

July 8, 2020



Notes from the Environmental Workforce Professional Learning Community (PLC)—Cycle 22.

This series of bi-weekly phone calls examines effective Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT) strategies from experienced grantees. PLC calls share ideas among successful grantees and prepare interested organizations for the next EPA Request for Proposals. Calls will be a mix of open discussion, workforce development news, resources, and presentations from current grantees.

Topics:

1. News from Washington
2. News from HMTRI
3. Questions from PLC participants
4. Status of EWDJT July 8, 2020
5. Grantee News
6. COVID-19 and Transit Justice
7. Leveraging and Partnership Development... Continued
8. Webinars and Websites
9. Conferences, Workshops, and Meetings
10. Funding and Leveraging Opportunities
11. Contact EPA Regional Coordinators
12. Join us on future Professional Learning Community calls

1. NEWS FROM WASHINGTON

The FY21 Environmental Workforce Development RFA (request for proposals) was expected to be issued in July. As of today, we understand it has been push backed but will be released shortly. It is not unusual for the release date to be delayed. HMTRI will send out the announcement and the RFA when the news breaks. Meanwhile, we recommend proceeding with activities such as community assessment, labor market development and partnership building. Per previous years, we expect proposals will be due 60 days after the RFA is issued. It is expected that EPA will also send out information regarding “Frequently Asked Questions” and schedule a webinar to explain the RFA.

2021 National Brownfields Training Conference

EPA is going ahead with the next National Brownfields Training Conference. Offered every two years, the event will be held on April 26-30, 2021, in Oklahoma City. This conference is the largest gathering of stakeholders focused on cleaning up and reusing former commercial and industrial properties. EPA co-sponsors this event with the International City/County Management. Take time to mark your 2021 calendar.

The [Call for Ideas](#) is now open. Please submit ideas for dynamic educational sessions in Oklahoma City that will motivate brownfields stakeholders to engage, learn, and share their experiences and knowledge of community revitalization challenges and solutions.

[Click here to see instructions for submitting your ideas.](#) Please submit your ideas by August 24, 2020.

2. HMTRI NEWS

2020 Annual All-Grantee Meeting

August 11 - August 13

12:00 - 3:00 p.m. Eastern

Virtually via Zoom

The virtual 2020 All-Grantee Meeting will be held August 11-13 from 12 – 3 p.m. Eastern via Zoom. This meeting provides a unique opportunity to share a variety of approaches to Brownfields job training and workforce development. The focus of the meeting is for grantees to exchange information and ideas with each other and with EPA Regional/Headquarters representatives. The goal of the meeting is to assist every grantee and potential grantee to develop their best possible job training program. This meeting will be a mix of plenary and breakout sessions. Current, past and prospective grantees are invited including PLC members. To register, go to the following site.

- <https://brownfields-toolbox.org/2020-all-grantee-registration/>
- Select which sessions you would be interested in attending.
- See the draft talking points below to review session topics.
- There is no cost associated with this meeting.
- PLC members invited.

Conference Goals and Objectives

This year's Annual All-Grantee Meeting will be a virtual open discussion addressing EWDJT grantees in the era of COVID19 and the implications that will be emerging as the pandemic continues. Each breakout will address concerns, critical issues and best practices grantees experience in successfully executing their grant. Participants will share ideas, propose solutions and explore innovative approaches to EWDJT moving forward.

Breakout topics as a guide for session discussions

B1 – Regions 1-3 Breakout – Introductions - Expectations – Reporting – Communications – Current Regional Events – Regional Networking

B2 – Regions 4-7 Breakout – Introductions - Expectations – Reporting – Communications – Current Regional Events – Regional Networking

B3 – Regions 8-10 Breakout – Introductions - Expectations – Reporting – Communications – Current Regional Events – Regional Networking

B4 – Recruitment and Screening - Recruitment strategies - Finding and recruiting students most likely to succeed - Student screening, assessment and testing - Student contracts and expectations - Covering the costs of assessment tests – Selecting the appropriate assessment tools – Student physicals – Working with diverse populations - Ex-offenders - Women - Youth – Other special populations – Working with educational and cultural disparities

