



National Tribal Air Association

NTAA Weekly Update

*Week of March 5th-
March 9th, 2018*

[If you have difficulty reading this email, click here to view it online.](#)

Table of Contents

TOP STORIES2

HEADLINES3

Photos from the field..... 3

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes 3

Climate Change/Energy..... 4

Oil and Gas Development..... 5

Toxics/Mobile Sources 5

Indoor Air Quality..... 5

UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS6

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes 6

Climate Change / Energy..... 9

Toxics/Mobile Sources 9

Indoor Air Quality..... 9

RESOURCES.....9

Now Hiring! 9

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes 10

Climate Change/Energy..... 10

Toxics/Mobile Sources 11

Indoor Air Quality..... 11

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES13

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes 13

Climate Change/Energy..... 14

Toxics/Mobile Sources 15

<i>Indoor Air Quality</i>	16
Most Recent Listing: EPA Rules from the Federal Register	17

TOP STORIES

VW Settlement News - On March 2, 2018 United State District Judge Charles R. Breyer ordered a 60 day stay for certain Trustee obligations under the Environmental Mitigation Trust Agreement for Indian tribe Beneficiaries. In compliance with the Order of the Court, the Trustee will not be publishing any notice, with respect to the first funding cycle on the Indian Tribe Trust's public-facing website at this time.

Instead, the U.S. Department of Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency, in consultation with the Trustee, will be establishing a schedule for the process described in the Order. The Trustee will share the details of that schedule and process as soon as they are available. [Click here](#) to read the Court Order.

Due to the court order, ITEP will be hosting a special VW Settlement call on Thursday, March 15th from 11 am – 12 pm PT in anticipation of additional information to be shared on this process.

Alaska is currently seeking nominations for Primary and Alternate Representatives for the NTAA Executive Committee. The nomination deadline is March 9, 2018. For more information, contact Andy.Bessler@nau.edu.

Final ozone classifications rule has been signed. Implementing national air quality standards is a shared responsibility of the EPA, states, and Tribes. EPA is taking the next important step needed to implement the 2015 ozone standards. Ozone nonattainment areas are classified by the severity of their air quality problem based on air quality monitoring data, with classifications ranging from “Marginal” to “Extreme.” In this final rule, EPA is establishing the air quality thresholds that define each of the five Clean Air Act classifications for areas designated nonattainment for the 2015 ozone standards; and establishing the attainment deadline associated with each classification. The Agency will continue to work closely with the states, tribes and communities to control ozone pollution and achieve the 2015 ozone standards. You can find the prepublication version of the rule and the fact sheet at: <https://www.epa.gov/ozone-pollution/implementation-2015-national-ambient-air-quality-standards-naaqs-ozone-state>

The National Tribal Water Council (NTWC) Launches New Website

We invite you to explore the new NTWC website which you can access here:

<http://www.nau.edu/ntwc>.

EPA – [EPA Takes Action to Address Oil and Gas Compliance Concerns, Saving At Least \\$14 Million in Regulatory Costs](#)

HEADLINES

Photos from the field



Nexus Media – [Pollution, Race and the Search for Justice \(VIDEO\) How communities of color are reclaiming their power](#)

Industry in Louisiana. Source: [Jonathan Beilin](#) (CC BY-NC 2.0)

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Cronkite News – [Hands, heart and feet: Havasupai children write letters urging Trump to ban canyon mining](#)

Native Sun News Today – [A win for tribe against pollution](#)

Indian Country Today - [It's Official: Indian Country Today Is Back in Business](#)

E&E News – [EPA changes methane rule, pollution-reduction guidelines](#)

E&E News – [Interior-EPA bill will see funding boost](#)

E&E News – [Air Pollution: Vote set on carve-outs for coal waste plants, kilns](#)

EPA – [EPA Proposes First of Two Rules to Amend Coal Ash Disposal Regulations, Saving Up To \\$100M per Year in Compliance Costs](#)

EPA – [Working Together on Local Solutions for Clean and Healthy Air in Fairbanks](#)

NPR – [To Fight Pollution, He's Reinventing the Mongolian Tent](#)

