

October 14, 2020



Notes from the Environmental Workforce Professional Learning Community (PLC)—Cycle 23.

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. Latest from Washington
2. News from HMTRI
3. Questions from PLC participants
4. Grantee and partner news
5. Training for re-entry - RecycleForce, Indianapolis, IN
6. Re-entry of justice involved individuals into the green economy
7. Webinars, online resources, websites, recordings and PowerPoints
8. Conferences, workshops and meetings
9. Funding and leveraging opportunities
10. Contact EPA Regional Coordinators
11. Join us on future Professional Learning Community calls

## **1. NEWS FROM WASHINGTON**

### **New Dates for Brownfields 2021 Conference**

**Brownfields 2021 will now be held September 27-30, 2021**

**Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

The goal of the National Brownfields Training Conference is to provide a vibrant networking and learning environment for the Brownfields community. To deliver the valuable in person education and networking opportunities we all look forward to at every Brownfields Conference, we are working to ensure that the venue and travel arrangements will be as safe and healthy as possible for conference attendees. Given the uncertainties of the current Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and keeping these considerations in mind, Brownfields 2021 will be rescheduled from its current April dates.

We are committed to providing attendees with the safest and most engaging event possible, while also considering evolving restrictions on gatherings and travel. EPA and ICMA agree that the new September dates will allow for a more robust event in Oklahoma City, especially with regards to educational sessions and networking events. For more information, go to <https://brownfields2021.org/>.

## **2. HMTRI NEWS**

### **All Grantee-Meeting follow up – meeting links**

For those interested in the 2020 All-Grantee Meeting, chats and websites discussed in breakout sessions are posted on the following page <https://brownfields-toolbox.org/2020-grantee-downloads/>.

### **Planning for next year**

With Brownfields 2021 rescheduled from its current April dates to September 27-30, 2021, HMTRI is considering a Spring 2021 All-Grantee Meeting using a ZOOM format similar to this year's conference.

The Spring virtual conference would allow for participation by FY21 awardees, current and former grantees, reduce travel costs and avoid potential public health concerns. Supplementing the Spring virtual conference, a face to face component would be held as a preconference event September 26<sup>th</sup> at Brownfields21 in Oklahoma City.

What are your thoughts? Respond to via email with your ideas.

### **3. QUESTIONS FROM PLC PARTICIPANTS**

When will those not passing the Threshold Criteria be notified?

*Those applications that have been screened due to an insufficient response to “Threshold Criteria” should have been notified by now. Some applicants may have been contacted regarding clarification issues, but for the most part, EPA is now commencing the evaluation of “Ranking Criteria”. We call this the “long wait” until early 2021 when programs recommended for funding will be announced. It is important that applicants keep key partners especially those providing letters of support informed on the application status. It is possible that they may be contacted by proposal evaluators to verify their commitment to the EWDJT program.*

#### **Questions?**

Still have unanswered questions? Send them to [hkballou@eicc.edu](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu).

### **4. GRANTEE AND PARTNER NEWS**

#### **Energy Coordinating Agency (ECA) Presented its first Virtual Community Energy Conference October 16<sup>th</sup>.**

Best wishes to Pam Carunchio and staff at ECA on their first Virtual Community Energy Conference. ECA convened partners and stakeholders to discuss working together to meet community needs during the 'new normal' brought on by COVID-19. Throughout the morning, panelists discussed housing needs, workforce development and training, COVID response, clean energy workforce transformation, the new normal of energy efficiency and concerns for environmental justice. Zoom and other meeting applications are providing EWDJT grantees tools for reaching a broad and diverse audience of stakeholders and partners in a cost effective manner.

#### **NIEHS has established a series titled “[Training Best Practices in the Time of COVID-19](#)”**

NIEHS has made available professional development materials addressing virtual training, available tools, platforms and special topics with a focus on protecting workers who may be at risk of exposure to COVID-19.

