

December 6, 2017



Notes from 2017 National Brownfields Training Conference—*Employing Community Residents through Training and Certification*

Thank you for attending our roundtable session last week at the 2017 National Brownfields Training Conference in Pittsburg, PA. If you are still interested in environmental workforce training, the next Professional Learning Community (PLC) cycle will begin in January 2018.

- Topics:
1. HMTRI technical assistance
 2. The next PLC cycle will begin in January 2018
 3. Planning cycle for the EPA EWDJT grants
 4. Upcoming workshops of interest
 5. Funding opportunities
 6. Job opportunities
 7. Questions and additional information

1. HMTRI TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

HMTRI has worked with various EPA programs for almost 30 years. Since the beginning of EPA's EWDJT program, HMTRI has provided communities with technical support to develop, deliver, and sustain quality environmental training to community residents. HMTRI is able to provide this assistance through an EPA cooperative agreement. Below are some of HMTRI's strategies that are used to engage and support the EWDJT effort.

- [Brownfields Toolbox](#) website—A website and repository for all things related to workforce development and job training. EPA documents (including RFP guidelines), PLC post-session notes and audio recordings, and much more information about environmental workforce development programs are available. Visitors to the website may want to also look at the "[Start a Program](#)" section. Many components are updated regularly, so check back often.
- [Annual Environmental Job Development All-Grantee Meetings](#)—This meeting provides a forum for grantees and prospective grantees to network with each other for peer-to-peer idea exchange. Next year's meeting will be held in Alexandria, VA, on August 8–9, 2018. PLC participants are also invited to attend the Annual All-Grantee Meeting.
- [Annual Environmental Job Development All-Grantee Update Webinars](#)—The annual webinars are scheduled half way between the face-to-face All-Grantee meetings to provide updates to stakeholders on the latest developments and best practices of successful EWDJT programs. A save the date announcement for the next webinar will be made in early 2018.

- [Grantee and Community Outreach Listserv](#)—Announcements from HMTRI and EPA as well as requests for information among EWDJT stakeholders are posted to this listserv. Questions and answers from experienced grantees occur on a continuous basis. Send your questions or your request to be added to the listserv to Glo Hanne at ghanne@eicc.edu.
- MentorLink Program—HMTRI identifies experts with knowledge and experience in various EWDJT program areas.
- [Certified Employee Finder](#)—Grantees provide HMTRI with program and graduation information that is compiled into this document to assist employers in finding workers with the specific credentials needed for employment. This document is updated annually in the spring.
- Individualized Technical Assistance—HMTRI provides one-on-one assistance regarding EWDJT issues when requested by grantees and interested community organizations.
- [Social Media Directory](#)—HMTRI maintains a Social Media Directory for over 35 current EPA-funded EWDJT grantees. Websites, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, and Google+ sites are displayed. This document is updated annually in the spring.
- *Environmental Job Training Programs: Critical Components and Best Practices*—(In progress.) This report will provide best practices and strategies from successful EWDJT programs. Print copies will be available and it will be posted on our Brownfields Toolbox website for download.
- [Environmental Workforce Development Professional Learning Community](#) (PLC)—Bi-weekly informal conference call sessions feature successful grantees and discussions on EWDJT topics of interest. If you are not on the PLC distribution list and want to join, email your contact information to Mike Senew at msenew@aol.com). Participants on the list receive post-session notes for each PLC session. Post-session notes and audio recording of all PLC sessions are also located on the Brownfields Toolbox website.

2. THE NEXT PLC CYCLE WILL BEGIN IN JANUARY 2018

An announcement will be sent to the Grantee and Community Outreach listserv and the PLC distribution list when the new PLC cycle begins in January 2018. The next cycle will focus on discussions with some of our most successful EWDJT grantees. The sessions always take place on Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. ET and run for 30–45 minutes. Call-in instructions are provided in the announcements and reminders.

3. PLANNING CYCLE FOR THE EPA EWDJT GRANTS

Based on previous years, below is an estimated timetable for submitting proposals, receiving funding notifications, and finalizing work plans. It provides a rough idea of the EWDJT award process when talking with potential partners.

- 2017 National Brownfields Training Conference—December 5-7, 2017
- PLC session at Brownfields Conference—December 6, 2017, Room 401, 1:45 pm—Last minute proposal checklist
- Proposals due in grants.gov—December 15, 2017
- Rejections for not meeting threshold criteria—First or second week of January 2018
- Professional Learning Community (PLC) resumes—January 2018
- Awards to be announced—April/May 2018
- Award letter and acceptance by applicant—May/June 2018—Funds may be spent up to 90 days before final paperwork after official acceptance.
- Terms and Conditions with approved work plans—July/August 2018
- HMTRI Annual All-Grantee Meeting—August 8-9, 2018
- Official notice that funds are available for spending—August/September 2018
- Training and execution of work plans including quarterly and ACRES reports—September 2018 and ongoing
- FY2019 EWDJT RFP issued (tentative)—Late Fall 2018

