

December 16, 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. **Diversity among EWDJT programs**
6. **EWDJT sustainability and charitable giving**
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

[National Brownfields 2021 Conference](#)

September 27-30, 2021

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

To keep posted on the latest information on the 2021 Brownfields Conference, including featured speakers, sponsorship opportunities, and more, go to the following sign up [form](#).

For more information **about Brownfields21**, go to <https://brownfields2021.org>.

EPA will be reopening the Call for Ideas between January 11 and February 28, 2021

“Due to the current Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation, Brownfields 2021 has been rescheduled from its original April dates to September 27-30, 2021. It is still being held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Previously submitted session proposals are still under review and no decisions have been made at this time. However, we understand that projects and practice continue to evolve. We will be reopening the Call for Ideas between January 11 and February 28, 2021 and are currently looking to have sessions selected and posted on the website by late March/April 2021. We will be making some small changes to the Call for Ideas when it reopens, but the most important thing to know is that all participants are free to submit additional ideas when it reopens.”

[EPA FY 2021 Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grants](#)

The MAC Grant applications were submitted October 28, 2020. Nationally, EPA received approximately 430 submissions. EWDJT grantees are encouraged to coordinate with MAC grantees both during proposal development and program implementation. The selection announcement is expected in Spring 2021.

2. HMTRI NEWS

HMTRI is gathering information and needs your help.

At our next PLC call (January 13th), we would like to share a snapshot of EWDJT training at this point in the COVID pandemic. The scan will provide ideas on how and to the extent that EWDJT training is being presented. If you have not already done so, please visit

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EWDJT_Scan_Dec2020

Additionally, HMTRI is planning a mid-year Virtual All-Grantee Meeting towards the end of April or early May. We are currently looking for open dates to maximize EPA and grantee participation. As part of our grantee scan, we would like to get your input regarding a preferred meeting date. In the coming months, we will be collecting topics of interest, presenters and videos to share at the meeting.

3. QUESTIONS FROM PLC PARTICIPANTS

Of particular concern to grantees approaching the last year of their grant, the following guidance has been issued by the EPA Office of Grants and Debarment. We suggest grantees contact their Regional Coordinator as a first step in reviewing the progress of their grant as a result of the COVID pandemic.

How should EPA grant recipients request that EPA provide them administrative relief from a requirement due to COVID-19?

The EPA Office of Grants and Debarment provides the following guidance. Recipients should email their Grant Specialist and send a copy to their Project Officer and provide a description of the action they want EPA to take. The email should include a brief justification that includes how the COVID-19 public health crisis has impacted their ability to comply with a requirement in the agreement. An authorized EPA official such as an Award Official, Grant Management Officer or Associate Grant Management Officer will provide EPA's decision on the request via email. Depending on the type of action, the grant agreement may also be amended.

If an EPA grant recipient incurs unanticipated costs in resuming performance of an EPA grant after the impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency diminishes, are those costs allowable?

Yes, although absent EPA providing supplemental funding the recipient must absorb the additional costs within the limits of the amount of the award.

Will EPA modify work plans, adjust budgets, and extend project periods of grants if necessary?

Yes. OMB Guidance provides:

To the extent permitted by law, awarding agencies may extend awards which were active as of March 31, 2020, and scheduled to expire prior or up to December 31, 2020, automatically at no cost for a period of up to twelve (12) months. EPA anticipates that there will be an increase in no-cost extensions/amendments and project period waiver requests. Note that there may be limitations on modifications to work plans.

Questions?

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

4. GRANTEE AND PARTNER NEWS

NIEHS Worker Training Program Fall Workshop Website Is Now Available

Participants from the NIEHS Worker Training Program (WTP) gathered virtually for their semi-annual workshop on Sept. 23-24 to discuss strategies to enhance and unify efforts for the next five years. The WTP Fall 2020 website is now available with the meeting recording, presentations including the keynote address from Linda Rae Murray, M.D., and additional resources.