### **5. TRAINING FOR RE-ENTRY - RECYCLEFORCE, INDIANAPOLIS, IN**

Many EWDJT grantees include ex-offenders as part of a diversified training cohort. A few including The Fortune Society and RecycleForce incorporate re-entry as part of their prime mission. Today we are fortunate to have Paul Sammons and Ken Alexander from RecycleForce share their thoughts on the challenges of re-entry both from the perspective of those formerly incarcerated and EWDJT staff assisting their transition into the green economy.

RecycleForce’s primary mission is to help formerly incarcerated individuals rebuild their lives through on-the-job and classroom training, social support and job placement. Recycling and the EWDJT program is how that mission is accomplished.

## **Hard to believe**

Here are a few statistics published by Green for All (see section 6).

- 28% or 68 million adults have criminal records.
- The U.S. has the world's largest prison population of 2.25 million individuals.
- With 5% of the world population the U.S. has 23% of the world's prisoners.
- 59% of all prisoners are convicted of drug related crimes only 11% of violent crimes.
- Almost 25% if prisoners return to prison within the first 3 years.
- The unemployment rate of those attempting to re-enter the workforce is 60-70%.
- The U.S. spends over \$70 Billion per year incarcerating potentially productive individuals.

Beginning in 1990 the number of incarcerated individuals has risen exponentially. Explanations include the "War on Drugs", "Three Strikes and You're Out", get tough on crime policies, minimum sentence guidelines and economic conditions among underserved communities. Regardless of the cause, large numbers of ex-offenders are attempting to enter a workforce with poor work histories and criminal records. (Actually, Paul points out that COVID-19 has provided a tailwind for placement of his graduates with experience and credentials as many workers are staying home out of public health concerns. Despite economic conditions, the battle for formerly incarcerated individuals is always up hill. RecycleForce is addressing employment issues by primarily targeting ex-offenders and unemployed residents, some older, but many in the age group of 18-24.

## **Issues facing participants transitioning into the workforce**

Clearly, EWDJT has a role in transitioning this underserved, unemployed population into a productive environmental workforce. However, the re-entry population comes with heavy baggage requiring tolerance, empathy and patience on the part of EWDJT staff. Here are a few of the employment barriers working against Indiana's re-entry population:

- Indiana requires reentry candidates to wear ankle bracelets payed by the offender totaling \$450/month.
- Some participants need from 10-15 hours per week related to oversight/probation/counseling and other work release commitments. (RecycleForce plans on 25-30 hours "on the clock").
- Many participants are still involved or impacted by drug use.
- Recently, the number of participants with mental/PTSD related issues is increasing.
- In additions to mental issues, some participants have persistent health issues.
- Some participants are homeless with no transportation.
- Language and gang affiliations have a potential for personality conflicts.
- Food and housing are the first and second highest priorities.

## **Strategies used to transition ex-offenders into environmental jobs**

RecycleForce provides wrap around social services including the following:

- HHS provides housing assistance.
- Local charities and restaurants deliver lunch daily.
- A "health mobile" visits RecycleForce facilities on a regular basis.
- Law enforcement assists with activities at RecycleForce facilities.
- Legal services provide assistance in minor crime expungement.
- Parole officers and case workers come to RecycleForce facilities.
- Participants are instructed to leave colors (gang affiliations) and prejudices at the door.
- Dropouts are able to reenter the program with a change in attitude.

- RecycleForce provides paid transitional work and a work history in addition to training and certifications.
- Every morning RecycleForce has a friendship circle, sharing ideas and concerns regarding training and reentry. Participants form a circle (youngest to oldest). Elders mentor and guide younger less experienced team members, providing encouragement and support during and outside organized activities.
- Extensive use of peer-to-peer networking including volunteer mentors providing support and guidance.

### **About RecycleForce**

RecycleForce can be considered as a nonprofit social enterprise. To support the extensive number of services provided to program participants, the organization relies on local, state and federal grants. Grant funds are supplemented with charitable donations and partners providing goods and services. Here are just a few support partners RecycleForce relies on in addition to individual contributions of time and effort.