4. UPCOMING WORKSHOPS OF INTEREST

The GreatEST Institute

June 4-15, 2018

Davenport, Iowa

Instructors are prepared through a 10-day train-the-trainer program called the GreatEST Institute (Great Environmental Safety Training Institute) to deliver required certifications for public and private responders and workers including:

- 40-hour Waste Site Worker Health and Safety
- 24-hour Industrial Emergency Response
- DOT HazMat Awareness
- Confined Space Non-Entry Rescue
- Hazard Awareness and Communication
- Disaster Site Worker Awareness

Instructors use Community College Consortium for Health and Safety Training (CCCHST) curriculum to train workers and responders in their local area and report to PETE the number of courses they provide,

for which they are provided a small reimbursement. PETE reports these numbers to NIEHS. CCCHST members may charge for the courses offered in their local area. Instructors reporting numbers may return at least every two years for Instructor Refresher training offered at colleges across the nation.

In 2016, membership numbered 157 training organizations with 214 trainers in 35 states and two U.S. territories. CCCHST institutions offered 3,710 classes to 60,888 students generating 409,579 contact hours this past year.

CCCHST is sponsored by the Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (PETE) headquartered in South Portland, Maine. PETE is one of twenty-two affiliated councils of the 1,150-member American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) and the only council whose core mission is environmental, health, safety, and security training. PETE has more than 400 community, technical, and tribal college members for whom PETE provides faculty development programs, workshops, and institutes. This program is supported with grant funding from the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Grant #5U45ES019377-08. Twenty scholarships covering travel, tuition, lodging, and some meals are available from PETE.

[Electronic Applications](#) are available on PETE's website. The complete online application package is due by February 28, 2018. For more information, contact Patti Thompson at pattijthompson@gmail.com.

Disaster Site Response Institute for Trainers (Five-day training program)

January 8-12, 2018

Indian River State College, Treasure Coast Public Safety Training Complex
Fort Pierce, FL

Hosted by the National Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (NPETE), participants will be prepared through a five-day program to obtain safety authorizations for public and private disaster site responders and workers. Courses include OSHA's 15-hour Disaster Site Worker, Hazardous Awareness and Communications, and Incident Command. Accepted attendees will receive approximately 85 percent of their travel costs for attending. The training is being supported with funding from the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). OSHA's Disaster Site Worker Outreach Training Program provides necessary training to workers who provide skilled support (e.g. utility, demolition, debris removal, or heavy equipment operation) or clean-up services in response to natural and/or man-made disasters. All workers at disaster sites need to be aware of the differences between disaster sites and regular construction or demolition worksites. They must also be able to inspect, don, and doff air-purifying respirators.

Upon successful completion of the course, participants will receive an OSHA Disaster Site Worker card (not the OSHA Disaster Site Worker Train-the-Trainer authorization). Completion of the 10- or 30-hour OSHA Construction or General Industry Outreach Training Program is a prerequisite. Being a current OSHA outreach trainer for General Industry or Construction will also be accepted. Applicants must provide a copy of their 10/30 or current trainer card with their application. The deadline for completing

the application is November 8, 2017. Candidates will be notified by November 15, 2017, if they have been accepted. For more information or an application form, contact Patti Thompson at 319.721.1509 or pattijthompson@gmail.com.

The Georgia Brownfields Association 4th Annual Brownfields Seminar—CALL FOR SPEAKERS

April 19, 2018

Georgia Power

This seminar will provide a forum for discussions about the environmental, financial, regulatory, and community factors that guide Brownfields remediation and redevelopment. They are now accepting speaking proposals for a limited number of sessions that offer unique insights, successful case studies, and cutting-edge solutions. Proposals should be non-commercial in nature.

The deadline for submitting proposals is Friday, January 12, 2018. [Click here](#) for more information about the submission process.

Speaker proposals should address one of the following content areas:

- Climate change preparation
- Community engagement
- Community health
- Development issues
- Economic development
- Environmental investigation
- Environmental justice
- Innovative alternatives to assessments
- Grants and lending opportunities
- Legal issues
- Legislative
- Regulations and planning
- Remediation
- Risk assessment
- Surface and groundwater cleanup
- Technology
- Vapor intrusion
- Other

Contact Kelly Andrews at kelly@hlstrategy.com with any questions about the event.

5. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program—2018 Request for Proposals

Due date: Wednesday, January 31, 2018

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Wildlife Habitat Council, in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, USDA Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, FedEx, and Southern Company are pleased to solicit applications for the 2018 Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration program. The Five Star and Urban Waters program will award approximately \$2 million in grants nationwide.