NY Times – [Can We Really Scrub Carbon Dioxide From the Atmosphere?](#)

National Association of Clean Air Agencies – [Washington Update](#)

Climate Change/Energy

NY Times – [In a Gamble to Make Climate Change a Political Win, a Governor Pursues a Carbon Tax](#)

E&E News – [Inslee throws in towel on carbon tax](#)

NY Times – [A Gun-Ownning Trump Fan's New Crusade: Clean Energy](#)

Yes! – [First U.S. City to Ban Fossil fuel Expansion Offers Roadmap for Others](#)

E&E News – [Solar breakthrough falls through for the U.S.](#)

NPR – [From almonds To Rice, Climate Change Could Slash California Crop Yields By 2050](#)

NPR – [Widespread Drought Across U.S. Stokes Fears About A Repeat Of 2012's Wrath](#)

NPR – [Unusually High Temperatures In Arctic Rise In Frequency](#)

The Guardian – [Why what we eat is crucial to the climate change question](#)

Reuters – [Implementing climate pact would dramatically save health care costs: researchers](#)

Oil and Gas Development

EPA – [EPA Participates in Energy Roundtable with States, Tribes, Businesses and Environmental Groups to Enhance Coordination and Promote Responsible Domestic Production of Oil and Gas Resources](#)

High Country News – [Resistance to drilling grows on the Navajo Nation](#)

NY Times – [Oil Was Central in Decision to Shrink Bears Ears Monument, Emails Show](#)

Washington Post – [Zinke abruptly postpones lease sale near New Mexico's Chaco Canyon](#)

E&E News – [No onshore access? No problem – industry](#)

Baltimore Sun – [A year after fracking ban, Maryland Gov. Hogan's support for natural gas sparks new battle](#)

The Hill – [Trump drilling plan faces backlash](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

NY Times – [Parts Suppliers Call for Cleaner Cars, Splitting With Their Main Customers: Automakers](#)

NY Times – [The World Is Embracing S.U.V.s. That's Bad News for the Climate](#)

NY Times – [Dutch Supermarket Introduces Plastic-Free Aisle](#)

NPR – [After Decades Of Air Pollution, A Louisiana Town Rebels Against A Chemical Giant](#)

Indoor Air Quality

Bangor Daily News – [When indoor air goes bad, it's time to take action](#)

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

NTAA Upcoming Calls. The toll-free number is 1-800-309-2350. If you do not need to call toll free, or would like to help conserve NTAA funding, you can call 1-805-309-2350. Both numbers use code 928-523-0526#.

Contact Andy.Bessler@nau.edu if you have any questions about any call!

Registration instructions When you register for the GoToWebinar, please remember to include your Tribe, Region, or Organization in parenthesis after your last name. This allows you to see everyone on the call and prevents us from conducting a roll-call, ultimately saving everyone's time.

Status of Tribal Air Report Work Group: This group meets every other Wednesday, January-April, to produce the STAR	Wednesday, March 7, 1pm ET
Indoor Air Quality Work Group: Help implement IAQ priorities and develop webinars	Thursday, March 15, 2pm ET
EPA Policy Update Call: Receive updates from EPA	Thursday, March 29, 2pm ET

Alternate Paths for Exceptional Events

The EPA Exceptional Events Team (including OAQPS and Regional office counterparts) would like to invite all interested air agencies to participate in a national conference call to gather stakeholder input on what kinds of additional information would be most useful in attempting to exclude air quality data from certain programmatic applications outside the scope of the Exceptional Events Rule (aka, "alternate paths").

When: March 14 at 2:00-3:00 p.m. EST

Registration Required: If interested in participating in the call, please register by March 12 by emailing Ben Gibson at gibson.benjamin@epa.gov. Ben will respond to those who have registered with call-in information and a background discussion prompt closer to the date of the call.

We are continuing to look for ways to improve the process and efficiency of Exceptional Events Rule implementation, and this call is intended to serve as a forum for us to hear from you about ways to achieve our shared objectives in this regard.