### **Strategic Partners**

Brightmark	City of Indianapolis Brownfield Redevelopment Program
US Ecology	EmployIndy
Keys to Work	PZtech
KERAMIDA	Citizens Energy Group
Remedium Services Group	John Boner Neighborhood Centers
Trusted Mentors, 5/3 Bank	Southeast Community Services Center for Working Families
Place of Power	
Edna Martin Christian Community Center	
Walker Career Center/Metropolitan School District of Warren Township	

### **RecycleForce as a social enterprise**

RecycleForce uses recycling as a means to train and provide transitional jobs leading to permanent employment. RecycleForce handles over 12.5 million pounds of solid waste. Among the waste are hazardous materials, solid waste and anything with a plug. In addition, the social enterprise provides deconstruction, storage and solid waste transportation services to Indianapolis and surrounding communities. All applicants beginning the program are guaranteed at least 120 days of transitional employment with training, counseling and support services. Many will stay longer or move to outside employment opportunities.

### **Training opportunities**

While today's discussion did not focus on the EWDJT curriculum, here is a summary of the EWDJT core training program which includes 200 hours of instruction.

- 40-hour HAZWOPER
- Forklift safety
- Emergency action plan and fire prevention
- RCRA (HAZCOM and global SDS)
- OSHA safety (personal protective equipment)
- Warehouse safety
- Material handling

- Machine guarding
- Lockout tag-out and OTI
- Basic first aid
- Blood borne pathogens
- Slips, trips, and falls
- Participants who complete the training will earn three state or federal certifications.

### **Placement**

Placement comes from a variety of pathways including social service agencies, employment with RecycleForce customers and partners, direct employment as part of the RecycleForce workforce and temp/manpower firms. Placement occupations have included the following:

- Recycling, sorting and classification technician
- Hazardous waste handler
- Spill and emergency responder
- Deconstruction (electronic, mechanical and structural)
- Landfill operator/worker
- Flagger
- Solid Waste Management and Remediation
- Urban Agriculture/Composting
- Flagger certification
- Solid waste remediation Technician
- Material handling including forklift operator
- Solid waste disposal technician
- Lead or asbestos work

**Check out this video about the Brightmark partnership with RecycleForce.**

<https://www.brightmark.com/engage/recycleforce-partnership/>

### **Contact Paul**

Paul would be happy to discuss the RecycleForce EWDJT and reentry program on an individual basis. Thanks Paul and Ken for sharing your strategies transitioning ex-offenders into the green workforce.

Paul Sammons

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Indianapolis, 46202

Phone: 317.532.1367

[psammons@recycleforce.org](mailto:psammons@recycleforce.org)

<http://recycleforce.org/>

## **6. RE-ENTRY OF JUSTICE INVOLVED INDIVIDUALS INTO THE GREEN ECONOMY**

As an addendum to the work of RecycleForce, the PLC would like to note the effort currently underway by Dream Corps and Green for All. Dream Corps closes prison doors and opens doors of opportunity. Their goal is to bring people together across racial, social, and partisan lines to create a future with freedom and dignity for all.

Green For All is a project of Dream Corps dedicated to improving the lives of all Americans through a clean-energy economy. The national organization works in collaboration with business, government,

labor, and grassroots communities to create and implement programs that increase quality jobs and opportunities in green industry — all while holding the most vulnerable people at the center of its agenda. Several years ago Green for All published a best practices guide titled *Best Practices in Re-entry Strategies*. The publication can be found at the site below. As part of the publication, Green For All sited the following best practices for organizations working with re-entry populations. Readers of this study will note the contributions made by RecycleForce and the “best practice” strategies they have employed. We will discuss these “best practices” in a future PLC. For today’s discussion, here are the practices presented.