[WTP Fall 2020 Workshop](#)

The 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. Go to

<https://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/newsbrief/currentissue.cfm>

To subscribe, go to:

<https://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/subscribe/>

5. DIVERSITY AMONG EWDJT PROGRAMS

EPA's commitment to environmental justice is the foundation for support of the EWDJT program. Within the Agency, environmental justice (EJ) is considered as the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income. In the spirit of that mandate, community residents regardless of gender, socioeconomic status or ethnicity should have an opportunity, with training, to reap the benefits of revitalization and environmental cleanup. Priority is given to the following groups:

- Residents in communities experiencing health disparities.
- Inhabitants of communities with environmental contamination
- Low-income, minority and underserved populations
- Members of Tribal communities

The broad mission goal set out by EPA establishes a range of possibilities regarding participants eligible to receive training and job placement assistance under the EWDJT program. Grantees are able to train just about any US citizen or legal resident with limited restrictions on age, gender, ethnicity, legal status or education. Program support has also been given to a wide and diverse collection of geographic areas ranging from specific urban locations to sparsely populated rural communities. Program applicants are recruited, screened and trained based on the interest, mission goals and capabilities of each individual grantee. Many grantees maintain a broad and open recruitment policy seeking a diverse applicant pool, while others employ strategies that result in a more coherent classroom experience with less student diversity. Some grantees focus on special populations consistent with the organizations mission, goals and objectives. Grantees focused on special populations may include the following:

- Grantees promoting the entry of gender or ethnic populations into environmental careers such as entry of women into nontraditional jobs.

- Grantees assisting populations finding employment difficult such as previously incarcerated or transgender citizens attempting to reenter the workforce.
- Nonprofit organizations promoting workforce development in rural, underserved communities with limited job opportunities such as tribal and geographically disbursed lands.

The correct answer to the preferred type of grant is “all of the above”. Those who applaud the environmental justice initiative can celebrate the diversity of EPA’s EWDJT program. Every grantee will select individuals most worthy and likely to succeed while being consistent with their individual organizations capabilities, goals and objectives. In future PLC’s we will discuss the critical issues of “community assessment” and “student retention” which are closely related and overlap today’s discussion. Today the PLC focused on strategies for recruiting and retaining special populations as part of a diverse EWDJT program. The previous three calls have presented EWDJT programs focusing on specific target populations including the training and placement of women, Native Americans and Alaskan Natives, and the return of previously incarcerated citizens. As part of these presentations, we have been introduced to strategies used by successful grantees when addressing specific population groups. These strategies can be employed by others to improve diversity and increase retention rates of their programs.

Oregon Tradeswomen (OTI)

OTI is guided by the premise that women with proper training, can become self-sufficient and succeed in the environmental workforce. According to staff from Oregon Tradeswomen, the industry demand for women workers in trades is high but the participation rate in this growing industry is incredibly low. OTI prides itself in placing the entire graduation class with a 93% retention rate. 53% of the female cohort was nonwhite, 40% single parents and 15% reentry.

Strategies used by OTI to recruit, train and retain women in environmental technology

The two most important strategies in training and retaining women as environmental technicians are finding motivated applicants capable of success and engaging those students from orientation to graduation. The following tips may be useful to EWDJT programs interested in increasing and retaining female applicants interested in their program.

The goal of recruitment is to find applicants serious about a career as an environmental worker.

- When recruiting a diverse participant population including women – ensure that marketing materials, including instructional staff, are shown to be diverse.
- All-male graduate class pictures and all-male staff do not attract serious diverse applicants.
- Trainers are key to student engagement in the classroom. Employ female trainers. Dynamic instructors create relevant and interesting training. Time must be set aside for discussion and conversation making students feel connected to the training and guide the experience.
- Teaching through involvement, not just lecture. Students need to move around and socialize.
- Include referrals and testimonials from female alumni.
- Recruit in locations women frequent (laundries, churches, day care, apartments, health clubs, grocery and clothing stores).
- Feature women speakers as part of awareness events. Showcase successful women in nontraditional trades.