B5 – Community and Labor Market Assessments - Enlarging the pool of potential employers – Types of labor market assessments - How to conduct a comprehensive labor market assessment – Locating remediation and PLA projects – Working with EPA assessment and cleanup grantees – Using EPA

scanning tools - Community assessments – Working with City Hall – Identifying redevelopment contractors - Opportunity and EZ zones – Environmental justice considerations

B6 – Partnership Development - Partners and supporters that can sustain a workforce development program - Engaging partners effectively - Program supporters - Sub-grantees - Contractors and trainers as partners - Selection and recruitment of partners - Working with faith based and other nonprofits – Locating nonprofits with common interests – Nonprofits as sub-grantees

B7 – Graduation, Placement & Tracking - Employer and community participation - Keeping alumni engaged after graduation – Work study and internships – Employer incentives - Using employers as advisors and instructors – Graduates as employers and advocates - Employer attendance at social events - Overcoming employment barriers - Expunging criminal records – Special employment programs - Surety bonds - Mitigating employer concerns - Drug testing prior to graduation

B8 – Curriculum & Training – General categories of EPA supported curriculum - Brownfields hazardous waste assessment and cleanup - Solid Waste Management or Cleanup - Superfund site cleanup and innovative and alternative treatment technologies - Wastewater treatment - Emergency planning, preparedness, and response - Enhanced environmental health and safety - Stormwater Management- Innovative approaches such as Green Infrastructure - Certification programs - Integrated Pest Management (IPM) – Popular course offerings within EPA supported categories - National and State certifications – Unsupported environmental training - Life skills training – Remedial education programs – Finding and vetting qualified training providers – Other leveraged supplemental training

B9 – Student Retention and Support Services - Remedial and life skills education – Sources of in-kind training – Student support services – Community service - Effective case management - Teambuilding strategies – Social events – Stipends – Scholarships – Work study programs – Community service projects – Pre apprenticeship programs – Student networking – Peer to peer coaching – Funding retention and student support services

B10 – Program Evaluation and Assessment - Learning from past mistakes - Program Evaluation instruments - types of evaluations – Using evaluations to improve program performance – Revising work plans – Preparing for the next grant proposal

B11 – Program Tune-up and Grant Writing Strategies - Preparing for the next grant proposal – Project management – Pre proposal preparations – Pre proposal partnership development - Grants.gov – Issues that lose evaluation points - Proposal tune ups and checklist

B12 – Substance Abuse and Other Program Landmines - Drug testing as an acceptance criteria- Random drug testing - Testing as a condition of graduation – Selecting the appropriate drug testing protocol – Rehabilitation programs – Harassment policies – Gender neutrality – Anger management – Attendance and tardiness - Critical issues that lead to program failure – Incomplete labor market assessments - Recruitment failures – Inadequate attention to participant needs-Revising work plans

B13 – Health and Safety for Program Managers - Mandatory training, Popular courses – Supplemental health and safety training – Recruiting and vetting qualified instructors - Working with OSHA – Training

liability – Classroom safety - Recent developments - OSHA compliance for trainers - Training records - Participant physicals - Instructor credentials – Recent Developments and Proposed Regulations

B14 – Program Reporting & ACRES – ACRES overview and update - How is the data used – ACRES Issues- using ACRES -Questions

B15 –Leveraging with Partnerships – B6 Continued - Partnerships with organized labor – Fund raising events – In-kind assistance – Employer assistance – Local grants and foundation support – Private/public partnerships – Synergistic grant opportunities – Faith based and community support - Sources of in-kind support – MOUs and commitment agreements – Recruiting potential leveraging partners - Supplemental funding from program supporters

B16 – Working with WIBs & Service Organizations – Workforce Investment Boards - One-stops and social service agencies – Using WIBs to recruit, screen and place participants – Case management opportunities – Working with health and human services agencies - Qualifying students for benefits – Leveraging social service opportunities – Identifying governmental agencies with common interests

B17 – Using Advisors and Employers Strategically – Establishing an Advisory Board - Recruiting Advisory Board members – Expectations of the Advisory Board - Using Advisory boards wisely – Developing employer relationships- Employer open house events - Using employers and advisors as instructors

B18 – NIEHS Worker Training Program & COVID-19 Resources – Introduction to the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) - The NIEHS Worker Training Program – Professional development and training resources – COVID19 efforts and resources