#### **Best practices for assisting re-entry of justice involved individuals**

- Training Opportunities During Incarceration
- Transitional Jobs: Immediate Work and Income Upon Release
- Wrap-Around Support Services
- Soft Skills Development
- Industry Certifications
- Pre-Apprenticeship Programs
- Foster Relationships with Employers
- Retention Services

#### **To access *Best Practices in Re-entry Strategies***

Go to:

<http://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/greenforall/pages/5043/attachments/original/1430777271/GFA-Reentry-Paper.pdf?1430777271>

Visit The Dream Corps at the following site.

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

Visit Green for All at the following site.

<http://www.greenforall.org>

## **7. WEBINARS, ONLINE RESOURCES, WEBSITES, RECORDINGS, AND POWERPOINTS**

### **[Socially Distant Engagement Ideas for Grant Applicants](#)**

Community engagement is a requirement for applicants seeking EPA Brownfield MARC Grant funding. EPA recently released a guide of virtual tools and other approaches to continue to perform outreach during COVID-19. When face-to-face meetings or in-person interactions can’t happen, consider using virtual tools alongside non-digital approaches.

### **E-Newsbrief of the National Clearinghouse**

The E-Newsbrief of the National Clearinghouse is a free weekly newsletter focusing on new developments in the world of worker health and safety. Each issue provides summaries of the latest worker health and safety news from newspapers, magazines, journals, government reports, and the Web, along with links to the original documents. Also featured each week are updates from government agencies that handle hazmat and worker safety issues such as DOE, EPA, OSHA and others. The Clearinghouse Newsbrief provides articles and resources relating to the worker health and safety community. While NIEHS is not a regulatory body, we seek to provide information of relevance to our

training community. [Subscribing](#) to the National Clearinghouse Newsbrief is the best way to stay on top of the worker health and safety news.

### [Market Insights for Brownfields Redevelopment](#)

#### **Trends in the COVID-19 Era**

#### **EPA's Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization**

**Friday, October 16, 2020**

1:00-2:30pm ET

Please join EPA's Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization on Friday, October 16, 2020 1:00-2:30pm ET for Market Insights for Brownfields Redevelopment: Trends in the COVID-19 Era. Our speakers will discuss online markets and new trends in residential and commercial markets affected by COVID-19, and what communities can do now to help themselves take advantage of the current or forecasted market when considering brownfields redevelopment.

Moderators:

Aimee Storm, US EPA Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization

Michael Taylor, Vita Nuova, LLC

This is the first webinar in EPA's new biannual series, Market Insights for Brownfields Redevelopment, where we will review and explore the specific market issues that broadly affect brownfields redevelopment.

### [Facilitating Re-entry of Justice-Involved Individuals into the workforce](#)

This report is an addendum and update to the 2011 report, *Best Practices Guide for Green Re-Entry Strategies*, researched and written by UCLA's Institute of the Environment and Sustainability (IoES). Since 2011, governmental, academic, and nonprofit entities have expanded efforts to close the "revolving door" of recidivism via green re-entry programs and initiatives. This addendum seeks to capture some of the key developments including: - Updates on policy developments and economic changes - Barriers and opportunities for employment for re-entry populations - Best management practices for re-entry within the framework of green infrastructure and provide a set of recommendations. - Experiences of formerly incarcerated individuals and case studies from organizations.

#### **COVID-19 resources**

Johns Hopkins University launched an influential [COVID-19 resource center](#) . With continually updated data and separate global and U.S. maps, their [dashboard helps millions of worldwide users](#) track the novel coronavirus outbreak.

This online tool provides critical COVID-19 case and disease-spread information to the NIEHS [COVID-19 Pandemic Vulnerability Index](#) (PVI). [Alison Motsinger-Reif, Ph.D.](#), head of the institute's Biostatistics and Computational Biology Branch, and her collaborators from North Carolina State University and Texas A&M University [developed the index](#).