- A strong support/empowerment component is essential. Leadership development promotes empowerment and retention.
- Women need to have ownership in the program not just participation.
- Make every woman feel part of a special team. Camaraderie among students keeps the group together.
- Establish regular social events attended by current students and alumni. In the “era of COVID”, these events are held virtually.
- Open discussion and sharing of ideas cultivates ownership of the training, and responsibility to pull each other up.
- Respect that women are not “just students”; they are trades people and should be dressed as trades people.

Adopting strategies of recruitment and engagement directed toward women interested in environmental remediation can help promote a gender neutral EWDJT program resulting in improved retention and placement rates.

Zender Environmental Health and Research Group (RACEJT)

A mission of the Zender Environmental EWDJT program (RACEJT) is to provide environmental program services for underserved Tribal and isolated-rural populations where the need exists. In the face of rural disbursed communities and a scarcity of employers, RACEJT has been able to place 97% (waiting for COVID to place their last graduate) of their graduating class with 85% student retention.

Strategies used to overcome challenges of a rural and culturally diverse student population

Strategies RACEJT has developed in areas of marketing, recruitment, training and placement while unique to Alaska, may be equally useful to programs in more populated and urban communities.

- Extensive attention to student services, retention and placement.
- Scholarships are made available – with leveraged funding.
- Extensive job readiness training prior to graduation.
- Non-English speaking assistance (Alaska has over 20 regional languages. Yup'ik is most common).
- Close coordination with local governmental employers.
- Training is centralized in Anchorage with two week intervals between class and home.
- Transportation, lodging and meal reimbursement is provided.
- Additional social services are provided with leveraged assistance.
- Additional leveraging with the Alaska Communication System.
- Phone cards are provided to call home – with leveraged funding.
- Zero drug and alcohol tolerance.

Zender’s RACEJT environmental training program may be unique due to special circumstances, but it shares and magnifies diversity issues with many other EWDJT programs working with diverse populations.

RecycleForce

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. Food and housing are the first and second highest priorities faced by returning citizens. In most cases, released inmates return to their home communities, hoping for support from family and friends. No job, no money, a reputation and a

return to peer groups that brought them to prison are just the beginning of a long road to productive careers. While 27% of released inmates return to prison within the first 3 years experiencing an unemployment rate of 60-70%, RecycleForce has been able to reduce recidivism below 16% and dramatically increase employment opportunities. In addition to their work with reentry, RecycleForce is working on an innovative program for underserved transgender individuals.

Strategies used to overcome challenges faced by previously incarcerated individuals

Strategies suggested by RecycleForce to retain and transition ex-offenders into environmental jobs include the following. Unfortunately, many of these services are not supported by the EPA environmental workforce development grant. Fortunately, other grantees including Auberle and The Fortune Society working with reentry participants have also developed a broad network of philanthropic, volunteer and stakeholder support partners. Transition strategies include the following:

- Extreme tolerance and sensitivity of the consequences associated with incarceration
- Case management for all participants - Parole officers and case workers come to RecycleForce facilities avoiding tardiness and missed training opportunities.
- Health services - a “health mobile” visits RecycleForce facilities on a regular basis.
- Mental health services – PTSD sensitivity for previously released inmates
- Support from law enforcement assisting with activities at RecycleForce facilities.
- Legal services provide assistance in minor crime expungement.
- Meal and food pantry assistance from local charities and restaurants delivering lunch daily
- Housing assistance from HHS
- Drug counseling and rehabilitation services
- Transportation services and bus passes
- Child care and assistance
- Participants are instructed to leave colors (gang affiliations) and prejudices at the door
- Dropouts able to reenter the program with a change in attitude
- Paid transitional work and a work history in addition to training and certifications
- Elders mentor and guide younger, less experienced team members, providing encouragement and support during and outside organized activities. Friendship circles are used as a vehicle for sharing ideas and concerns regarding training and reentry.
- Extensive use of peer to peer networking including volunteer mentors providing support and guidance to struggling participants.