B19 – Training Strategies in Era of COVID-19 – Techniques for keeping students interested and engaged - Training Facilities - Distance Learning Strategies – Digital Training Materials – Subdividing Training Cohorts –Training Requiring Close Contact – Preparing for program interruptions - Digital platforms - Classroom safety – Student screening – Technology in the classroom – Training configurations and student distancing – Self directed training – Working with training providers – Other public health considerations

B20 – Tips and Ideas for New Grantees – Selecting Advisory Boards – Staff Recruitment and Development – Labor market assessments – Student recruitment and screening - Critical Issues for Successful Program Development – Land mines and program killers

B21 – Community Awareness and Social Media - Social media strategies that work – working with faith-based organizations – Selling EWDJT to the community – Program marketing - Enlarging the pool of program applicants - Developing applicant awareness – Program marketing – Open house events – Current participants and alumni as *ambassadors* - Traditional media strategies – Social media platforms – Radio – Open house events – Formal presentations – Brochures and fact sheets – Effective websites

Again, to register and select your breakout sessions, go to the following site (act now as sessions are filling fast) <https://brownfields-toolbox.org/2020-all-grantee-registration/>.

Interested in helping?

We are counting on your participation to make 2020 the best ever All Grantee Meeting. Here are items we are collecting.

(1) Co-Facilitators for Breakout Sessions: As you can see from the topics guide, we are having twenty-one breakout sessions and we need grantee representatives to help start breakout discussions. Below are examples of talking points to keep conversations on track.

(2) Student Experiences Attending an EWDJT Program: We are looking for examples of student experiences of what it's like to go through an EWDJT program, and what that experience has meant to the individual going forward. Send your videos, emails, or photos to sfenton103@aol.com. Phone videos are welcome.

(3) Regional Coordinator Breakout Sessions: Do you have questions that you would like to have addressed in the regional coordinator breakout sessions?

(4) Video Tour of Programs: We will be showcasing EWDJT programs. A short, 5-10-minute video tour of your facility would be an excellent way to do so. Due to the ongoing concerns with COVID-19, if you have an existing video or YouTube posting, send it in to share. Phone videos are welcome. We would be delighted to show it. Even photos of your operation in lieu of a video would work as well.

Please respond by sending videos, photos and questions to Steven Fenton as soon as possible.

Email sfenton103@aol.com.

3. PLC QUESTIONS

As we plan our training program (especially with local public health concerns), are large cohorts looked at as better than small?

EPA takes into account that population size, geographic location and local conditions play a large part in the availability of eligible and interested students. Large cohorts are not necessarily seen as better than small. Grantees should use requested funds to safely benefit as many individuals as feasible. Clearly, public health concerns during the current pandemic must be taken into account when determining class size and configuration.

Questions?

Still have unanswered questions? Send them to hkballou@eicc.edu.

4. STATUS OF EWDJT JULY 8, 2020

The ability for grantees to begin opening their summer cohorts is highly dependent on local public health guidance and regulation. Here is a sample of anecdotal comments from this week's PLC participants.

- Facilities such as RecycleForce (determined as essential) have been able to remain open during the closure of most training sites. Programs such as RecycleForce and Auberle have been able to move forward with their programs.
- Cohorts in progress when the shutdown began are maintaining contact with participants by computer, phone or social media.
- Program staff are continuing administrative operations including program planning, partnership communications, limited recruitment, and placement activities.
- Alumni laid off during the pandemic are requesting assistance in reentering the workforce adding new challenges and opportunities for EWDJT grantees.

- As of July 6th many facilities have reopened to staff for limited operation.
- When training begins, orientation, remedial education and life skills will be delivered first.
- Delivery of certification courses is highly dependent on the capabilities and willingness of consultants and organizations to provide training.
- New placement opportunities are emerging related to biohazards and decontamination.
- Blood borne pathogen certifications are being introduced into the curriculum opening new placement opportunities.
- Class sizes are being reduced to accommodate social distancing during training.
- An alternative to class size reduction is subdividing cohorts into multiple sections with alternative training schedules.

5. GRANTEE NEWS

[West End Neighborhood House corona virus reopening plan](#)

The West End reopening plan is committed to the safety and well-being of customers, staff, volunteers and broader community. The plan is governed by two basic principles: continue to serve the community during the pandemic and to ensure the financial and physical safety of West End employees and clients.