Interested, but not sure if your project qualifies? Projects include a variety of ecological improvements along with targeted community outreach, education, and stewardship. Ecological improvements may include one or more of the following: wetland, riparian, forest and coastal habitat restoration; wildlife conservation; community tree canopy enhancement; water quality monitoring; and stormwater management. Projects should also increase access to the benefits of nature, reduce the impact of environmental hazards, and engage local communities, particularly underserved communities, in project planning, outreach, and implementation.

Go directly to the [grant program website](#) to find the full RFP and a tip sheet that walks you through the application process and describes what is needed for each question/information prompt. This “how to” document is extremely helpful and thorough.

Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreements

2018 Request for Proposals

Due Date: Friday, February 16, 2018

The Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving (EJCPS) Cooperative Agreement Program provides funding to support community-based organizations in their efforts to collaborate and partner with local stakeholder groups (e.g., local businesses and industry, local government, medical providers, and academia) as they develop and implement solutions that address environmental and/or public health issues for underserved communities. The EJCPS program will award approximately \$1.2 million nationwide for this competitive opportunity. EPA anticipates awarding ten cooperative agreements (one in each of the ten EPA regions) of up to \$120,000 each.

Informational Pre-Application Assistance Call—December 5, 2017 from 4:00–5:30 p.m. ET

Potential applicants are invited to participate in this upcoming conference call with EPA to address questions about the EJCPS Program and this solicitation. Interested persons may access the pre-application assistance with the following information: Conference Call Number: 1-866-299-3188; then dial the conference code 202-564-0152 when prompted. Four additional pre-application assistance calls, including one in Spanish, are scheduled throughout the open period. See the RFP for details.

Eligible entities for this opportunity are as follows:

- Incorporated nonprofit organizations including, but not limited to, environmental justice networks, faith-based organizations, and those affiliated with religious institutions
- Federally recognized tribal governments including Alaska Native Villages
- Tribal organizations

If your organization is NOT eligible, consider partnering with eligible entities on an EJCS project. See the RFP for more information. Access the [full RFP](#) including instructions on applying through Grants.gov.

6. JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Environmental Staffing

Looking for Health and Safety professionals for two–five months in Napa Valley, CA. Call or email Dwayne at Environmental Staffing, 704.529.6707, option 1 or dwayne@environmentalstaffing.com.

7. QUESTIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

HMTRI is a great place to send questions or comments about environmental workforce training. Please send your questions to Glo Hanne at ghanne@eicc.edu.

If you are considering submitting an application for an environmental workforce development and job training program next fall or have additional questions about the program, contact your EPA Regional workforce development coordinator listed below.

EPA Region 1 Danny Rodriguez	CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT	Phone: (617) 918-1060 E-mail: rodriguez.danny@epa.gov
EPA Region 2 Schenine Mitchell	NJ, NY, PR, VI	Phone: (212) 637-3283 E-mail: mitchell.schenine@epa.gov
EPA Region 3 Jeff Barnett	DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV	Phone: (215) 814-3246 E-mail: barnett.jeff@epa.gov
EPA Region 4 Bushra Jawaid	AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN	Phone: (404) 562-8569 E-mail: jawaid.bushra@epa.gov
EPA Region 5 Linda Morgan	IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI	Phone: (312) 886-4747 E-mail: morgan.linda@epa.gov
EPA Region 5 Craig Mankowski		Phone: (312) 886-9493 E-mail: mankowski.craig@epa.gov
EPA Region 6 Rita Ware	AR, LA, NM, OK, TX	Phone: (214) 665-6409 E-mail: ware.rita@epa.gov

EPA Region 7 Alma Moreno Lahm	IA, KS, MO, NE	Phone: (913) 551-7380 E-mail: moreno-lahm.alma@epa.gov
EPA Region 8 Christina Wilson	CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY	Phone: (303) 312-6706 E-mail: wilson.christina@epa.gov
EPA Region 9 Nova Blazej	AZ, CA, HI, NV, AS, GU	Phone: (415) 972-3846 E-mail: blazej.nova@epa.gov
EPA Region 9 Noemi Emeric-Ford		Phone: (213) 244-1821 E-mail: emeric-ford.noemi@epa.gov
EPA Region 10 Robert Tan	AK, ID, OR, WA	Phone: (206) 553-2580 E-mail: tan.robert@epa.gov

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Next PLC Session: January 2018, Date TBA, 2:00 p.m. ET
319.527.3513, access code 550105#
Please call in five minutes early.



Feel free to invite a guest! Send your contact information to Mike Senew at msenew@aol.com.

Visit our [HMTRI Brownfields Toolbox](#) website for more information on Brownfields Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training programs. All [PLC session notes and recordings](#) are also located on the website. For those interested in providing content or suggestions, please contact Glo Hanne at ghanne@eicc.edu.

NOTE: The PLC brings together ideas and opinions of individuals interested in environmental workforce development and job training. Ideas and opinions are not those of EPA or its policy and should not be taken as official guidance.