It should be noted that RecycleForce is a special program for a special targeted population. Grantees screening applicants with minor offences may not require the extensive support services provided by RecycleForce. However, grantees need to be aware and tolerant of the special needs associated with training and retaining previously incarcerated participants.

Information presented in this week’s PLC has been used and incorporated into a more detailed CONNECT November E-newsletter. A detailed version is available at the following address.
<https://brownfields-toolbox.org/newsletter-archive/>

PLC presenters would be happy to discuss their program in more detail.

Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc.

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Zender Environmental Health & Research Group (RACEJT)

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RecycleForce

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6. EWDJT SUSTAINABILITY AND CHARITABLE GIVING

As we approach the end of 2020, the PLC would like to spend a moment on an often ignored leveraged and alternative funding resource, charitable giving. While sustainability, partnership development and leveraged resources will be discussed in future PLCs, today, we indicated that we would include some examples of charitable giving.

- Once donations are made, benefactors often become a reliable and repetitive resource.
- Charitable gifts provide discretionary funding to fill unsupported activities.
- Philanthropy recognizes the good work and contributions EWDJT programs provide to the community.
- Donations represent acceptance and appreciation of assistance to underserved communities.
- Charitable giving gives benefactors an opportunity to support programs they may not have the time to volunteer.

Philanthropic relationships among EWDJT programs and prospective supporters vary greatly among EWDJT grantees depending on community awareness and the aggressiveness of program managers to solicit nongovernmental funding. Here are a few examples of organizations that use social media to further develop Philanthropic relationships.

Center for Creative Land Recycling (CCLR)



Over the past year, we have witnessed the inequality in how the novel coronavirus has impacted different populations, communities, and even neighborhoods. Those with the least resources have been most affected, often communities of color. This is not a new trend; the pandemic has only heightened our awareness of the overall disparity in health outcomes depending on where you live.

Is your home closer to an industrial facility or to a park? Is there a grocery store that carries fruit and vegetables within walking distance? These elements of the built environment have a huge impact on our health and life expectancy.

CCLR's innovative "Brownfields to Healthfields" program has been helping to bridge the public health equity gap for many years. This program assists communities to transform brownfields into community assets that provide access to healthy foods, open space, and healthcare – all of which are all linked to improved health outcomes.

By contributing to CCLR this giving season, you are joining a community of supporters who know that brownfields redevelopment can transform the health of individuals across the country.

Did you know you can support CCLR just by doing your holiday shopping? Visit smile.amazon.com and choose the Center for Creative Land Recycling to have Amazon send a percentage of your purchases to CCLR. Be sure to continue using the smile.amazon.com site each time you shop to keep giving to CCLR.

When you join AmazonSmile you can...

Generate donations. Shop at smile.amazon.com and we'll donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to your favorite charitable organization—no fees, no extra cost.

Donate products to charity

Thousands of charities created AmazonSmile Charity Lists of items they need right now.

Simply browse, order, and enjoy giving.

[Donate](#)

OAI

Check out the OAI website for one of the best EWDJT marketing websites. Charitable support is presented on the opening page.

Go to <https://oaiinc.org/>

Can we count on your support as we close out 2020?

A gift of any amount is deeply appreciated. Would you consider making a year-end donation today?



Show your support for education, training, and employment to build stronger communities



Career pathway employment is key to quality of life, yet out of reach for so many vulnerable workers. At OAI, we open career pathways, training and placing job-seekers in good jobs with a future.

Wayne came to OAI looking for a job and quickly decided he wanted more than placement – he was ready to train for a career pathway position. He knew he wanted to work in machining, and eventually industrial design, so although he wouldn't gain an income immediately, he entered our Youth Career Pathways program, securing Powered Industrial Truck Operator Safety Permit, NIMS 1, and NIMS 2 credentials.