Here is an outline of the reopening plan:

- Continue to serve the many low-income and vulnerable individuals and families who depend on us
- Stock our food closet to ensure that ample resources are available for those in need
- Provide an educational camp for the children of working parents during school closings
- Develop food safety and mental health strategies
- Prepare assistance payment checks for customers in advance of deadlines to anticipate any delays
- Increase cleaning by maintenance and staff
- Require sick employees to leave work and/or remain at home
- Allow five additional paid days off for employees who qualify for the agency's sick days policy
- Encourage staff to save sick and vacation time
- Allow staff flexibility to work from home
- Increase social distancing
- Cancel any events that involve the attendance of over (50) fifty people
- Where allowable, shift duties for employees whose client load diminishes
- Monitor staff and customer temperatures
- Leverage virtual meeting devices and services such as Zoom

West End's EWDJT program plan during the pandemic

- West End Neighborhood House, Inc. is targeting residents of communities that have been historically affected by pollution, disinvestment, and solid/hazardous waste in Wilmington, Delaware.
- Instagram and Facebook are the primary social media tools for maintaining contact with students and the community. Instagram tends to be the more popular of the two.
- West End Neighborhood House is looking at reducing cohort sizes from 20 to 10 with 4 cycles each year. This will provide for social distancing and increased attention to participant wellbeing
- It is likely that certification offerings will need to be reduced from 12 to 10 due to public health and trainer concerns. Similarly the training cycle will be reduced by one week.

- The program is considering the addition of one day online refresher courses to accommodate laid off alumni wishing to reenter the workforce.
- Increased attention is being given to workplace readiness during the early part of the training cycle.
- Increased opportunities associated with decontamination and viral contamination are likely to influence the training curriculum.

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The core training program includes 10 certifications

- 40-hour HAZWOPER
- OSHA general industry
- EPA lead renovation, repair, and paint
- Asbestos worker
- Mold and microbial worker
- OSHA confined space entry
- Soil sampling - Likely to be omitted due to public health and training constraints
- OSHA forklift operator - Likely to be omitted due to public health and training constraints
- Participants who complete the training will earn ten certifications

Key partners include

- Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
- BrightFields, Inc.
- Guardian Environmental Services
- Environmental Staffing
- Environmental Alliance, Inc.
- East Coast D.E.S
- ASTEC Environmental

If you would like to learn more about the West End Neighborhood House, contact Ronike at:

Ronike Haynie

Employment Specialist

West End Neighborhood House

302.658.4171 (ext. 164)

RHaynie@westendnh.org

6. COVID-19 EWDJT AND TRANSIT JUSTICE

[Transit Equity Town Hall: Mobility, Race, and the Economy](#)

Thursday, July 16th

2pm Eastern

People of color and low-income communities are disproportionately impacted by poverty, pollution, and the COVID-19 pandemic. These interrelated crises are all rapidly accelerating and the policies implemented today will have ripple effects for years to come. There is both grave risk and incredible opportunity to reshape America as we know it.

This Town Hall will explore the crucial link between racial equity, economic equity, and transit equity. Panelists will discuss the history of inequitable transportation decisions across the U.S., the impact that

public transit has on access to economic opportunity, and how policymakers and transit agencies can improve access and affordability for transit-dependent riders now and after COVID-19.

[Learn more and RSVP for the online Transit Equity Town Hall now.](#)

COVID-19 and Safe Transit Policies

The **Securing Safe Transit** issue brief provides a snapshot of how transit agencies have adjusted their policies during COVID-19 and offers insight from interviews conducted with transit justice groups, labor unions, and transit agencies across the country regarding the needs and challenges transit riders and workers are currently facing. The issue brief includes specific policy recommendations that transit agencies and federal actors can implement to ensure the health and safety of riders and workers while ensuring reliable, affordable, and equitable service now and into the future. Read Green For All's recent issue brief "Securing Safe Transit: Before and After COVID-19.

<https://www.thedreamcorps.org/safetransit>

Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces

This jointly developed guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is intended for all Americans, whether you own a business, run a school, or want to ensure the cleanliness and safety of your home. This plan is part of the larger [United States Government plan](#) and focuses on cleaning and disinfecting public spaces, workplaces, businesses, schools, and can also be applied to your home. View and download the full guidance and infographic below.