2018 National Tribal Forum on Air Quality: May 14-17, 2018 in Carlton, Minnesota

Hosted by: The Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

The National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTFAQ) provides an opportunity to meet, exchange ideas, and discuss current policies, regulatory initiatives, technical and outreach topics in air quality. The NTFAQ is coordinated by The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) and the National Tribal Air Association (NTAA) through funding from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Registration:

Online registration is now open for the 2016 NTFAQ! There is a \$75 registration fee. [Click HERE](#) to register.

Scholarships:

ITEP will provide a limited number of scholarships to cover eligible travel expenses for tribal employees. Scholarships will be reimbursed after the Forum. Requests for scholarships should be made using the online scholarship request form. **The deadline to request scholarships for priority consideration is March 16, 2016.** For more information on scholarships, see the “Register” tab [HERE](#). Check our website for more information and updates!

www.nau.edu/ntfaq

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professional’s (ITEP’s) [Tribes and Climate Change Calendar](#) includes conferences, trainings, webinars and other events related to tribes and climate change.

[Click here](#) for ITEP’s other trainings and events.

[Click here](#) for ITEP’s new Tribal Environmental Management and Planning Online Courses. New courses have been added, so check it out!

ITEP’s [2018 AIAQTP Course Schedule](#)

Course Title	Dates	Location
Air Pollution Technology	March 13-16	Flagstaff, AZ
Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke (hybrid course)	March 27-28	Boise, ID

GIS for Air Quality	April 17-19	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV
Air Quality in Alaska	April 17-20	Barrow, AK
IAQ Diagnostic Tools for Alaska	May 1-3	Tazlina, AK
<i>National Tribal Forum on Air Quality</i>	<i>May 14-18</i>	<i>Duluth, MN</i>
Management of Tribal Air Programs and Grants (lower 48)	June 5-7	Flagstaff, AZ
Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Cold Climates	Open	Online
Residential Building Science Review	Open	Online
Radon Fundamentals	Open	Online
Quality Assurance (QA) Fundamentals	Open	Online
Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPP)	Open	Online
Emissions Inventory (self-paced, instructor assistance as needed)	Open	Online
Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke (hybrid course)	January-March	Series of 5 webinars

Note: This schedule is subject to change. [Click here](#) for up-to-date information, course descriptions, and applications. If you have questions regarding the pre-requisites or your eligibility for a course, please contact Patricia Ellsworth, Air Quality Curriculum Coordinator, at Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu or phone 928-523-6721. For more information, please visit [ITEP's website](#).

Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke: January-March, 2018.

This webinar series will provide attendees with an understanding of the impacts of wildland smoke on the health of tribal communities and strategies to minimize exposure. Each 90-minute webinar is free and open to anyone. The webinars will be recorded. **All webinars must be completed prior to the in-person workshop for tribes, March 27-28, 2018, in Boise, Idaho.** The in-person workshop application is available on the ITEP website:

http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air. If you would like additional information please contact Pat Ellsworth, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals, at patricia.ellsworth@nau.edu or 928-523-6721.

To Register for the webinars, send an email to: baldwin.joyce@epa.gov. In your email, you may request registration for a particular webinar or for all of them. If you have questions about registration, please call Regina Chappell at 919-541-3650.

Webinar #	Date	Presentations
5	March 15 2:00 PM ET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Residential and Community Strategies to Prevent Forest Fire Smoke Exposures</i> • <i>Industrial Air Scrubbers During Wildfire Conditions: A Public Health Intervention</i> • <i>Protecting the Health of Pets and Livestock</i>

Climate Change / Energy

ITEP's Climate Change Adaptation Training Courses registration is online!
[Learn more about the courses and register here.](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

ITEP VW Settlement Special Call

Due to the [court order](#) issued by Judge Breyer, ITEP will be hosting a special VW Settlement call on Thursday, March 15th from 11 am – 12 pm PT in anticipation of additional information to be shared on this process.

Indoor Air Quality

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

RESOURCES

Now Hiring!

Forest County Potawatomi is hiring an Environmental Sciences Manager

Posted on February 26, 2018, open until filled.

For more information see the [job posting on their website](#).