For every U.S. county, the PVI produces a scorecard that identifies how much an area is threatened by the coronavirus. A special pie chart displays 12 different health and environmental factors, such as infection and testing rates, population density, hospital beds, and others.

Now, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is incorporating the PVI into its [COVID-19 Data Tracker](#). The tracker shows the latest information on laboratory testing, transmission, school closures, and more.

## **8. CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS**

### **[ENERGY COORDINATING AGENCY](#)**

#### **2020 VIRTUAL COMMUNITY ENERGY CONFERENCE**

**October 16th, 2020**

**8:00a - 12:30p**

**Format: Zoom**

Join ECA to discuss how we can work together to meet the needs of the communities we serve within the ever-changing 'new normal' brought on by COVID-19. We will be joined by people and organizations sharing stories of resilience and adaptation, along with information about how we navigate the coming year.

Throughout the morning, the panelists will be presenting on Housing Needs, a utility panel on COVID Response, Clean Energy Workforce Transformation, The New Normal of Energy Efficiency, and Concerns for Environmental Justice.

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

**Full-day conference at Georgia Power**

**Monday, Oct. 19, 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.

### **[Virginia Clean Energy Summit](#)**

**Tuesday-Wednesday, October 20-21**

The inaugural [Virginia Clean Energy Summit](#) will present the clean energy technologies, policies, and business practices that are transforming Virginia's energy landscape - today.

The goal of the Summit is to highlight opportunities and encourage collaboration that speeds our use of more energy efficiency, solar, wind, storage, EVs, and other clean energy solutions. Conference attendees will include representatives from businesses, state and local governments, academia, and NGOs.

### **[The 2020 Florida Brownfields Conference](#)**

**October 29-November 6**

**Virtual**

Keeping Our Community Safe While Staying Connected. Despite the challenges of our current climate, brownfield cleanup and redevelopment, environmental justice, community engagement and revitalization, and equitable development are as timely and important as ever. We are committed to bringing you a provocative, engaging virtual brownfields conference in 2020. For 2020, we are

also working with our partners with U.S. EPA Region IV to include the Region IV New Brownfield Grantee Workshop and broader Southeast Regional themes in the virtual 2020 conference.

During the 2020 virtual conference, we plan (i) to hold the U.S. EPA Region IV New Brownfield Grantee Workshop virtually in coordination with U.S. EPA as part of the conference and (ii) to serve as a platform for provocative sessions that showcase both Florida and Region IV Brownfields issues, initiatives, and efforts, in order for participants throughout Region IV to come together, participate, collaborate, and to share. Virtual Conference Format -The 2020 Brownfields Conference will be an all virtual event. Registrants will be emailed an access code to join the events a few days before the conference.

We will be offering creative events for participants to come together, network, collaborate, and share.

#### Registration Costs

PRIVATE SECTOR - \$125.00

PUBLIC or NON-PROFIT SECTOR - \$100.00

STUDENT - \$ 50.00

EPA NEW GRANTEES WORKSHOP - NO CHARGE (Not Including Other Conference Sessions)

Registration includes virtual access to all sessions, workshops, videos, and events hosted by FBA for the 2020 Florida Brownfields Conference. Participants will be required to login from their own network for access.

#### [National Brownfields Conference](#)

**April 27-30, 2021**

**Oklahoma City, OK**

The National Brownfields Training Conference is the largest event in the nation focused on environmental revitalization and economic redevelopment. Held every two years, the National Brownfields Conference attracts over 2,000 stakeholders in brownfields redevelopment and cleanup to share knowledge about sustainable reuse and celebrate the EPA brownfields program's success. Whether you're a newcomer or a seasoned professional, Brownfields 2021 offers something for you!