- [Cleaning and Disinfecting Decision Tool \(PDF\)](#)
- [Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools and Homes \(PDF\)](#)

7. LEVERAGING AND PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT... CONTINUED

The key to a successful EWDJT program

Last PLC we began a discussion regarding the importance of partnership development and the weight it carries in EPA funding decisions. As previously noted, partnerships, and resource leveraging account for 29 of 100 evaluation points. Partnership and leveraging ranking criteria include the following:

- Collaboration with Entities Involved with Local Remediation and Environmental Projects (6 points)
- Community Partnership Building (8 points)
- Employer Involvement (12 points)
- Leveraging (3 points)

To answer the question, why are partnerships and leveraging so important in awarding EWDJT grants? We only need to look at the multitude of activities and services grantees must provide to deliver their program. Successful programs develop partnerships which leverage EPA resources by providing services not supported by EPA. The best EWDJT grantees offer training and services substantially exceeding those required in Application Guidelines. Partnership development and leveraging are ongoing activities between the EWDJT program, partners, and stakeholders. Combining resources from multiple sources is essential for sustainability. In addition to being independent of any single funding stream, leveraging raises the quality and effectiveness of the entire program. Leveraging eliminates duplication by combining and sharing limited resources and establishing a critical mass needed for comprehensive

training and student support. Examples of goods and services not funded or partially funded by EPA include the following:

- In kind assistance from advisors, lawyers and financial professionals
- Social and team bonding events
- Facilities and equipment
- Life skills and remedial training assistance
- Financial support
- Stipends and scholarships
- Paid internships
- Training in unsupported environmental occupations
- Student services and retention support
- Case management support

Partner recruitment and leveraged resources

Today we are interchanging the terms “partners” and “leveraging”. Partners leverage available resources. EWDJT programs seek out partners to leverage and expand services that would otherwise be extremely basic. The search for partners and leveraged support must begin at the earliest stages for program development, even before grant writing begins. Here are examples of potential partners and leveraging they bring to successful grantees:

- City and county government
 - Mayor's Office of Environmental Remediation (DEP)
 - Current and planned remediation projects
 - Department of Health – Drug testing
 - Office of Environmental Remediation – Active cleanup projects
 - Office of Brownfields – Assessment and cleanup grants
 - Economic Development and Opportunity Zones
 - Housing Authority – Student recruitment
 - Community and Neighborhood Development – Community assessment
 - Planning Commission – Projected redevelopment projects
 - Citi purchasing department – Cleanup contractors, first hire agreements
 - Health and Human Services – Child care, case management
- Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs)
 - Local Workforce Development Board – Special employment projects, benefits for special populations
 - Career Centers, One Stops – Recruitment, case management and placement assistance
- Municipal services
 - Department of public works- Employment opportunities, facilities
 - Department of Transportation – Reduced fares for program participants
 - Water department- Employment opportunities, training
 - Waste services- Employment opportunities
 - Police and law enforcement – Case workers, record expungement
 - Fire and emergency response – Facilities, equipment, trainers

- Potential employers – Placement opportunities
 - General Contractor and trade associations
 - Union Locals – Pre Apprenticeship programs, Project Labor Agreements
 - Construction/deconstruction firms – Placement opportunities, equipment
 - Scrap and waste haulers – Placement opportunities, equipment
 - Consultants and remediation firms – Placement and training
 - Manpower and temporary labor firms – Placement and training

- Community based organizations – Community relationships, student recruitment, facilities
 - Faith-based organizations
 - Neighborhood organizations
 - Associations and clubs

- Local and nationally affiliated nonprofits – Leveraged resources for common goals
 - Goodwill
 - Young Community Developers
 - Conservation Corps
 - Youth Build
 - Philanthropic organizations

- Trainers and consultants
 - Universities and community colleges – Training, labor market assessments, placement services
 - Consultants and trainers – Training, equipment, facilities, employment opportunities

- Business and industry
 - Banks – Financial support, literacy training
 - Utilities – Facilities, financial support, employment opportunities
 - Corporate foundations – Financial support, stipends, and scholarships
 - Potential employers – Equipment, facilities, training materials, financial support

From the above list, it is clear that partnership relationships with city and county government are essential. Those relationships may be from the top down (coordinated by the mayor's or city manager's office) or by individual office and department. Another must have partnership to be included in successful grant applications is with the local Workforce Investment Board (WIB) or Career Center. Locally these Department of Labor programs may have a variety of names and organizational structures. WIBs and Career centers can provide recruitment, screening, case management, and placement services. Many provide much more including training benefits and subsidies for materials and equipment. All EWDJT applicants should be screened to see if they qualify for Department of Labor support services.