Gila Watershed Partnership is hiring a Nursery Manager

Application deadline is March 21st, 2018.

For more information contact Melanie Tluczek, Executive Director at melanie@gwpaz.org.

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

EPA Tools and Resources Webinar Series

Usually held the third Wednesday of every month from 3:00-4:00 PM ET
Who should attend? Representatives of state environment and health agencies, tribes, local governments, communities, and others interested in learning about EPA tools and resources available to help inform decision-making.

[Access past webinars and learn more here.](#)

No-Cost Technical Assistance from DOE

The DOE Office of Indian Energy provides federally recognized Indian tribes, including Alaska Native villages, tribal energy resource development organizations, and other organized tribal groups and communities, with technical assistance to advance tribal energy projects at no cost. Technical experts from DOE and its national laboratories, along with other partnering organizations, provide support to assist Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages with energy planning, housing and building energy efficiency, project development, policy and regulation, resilience, and village power.

For more information, visit the on-request [technical assistance description](#).

To view and/or receive ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program newsletter, [Native Voices, click here!](#)

Climate Change/Energy

Calling All Public Health Professionals: Climate & Public Health Decision-Support Tools Survey

- How can government and academia support your work on climate driven impacts (e.g., extreme heat, vector-borne disease) on health?
- What type of information and decision support tools do you need to manage and address public health impacts of a changing climate?

Provide your input on these questions by completing a 15-20 minute, anonymous, [online survey using this link](#) by *Wednesday, February 28th*.

Who: Professionals who work in the field of public health at the:

- Federal, state, tribal, territorial, municipal or county public health department, other government agency OR in a non-profit public health organization, AND
- Are interested or engaged in addressing the public health impacts of climate change and extreme weather, AND
- Are fluent in written and spoken English.

Why: The overall goal of this dissertation study is to understand the needs and challenges public health professionals face in addressing the health implications of climate change. Your responses will remain confidential and only aggregate data will be used in reports or publications.

Questions: For more information, please contact Mona Arora, MSPH at manand@email.arizona.edu or 520-626-0612.

Outcomes: Overall findings may be shared with Public Health and Research Stakeholder Networks via webinars, briefs, journal articles, conference posters, etc.

Sign up for the [Alliance for Green Heat](#)'s newsletter!

To view and/or receive ITEP's [Climate Change newsletter, click here!](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Don't Mess with Mercury – A mercury spill prevention initiative for schools
The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry [has this website](#) as a resource for mercury and schools.

Indoor Air Quality

A new issue of Citizens for Radioactive Radon Reduction monthly news magazine has been published: [CR3 News Magazine 2018 February: Black History Special Edition](#) "The Diversity of Radon" You can now access it instantly [HERE](#). Direct link: <https://joom.ag/0BrL>

This issue is dedicated to African Americans, American Indians, and the people of Africa and how this *Silent Killer* is impacting those with the highest rates of Lung Cancer.

Note that pages 20-35 all address Tribes and Tribal information: from the SW, R5, and NW and even NTAA!

Radon doesn't discriminate...

EPA is excited to announce their latest additions to the Burn Wise educational materials. They have new flyers, videos and even a children's activity book! See below for details and links. You can order hard copies via the new order page at www.epa.gov/burnwise/orderform. If you have recommendations or questions related to EPA's Burn Wise Program, contact me at brockman.larry@epa.gov or 919-541-5398.

- [How to Build a Firewood Storage Shed Video](#) - this 6-minute video shares the benefits of storing firewood properly, lists the materials needed for the project, and demonstrates how to build the firewood storage shed.
- [Build a Firewood Storage Shed Guide](#) - the updated 2-page how-to guide (a companion to the video) provides a list of the materials, cost, photos and simple schematics for building a firewood shed that holds about one cord of wood.
- [Wood Smoke Children's Activity Book](#) – a 16-page coloring and activity book that teaches children about wood smoke and ways their family can reduce smoke from wood burning. For grades K-3. Thanks to Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation's Burn Wise program for allowing EPA to modify their book and make it more widely available.
- [Test Your Wood with a Moisture Meter Flyer](#) – the 1-pager spells out the benefits of burning dry seasoned wood (i.e., <20% moisture content) and how to properly test firewood using a moisture meter to see if it is ready to burn. There is also a Burn Wise [video](#) that demonstrates how to use a wood moisture meter.
- [New EPA Wood Burning Best Practices Video Webpage](#) – the Burn Wise Website has a new webpage that includes all of our best burn practices videos in one location. The page also includes links to other useful non-EPA produced videos related to wood stoves.