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

**November 17-19, 2021**

**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 now take place on November 17-19, 2021.

View this link to learn more:

<https://floridaremediationconference.org>

#### **10. FUNDING AND LEVERAGING OPPORTUNITIES**

**FY 2021 Supporting Equitable Development and Environmental Justice in Brownfields Communities Grant Guidelines**

**Submission deadline - October, 21, 2020**

The submission deadline for the FY 2021 Supporting Equitable Development and Environmental Justice in Brownfields Communities solicitation has been extended to October 21, 2020.

This solicitation is requesting applications from eligible entities, including nonprofit organizations, to provide direct technical assistance to communities nationwide on the integration of environmental justice and equitable development when developing solutions to brownfields cleanup and revitalization challenges. EPA anticipates awarding one grant for an estimated \$600,000. The award is anticipated to be funded incrementally on an annual basis over three years, at approximately \$200,000 per year. Visit the [FY 2021 Brownfields Training, Research and Technical Assistance solicitation page](#) for more information, including a recording of the applicant outreach webinar from August, 3, 2020. Submit your application at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

### **EPA Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Grants**

The Request for Applications for FY21 Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grants is now posted on [grants.gov](http://grants.gov).

Applications are due October 28, 2020.

EPA anticipates to have a virtual information session for applicants on September 14th.

FY 2021 Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grant Application Resources

- [FY 2021 Multipurpose Grant Guidelines](#)
- [FY 2021 Assessment Grant Guidelines](#)
- [FY 2021 Cleanup Grant Guidelines](#)
- [FY 2021 Summary of Brownfields Grant Guideline Changes](#)

### **Superfund Hazardous Substance Research and Training Program (P42).**

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) is continuing the Superfund Hazardous Substance Research and Training Program, referred to as Superfund Research Program (SRP) Centers. SRP Center grants will support problem-based, solution-oriented research Centers that consist of multiple, integrated projects representing both the biomedical and environmental science disciplines. The Center cores are tasked with administrative (which includes research translation), data management and analysis, community engagement, research experience and training coordination, and research support functions. SRP is holding a webinar to provide information about the new funding opportunity on October 1. The application deadline is February 15, 2021. For more information and to register for the webinar, see <https://clu-in.org/live>.

For more information and application instructions for the grants, see

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-ES-20-014.html>.

### **U.S. Department of Agriculture**

#### **Local Foods, Local Places**

#### **Application deadline: October 30, 2020**

Local Foods, Local Places helps cities and towns across the country protect the environment and human health by engaging with local partners to reinvest in existing neighborhoods as they develop local food systems. In 2021, the program is sponsored by the [U.S. Department of Agriculture](#) (USDA) and EPA.

Local Foods, Local Places supports locally led, community-driven efforts to protect air and water quality, preserve open space and farmland, boost economic opportunities for local farmers and businesses, improve access to healthy local food, and promote childhood wellness.

Through Local Foods, Local Places, partner communities have worked on projects such as:

- Opening year-round, downtown markets featuring foods from local farmers.
- Planning cooperative grocery stores and other food access options to help revitalize small-town main streets.
- Creating centrally located community kitchens or food hubs to aggregate and market local foods.
- Starting business incubators to help entrepreneurs launch food-related businesses on main streets.
- Making it easier for people to walk or bicycle to farmers markets and local restaurants.
- Helping schoolchildren to grow their own food, and making healthy local food accessible to families, including via SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits.
- Exploring ways to use Opportunity Zones in the context of local food system development and downtown revitalization.
- Developing community gardens in walkable, transit-accessible places.

In selecting Local Foods, Local Places partner communities, special consideration is given to communities in the early stages of developing local food enterprises and creating economically vibrant communities.

Local Foods, Local Places builds on the [ARC-EPA-USDA Livable Communities in Appalachia](#) partnership, which worked to promote economic development, preserve rural lands, and increase access to locally grown food in Appalachian towns and rural communities. Many of the communities we work with through Local Foods, Local Places are small towns or rural communities. To find more of our resources for rural places and learn about how revitalization can help towns strengthen their economies, improve quality of life, and protect the environment and human health.