During site visits for internships, Wayne was enthusiastic and engaged. He was so impressed with one premier Chicago-area manufacturer that he sent each staff person he met during the tour a thank you note. They were already impressed with Wayne and the notes sealed the deal – Wayne was the manufacturer's first internship

choice. During the internship, Wayne worked in the engineering department, where he supported design and testing. After the internship, Wayne accepted an offer to be a Mechanical Design Engineer Trainee earning nearly \$50k/yr with the company.

Wayne is grateful to OAI, explaining, “Even though I had a college degree it was very hard opening doors in my occupation.... OAI really helped me in breaking through barriers that I struggled to break through alone by providing me with credentials that aligned with my degree.”

#GivingTuesday is 1 week away and OAI is delighted to join the movement! We hope you will consider making a donation to ensure vulnerable workers and job-seekers like Wayne get the education and training they need.

Chicago-based OAI is a nationally recognized pioneer in workforce development. We open career pathways, fuel business success, promote health and safety, steward the environment, and support community development. For more than 40 years, we’ve delivered real economic benefit to individuals, families, employers, and communities across the country.

In this season, we must remember that we are not defined by what we have. We are defined by our generosity. Tax-deductible donations from supporters like you give us the tools we need to lift more people out of poverty.

[Donate Today](#)

Thank you for all you do to make our community a better place!



I’d rather give by check.

Fill out this [form](#) and send it, along with your check made payable to OAI, Inc., Attn: Amanda Allen, 180 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 750, Chicago, IL 60601. Thank you!

Your donation is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. We value your privacy. OAI does not share personal information we collect with any other organization.

OAI, Inc. (EIN 36-4385280) is a 501(c)(3) organization. High Bridge is a social enterprise company with standing as an L3C.

Coalfield Development

Brandon Dennison makes effective use of multimedia, social media and sales of merchandise on a continuous basis. Here are some examples of their fundraising program.

10 YEARS
REBUILDING
APPALACHIA


**COALFIELD
DEVELOPMENT**

Donate This Giving Tuesday!

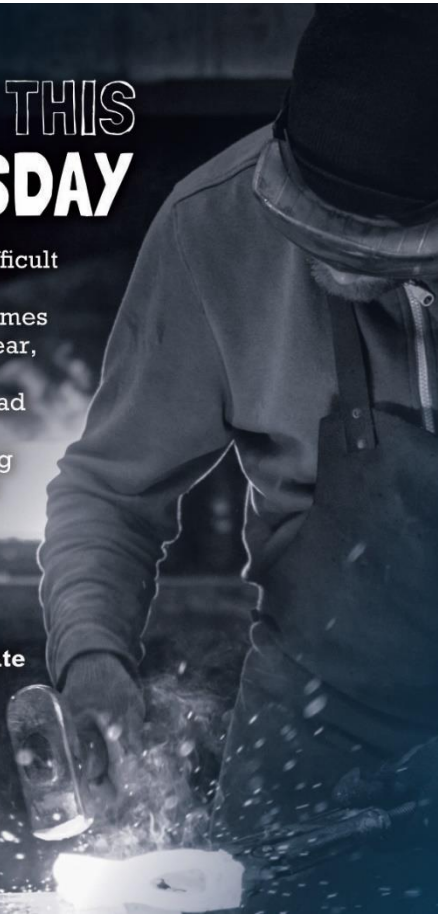
**FORGE AHEAD THIS
GIVING TUESDAY**

Just as iron is forged into steel, difficult seasons can refine our focus and reshape perspectives. As 2020 comes to an end and we look to a new year, Coalfield Development is more committed than ever to forge ahead to help renew the Appalachian Region. With your help this Giving Tuesday, you empower Coalfield Development to Forge Ahead in changing the Appalachian economy from the ground up.

**To learn more, visit us online at
coalfield-development.org/donate**

 **COALFIELD
DEVELOPMENT**

Coalfield Development is a
501(c)(3) non-profit organization.



[**DONATE NOW**](#)

Treat Yourself with Our New Self Care Box!