The Tribal Pesticide Program Council (TPPC) in conjunction with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has developed a Bed Bug Educational Package meant to provide useful information to Tribal members for bed bug prevention and control, and is available through the TPPC web site dedicated to bed bug issues at <http://tppcwebsite.org/bed-bugs/>.

Additional useful materials posted at that TPPC web site for Tribes include the Bed Bug Issue Paper (survey of the problem in Tribal Country), EPA webinar on bed bugs in schools, links to other bed bug resources, and Federal funding resources.

Please feel free to contact Donald Baumgartner or Emily Ryan (EPA Headquarters) at 703/347-0595 if you have questions.

Be sure to sign up for [EPA's Healthy Indoor Air newsletter](#).

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Deadline Extended for EPA's Teacher and Youth Awards

Are you an expert at incorporating environmental education into your classroom? Do you know a student with an exceptional environmental stewardship project? You or someone you know might be the next winner of the [Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators](#) or the [President's Environmental Youth Award](#).

Applications are due March 30, 2018.

Sierra Health Foundation of California Responsive Grants Program

Online applications are due March 19, 2018.

More information about this Foundation and Grant Program can be found [on their website](#).

U.S. EPA announces \$3 million available for locally focused environmental education grants. [Learn more here](#) and [here!](#) Proposals are due March 15, 2018.

CEC Youth Innovation Challenge

Attention Students: Submit your bold idea for the chance to receive C\$5,000 in seed funding and present your innovation to North America's top environmental officials in Oklahoma City this summer.

[Learn about the Commission for Environmental Cooperation Youth Innovation Challenge](#). Ideas are due April 3, 2018.

As today's visionaries and tomorrow's decision-makers, young leaders will drive the green growth innovations that are critical to a sustainable future. Canada, Mexico and the United States need innovative science, technology and business solutions to North American's shared sustainability challenges. Students and young entrepreneurs are encouraged to share innovative ideas that:

- Create better or more effective products, processes, services, technologies, business models, marketing, supply chains and/or partnerships for the benefit of society, the economy and the environment.
- Contribute to the natural asset base of North American economies, creating green jobs and/or economic opportunities for citizens in North America;

Make good business sense in terms of profitability and potential for growth.

Climate Change/Energy

Updates to 2018 EE Local Grants Request for Proposals

The EE Local Grants Request for Proposals (RFP), originally issued in January, has been modified in order to expand the scope of the environmental issues that can be addressed. The changes to the RFP provide applicants with greater flexibility to address environmental issues relevant to their communities.

To provide applicants with time to modify their proposals, EPA has extended the deadline until **April 11, 2018**. [Read the updated RFP and a summary of the changes](#). For questions, please email eeegrants@epa.gov.

DOE Announces Up To \$11.5 Million Available for Energy Infrastructure Deployment on Tribal Lands. Applications are due April 19, 2018.

This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) builds on efforts to strengthen tribal energy, economic infrastructure resource development, and electrification on tribal lands. This is also the first time that the Office of Indian Energy is issuing a FOA on an entirely fuel and technology neutral basis. This will expand the potential for tribes to use the particular resources available to them and is consistent not only with an all-of-the above energy policy, but also with the principles of tribal sovereignty and self-determination.

This funding opportunity will address the gaps and barriers by soliciting and selecting applications from Indian Tribes, which include Alaska Native Regional Corporations and Village Corporations, and Tribal Energy Resource Development Organizations in the following areas:

1. Topic Area 1: Install energy efficiency measures and/or energy generating systems for tribal buildings that may include deep energy retrofits, energy generating systems, or a combination of energy efficiency measures.