Tips when recruiting partners

- Finding the best partners requires extensive networking and a systematic search effort.
- Partner relationships are time and labor intensive.
- Start as soon as possible with partner development.

- From the labor market assessment, define the types of training the EWDJT program needs to deliver. Determine if the training requested will be funded by the EWDJT grant. If not, search for partners to provide unfunded instruction.
- Based on the community assessment determine the need for rehabilitation services, remedial education and life skills training.
- Assess the need for student services and support.
- Always leave or end meetings with an action plan, commitment, or closure. Always invite partner organizations to attend board meetings, classes, graduations and social events.
- Establish long-term relationships with leveraged partners and contractors.
- Document meetings and develop memorandum of Understanding (MOU) when partners are included in the grant proposal.

It should be emphasized that if partners are presented as part of the RFA, relationships must be established before the application is submitted. A memorandum of Understanding should be made with the most important partners with documentation and contact information with others.

8. WEBINARS, AND WEBSITES

RE-Powering America's Land Initiative invites you to join the Power and Pollinators webinar

July 15, 2020

1:00 - 2:30 PM EDT.

Join the Power and Pollinators webinar to examine how planting for pollinators on RE-Powering sites can help protect cleanup remedies in place while providing much needed pollinator habitats. Explore how planting for pollinators on RE-Powering sites benefits cleaning up contaminated sites while beautifying communities. The webinar covers how planting for pollinators can help protect caps, control runoff, and provide habitat for struggling pollinator communities.

Presenters include representatives from the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Fresh Energy, VHB, and the USEPA's RE-Powering America's Land Initiative.

Register for the webinar: <https://clu-in.org/conf/tio/powerpollin/>

COVID-19 Complexities: Converging Threats, Fractured Resources Virtual Webinar

July 21, 2020

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. ET

The Bipartisan Commission on Biodefense is hosting a virtual webinar, COVID Complexities: Converging Threats, Fractured Resources, to help the Commission better understand the potential for COVID-19's reemergence, the country's efforts to track the spread of the disease, and national readiness to address future biological threats. The webinar will be held on July 21 at 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. ET.

[Bipartisan Commission on Biodefense](#)

NIEHS WTP Essential and Returning Worker Online Training Course

Now Available

As workplaces reopen, workers and employers are safeguarding against COVID-19. Vivid Learning Systems designed an online version of the NIEHS WTP Essential and Returning Worker Training course, which is now available from Vivid Learning Systems. This training includes an Introduction and modules

on Assessing Exposure Risk to SARS CoV-2, Workplace Exposure Prevention, Cleaning and Disinfections, and Resilience. Access to this course is free of charge.

[Vivid Learning System LMS](#)

Resource Road mapping for Revitalization: Tools for Leveraging Funding & Other Resources for Brownfields & Land Revitalization

EPA Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization

Tuesday, July 21, 2020

1:00 PM-3:00 PM Eastern

[Register](#)

The redevelopment of brownfields and the revitalization of neighborhoods can require substantial funding. EPA will host a national webcast to present and explain how EPA brownfield grantees and local community leaders can use the "resource road mapping" approach to match project costs and needs with sources of funding and finance, and to implement practical strategies for securing grants, low-cost funding, incentives, and innovative finance sources for brownfields and community revitalization. The webcast will outline how to use a Resource Roadmap, a Funding Matrix, and a Briefing Sheet to improve your effectiveness in leveraging resources, and will feature experts in project funding along with a municipal manager who has used the resource roadmap approach to leverage tens of millions of dollars of funding in two different communities, one in Pennsylvania and one in Colorado.

9. CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS

[2020 Georgia Environmental Conference](#)

August 26-28, 2020

Jekyll Island, GA

The Annual Georgia Environmental Conference is the largest and most comprehensive professional environmental education conference serving Georgia and the Southeast region – across the public and private sectors.

