
The USEPA is initiating consultation and coordination with federally-recognized Indian Tribes on Proposed Financial Responsibility Requirements under CERCLA 108(b) for Classes of Facilities in the Hardrock Mining Industry until March 13, 2017. Please visit EPA’s Tribal Consultation Opportunities Website for more information:
https://yosemite.epa.gov/oita/TConsultation.nsf/TC?OpenView

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www.facebook.com/ITEPnau

Learn more...
- **Tribal Waste and Response Assistance Program (TWRAP)**
  TWRAP is a program focused on assisting tribes with all waste management, brownfields, USTs, contaminated sites, and response programs. This program is funded by the USEPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.

- **Tribal Solid Waste Education and Assistance Program (TSWEAP)**
  TSWEAP's focus is providing training and assistance to tribes working on solid and hazardous waste management.