2. Topic Area 2: Deploy community-scale energy generating systems on tribal lands to provide electricity to a substantial number of buildings or even an entire tribal community.
3. Topic Area 3: Install energy systems for autonomous operation to power single or multiple essential tribal loads during emergency situations, or to power a substantial number of essential tribal loads for community resilience.

Selected projects will take on a 50% cost-share in order to reduce or stabilize energy costs, as well as increase energy security and resilience for Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages.

For additional details, read the [full press release](#). Download the [full FOA](#). An [informational webinar](#) will be held Feb. 27, 2018, to provide potential applicants with more information. See the Office of Indian Energy [website](#) for a map and summaries of these competitively funded projects.

Toxics/Mobile Sources

EPA Solicits Applications for Grants to Provide Businesses with Pollution Prevention Technical Assistance and Training

Informational Webinar to be held March 21, 1-2:30 pm EDT

EPA is calling for grant proposals from state and tribal agencies, universities, colleges and other organizations to provide pollution prevention (P2) technical assistance or training to businesses. These two-year projects are expected to be performed in each EPA region.

The solicitation for this grant competition can be found at www.Grants.gov and at www.epa.gov/p2/grant-programs-pollution-prevention (Funding Opportunity Number – EPA-HQ-OPPT-2018-001). **Grant applications are due April 26.**

If Congress appropriates Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 and 2019 funds for this grant program at levels comparable to FY 2017 funding levels, individual federal government grant awards may potentially be in the range of \$40,000-\$500,000 for a two-year funding period (between \$20,000 - \$250,000 per year). However, some EPA regions may have lower award caps. P2 awards will be funded in the form of two-year grants or cooperative agreements. The actual amount or availability of grant funding released each year is dependent on Congressional appropriation, the final EPA budget, and the quality of proposals received. P2 grant recipients (with

the exception of tribes) must provide at least a 50 percent match of the total allowable project cost.

Pollution Prevention (P2) means reducing or eliminating pollutants from entering any waste stream or otherwise released into the environment *prior to recycling, treatment, or disposal*. In keeping with the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990, EPA is encouraging P2 because implementing these approaches can result in reductions in pollutants, the use of water, energy and other raw materials, while also lowering business costs. All grant awards will support the delivery of P2 technical assistance and/or training for businesses, and the identification, development, documentation and sharing of P2 best management practices and innovations.

Grant proposals should focus on one or more of the following P2 priority areas, referred to as National Emphasis Areas (NEAs):

- NEA #1: Business-Based Pollution Prevention Solutions Supporting Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Priorities and Chemical Safety:
- NEA #2: Food and Beverage Manufacturing and Processing:
- NEA #3: Hazardous Materials Source Reduction Approaches in States or Communities:

Webinar for Potential Applicants

EPA's national P2 Program will host an informational webinar for potential applicants and interested stakeholders on Wednesday, March 21, 2018 from 1:00 PM– 2:30 PM EDT. To register, please go to:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1881359341448649473>. Attendees are advised to connect early (12:45 pm to 1:00 pm EDT) to ensure proper connection and to type in questions. The webinar link works best when using the Google Chrome browser

Indoor Air Quality

Nominations Are Now Being Accepted for the HUD Secretary's Award for Healthy Homes

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), through its Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (OLHCHH) and in partnership

with the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA), is accepting nominations for the annual HUD Secretary's Award for Healthy Homes. HUD recognizes excellence in making indoor environments healthier through healthy homes research, education, and program delivery, especially in low- to moderate-income communities.

The submission deadline is February 28, 2018, at 11:59:59 p.m. EST. Awards will be presented at the 2018 NEHA Annual Education Conference and HUD Healthy Homes Conference on June 27, 2018, in Anaheim, California.

[Click here to submit a nomination and learn more about the award.](#)

The Tribal Healthy Homes Network (THHN) has a webpage dedicated to [Funding Opportunities!](#) Additionally, THHN has developed a [Funding Guide for American Indian and Alaska Native Communities.](#)

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

Most Recent Listing: EPA Rules from the Federal Register can be [found here.](#)

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[Back to Table of Contents](#)