Mission: To meaningfully and significantly present Georgia Environmental Conference's diverse slate of topics and featured speakers focusing on providing fresh, new, high value, well-balanced, diverse, and relevant educational content with a positive impact on current and future practitioners and the environment of Georgia and the Southeast region.

The Conference hosts an elite group of environmental professionals seeking knowledge and sharing ideas around environmental concerns in Georgia and the Southeast region. GEC anticipates an estimated 700 attendees, including Attorneys, Consultants, Engineers, Business, Industry, Federal, State, and Local Government Officials, Planners and Developers, Landowners and many, many others with a strong interest in environmental programs in Georgia and the Southeast. Sponsorships enable more diverse groups and individuals to participate at the Annual Georgia Environmental Conference. Through continued participation in this program, we may continue to offer course registration fees far below that charged for comparable events and learning opportunities, while providing a top-notch Conference experience.

[The WV Brownfields Conference](#)

September 15-17

Huntington, WV

The WV Brownfields Conference & Main Street/ON TRAC Training is West Virginia's premier redevelopment event that combines educational programs with networking opportunities between

communities, local governments, development professionals, and service providers. The conference features expert panels, interactive workshops, technical training, and project case studies.

The Conference Planning Committee is currently seeking mobile workshop and breakout session ideas to fill limited slots for the 2020 Conference in Huntington, WV on September 15-17. We are looking for session ideas focused on downtown development, remediation and site preparation strategies, re-use planning approaches, and redevelopment funding opportunities. Creative session formats, such as town hall or roundtable discussions and interactive workshops, as well as traditional panel presentations, are encouraged.

[The 6th Annual GBA Brownfield Seminar](#)

Rescheduled for Oct. 12, 2020

Join us Monday, Oct. 19, 2020 for the sixth annual Brownfield Seminar. We are planning to present the same great event we had planned before coronavirus (COVID-19) rearranged all of our lives and schedules, in its originally planned format, as a full-day conference at Georgia Power. Those who submitted abstracts - thank you, we will be in touch with you directly regarding your submission.

[Registration](#) is open and sponsorships are still available! If you're already registered, don't worry - we have transferred your registration to the new event date on Oct. 19, 2020.

[The 26th Florida Remediation Conference & Exhibition \(FRC 2020\)](#)

November 4-6, 2020

Omni Orlando Resort at Champions Gate

Champions Gate (Orlando), Florida

The Florida Remediation Conference (FRC) is one of the premier soil, air and water remediation conferences of the year. Though FRC started out as a Florida-centric event 25 years ago, it has developed a solid reputation for fostering the remediation and redevelopment industries across the Southeast. FRC attracts over 600 attendees comprised of a mix of industry representatives, developers, consultants and contractors, and over 100 exhibitors and sponsors from across the country. The Florida Remediation Conference & Exhibition is requesting individuals that have an interest in presenting an oral or poster presentation at the 26th annual event which will take place on November 4-6, 2020.

10. FUNDING AND LEVERAGING OPPORTUNITIES

[Susan Harwood Training Grants for Nonprofit Organizations](#)

Worker Safety and Health Training Grants

U.S. Department of Labor Announces Availability of \$11.5 Million In Worker Safety and Health Training Grants
The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) announced the availability of \$11.5 million in Susan Harwood Training Grants for nonprofit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations, employer associations, labor unions, joint labor/management associations, Indian tribes, and colleges and universities.

The Harwood Training Grant program supports in-person, hands-on training for workers and employers in small businesses; industries with high injury, illness, and fatality rates; and vulnerable workers, who are underserved, have limited English proficiency, or are temporary workers. The grants will fund training and education to help workers and employers identify and prevent workplace safety and health hazards, including the coronavirus, through the following funding opportunities categories:

- Targeted Topic Training grants support educational programs that address identifying and preventing workplace hazards. These grants require applicants to conduct training on OSHA-designated workplace safety and health hazards;
- Training and Educational Materials Development grants support the development of quality classroom-ready training and educational materials that focus on identifying and preventing workplace hazards; and
- Capacity Building grants support organizations in developing new capacity for conducting workplace safety and health training programs and must provide training and education based on identified needs of a specific audience or a set of related topics.