**Communities are invited to apply for a new round of planning assistance from Local Foods, Local Places.**

The application deadline is 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on October 30, 2020.

[Click here for the 2020-2021 Local Foods, Local Places application.](#)

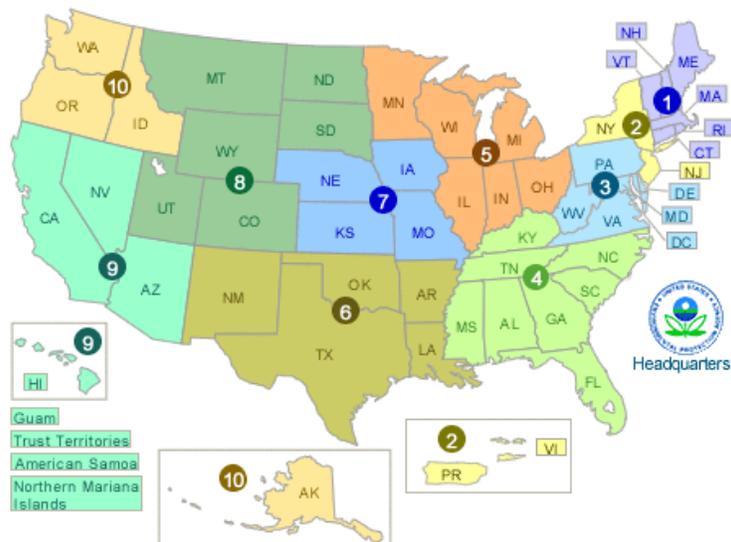
If you have questions about the program or the application process, please read the

[Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\) About Local Foods, Local Places.](#)

## **10. EPA REGIONAL JOB TRAINING COORDINATORS**

Regional Coordinators are the first place to go regarding questions about EWDJT grants, extensions, budgets or work plans. For those thinking of submitting an application for FY21 funding, check in to express your intentions. Many Regions maintain a Listserv for past, current and potential grantees. It is important to be on their contact list for conference calls and newsletters.

<b>EPA Region 1</b> Myra Schwartz	CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT	Phone: (617) 918-1696 E-mail: schwartz.myra@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 2</b> Schenine Mitchell	NJ, NY, PR, VI	Phone: (212) 637-3283 E-mail: mitchell.schenine@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 3</b> Gianna Rosati	DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV	Phone: (215) 814-3406 E-mail: rosati.gianna@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 4</b> Wanda Jennings	AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN	Phone: (404) 562-8682 E-mail: jennings.wanda@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 5</b> Linda Morgan	IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI	Phone: (312) 886-4747 E-mail: morgan.linda@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 6</b> Elizabeth Reyes	AR, LA, NM, OK, TX	Phone: (214) 665-3163 E-mail: reyes.elizabeth@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 6</b> Rita Ware		Phone: (214) 665-6409 E-mail: ware.rita@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 7</b> Alma Moreno Lahm	IA, KS, MO, NE	Phone: (913) 551-7380 E-mail: moreno-lahm.alma@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 8</b> Christina Wilson	CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY	Phone: (303) 312-6706 E-mail: wilson.christina@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 9</b> Nova Blazej	AZ, CA, HI, NV, AS, GU	Phone: (415) 972-3846 E-mail: blazej.nova@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 9</b> Noemi Emeric-Ford		Phone: (213) 244-1821 E-mail: emeric-ford.noemi@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 10</b> Susan Morales	AK, ID, OR, WA	Phone: (206) 553-7299 E-mail: morales.susan@epa.gov



Map of EPA Regions

Credit: [epa.gov](http://epa.gov)

## 11. JOIN US ON FUTURE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CALLS

### Upcoming PLC calls

- October 28

Missed a few of our PLC sessions? Post session notes are available on the [brownfields-toolbox.org](http://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](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu).

Visit our [HMTRI Brownfields Toolbox](http://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](mailto: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.