More information on the grants and how to apply are available at www.grants.gov. Harwood applications must be submitted online no later than 11:59 p.m. EDT on July 20, 2020. Applicants must possess a “D-U-N-S” number and have an active [System of Award Management \(SAM\)](#) registration. A D-U-N-S number may be obtained free-of-charge from [Dun & Bradstreet](#).

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA’s role is to help ensure these conditions for America’s working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit www.osha.gov.

The mission of the Department of Labor is to foster, promote and develop the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers and retirees of the United States; improve working conditions; advance opportunities for profitable employment; and assure work-related benefits and rights. For information, go to the link below.

[OSHA](#)

National Science Foundation—Civic Innovation Challenge

Stage 1 - \$50,000

Stage 1 proposals are due August 3, 2020

Stage 2 - \$1,000,000

CIVIC is organized as a two-stage competition with two tracks centered around the following topic areas: Track A: Communities and Mobility: Offering Better Mobility Options to Solve the Spatial Mismatch Between Housing Affordability and Jobs; and Track B. Resilience to Natural Disasters: Equipping Communities for Greater Preparedness and Resilience to Natural Disasters.

Eligible Entities: Communities in partnership with local, state, or tribal government officials; non-profit representatives; community organizers or advocates; community service providers; and/or others working to improve their communities

Stage 1 proposals are due August 3, 2020. [More Information.](#)

[Superfund Research Program](#)

Occupational Health and Safety Education Programs on Emerging Technologies

The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The overarching goal of this R25 program is to support educational activities that complement and/or enhance the training of a workforce to meet the nation’s biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research needs. The deadline to apply is Aug. 3 by 5:00 p.m. local time.

From the NIEHS Weekly WTP e-Newsbrief

Job posting from CPWR

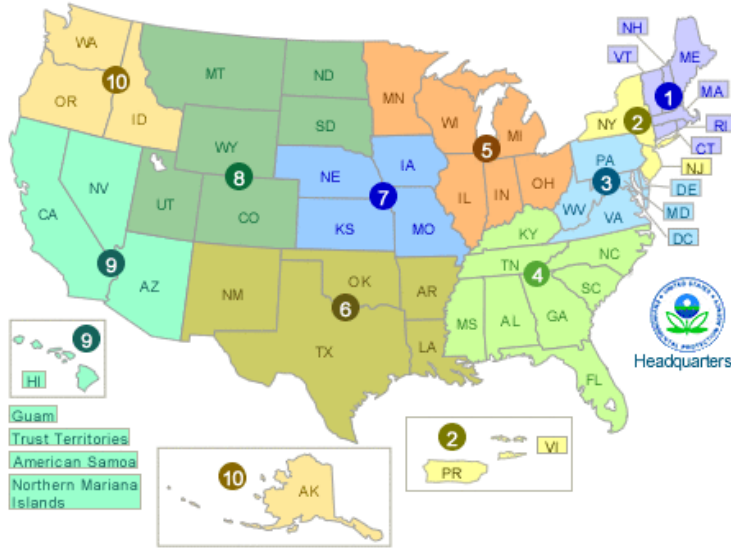
CPWR Seeks Training Specialist

The Center for Construction Research and Training (CPWR) is hiring a training specialist, who will work as part of a team to ensure the delivery of CPWR's Construction Consortium for Hazardous Waste Training and National Resource Center courses remains at the highest quality. For the posting, go to:

<https://www.cpwr.com/sites/default/files/staff/Training-Specialist-2019.pdf>

11. EPA REGIONAL JOB TRAINING COORDINATORS

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EPA Region 3 Gianna Rosati	DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV	Phone: (215) 814-3406 E-mail: rosati.gianna@epa.gov
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EPA Region 10 Susan Morales	AK, ID, OR, WA	Phone: (206) 553-7299 E-mail: morales.susan@epa.gov



Map of EPA Regions

Credit: epa.gov

12. JOIN US ON FUTURE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CALLS

Upcoming PLC calls

- July 22

Missed a few of our PLC sessions? Post session notes are available on the brownfields-toolbox.org. Join our 30-minute discussion with EPA EWDJT grantees, alumni and new interested stakeholders. PLCs give grantees a chance to highlight their programs and an opportunity for others to learn from their experience. For questions or to be placed on the PLC register, send your contact information to hkballou@eicc.edu.

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 Heather Ballou at hkballou@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.