Mountain Made & Mindful: The Original Appalachian Self-Care Box is now LIVE! We have hand-selected the finest in Appalachian wellness, and we couldn't be more proud of our producers, our region, or this product. Our Winter 2020 Box, and all of its options, is sure to bring peace and tranquility to your home this holiday season. Enjoy our pre-Black Friday Sale November 19-23 and get \$10 off our single-purchase Winter Original Box and Soap Box!

[SHOP NOW](#)



Great Job, Graduate!

Please join us in congratulating Refresh Appalachia's Patrick "Pat" Bradshaw on his recent graduation! We are glad we were able to celebrate Pat's success with a virtual graduation

Episode 6 of our podcast is out now!

CHECK OUT OUR PODCAST



Available on all your
favorite podcast platforms!

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[Spotify](#)

[Stitcher](#)

Hear from our CEO Brandon Dennison!



[Twitter](#)

[Facebook](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Website](#)

Energy Coordinating Center (ECA)

This is a special year for ECA –

We're celebrating the 10th Anniversary of our Knight Green Jobs Training Center!

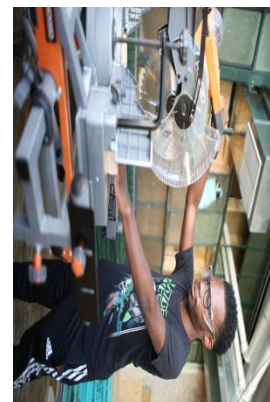
This is a special year for ECA – we're celebrating the 10th Anniversary of our Knight Green Jobs Training Center! We're extremely grateful to all those who made the Training Center what it is today: a LEED Gold facility that is certified by the Building Performance Institute (BPI), has program accreditation from the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC), and is an accredited Lead Training Center for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Click [here](#) to take a virtual tour and join in the fun of our 10th Anniversary Celebration.



In the past 10 years, ECA has trained over 5,400 men and women, whose diversity reflects the region we serve, including veterans and returning citizens, for clean energy credentials including: BPI Building Analyst, BPI Whole House Air Sealing and Insulation, Solar Installer, Commercial HVAC technician, and EPA RRP Certified Contractor.

ECA has many success stories, one of our heroes is Jacob, a 2019 ECA grad who now works at Johnson Controls Inc. stated: "It was an amazing experience. All the people I worked with were nice, and they really explained everything in a way I could understand, so I could get a good paying job."

Join us in building the green economy by making a tax-deductible contribution to ECA today. You'll be helping young Philadelphians get the credentials they need to land clean energy jobs with a bright future. To donate online, click [here](#). Or send your check to ECA at 106 W. Clearfield Street, Philadelphia, PA 19133.



Thank You and Well Wishes!

Nancy Mifflin

**Nancy Mifflin Steve Luxton
Board President CEO**

[Donate Today](#)

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

Covid-19 Training Tools from NIEHS

The NIEHS Worker Training Program (WTP) has been tracking information about the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) as it pertains to protecting workers involved in emergency response and cleanup activities performed in the United States. This website contains health and safety resources for workers who may be at risk of exposure to COVID-19. Topics and links include:

- General Awareness Training Tool
- Essential and Returning Workers Training Tool
- COVID-19 Toolbox
- WTP Awardee Resources
- WTP Webinars
- WTP Technical Workshops
- Federal Links and Documents
- Other Links and Documents

8. CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS

National Brownfields Conference

September 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>

9. FUNDING, LEVERAGING, AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FY 2021 Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities

The deadline to apply is December 22, 2020

EPA's Brownfields Program announces the availability of funds and solicits applications from eligible entities, including nonprofit organizations, to provide technical assistance to communities and

stakeholders to help address their brownfield sites, and to increase their understanding and involvement in brownfields cleanup, revitalization and reuse. The deadline to apply is December 22, 2020.

For more information and application instructions, Go to:

<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/fy-2021-technical-assistance-brownfields-communities-grant-solicitation>.

EPA Office of Land Revitalization

Contractor support to provide technical assistance (TA) directly to communities

The EPA Land Revitalization Program is offering contractor support to provide technical assistance (TA) directly to communities who wish to incorporate sustainable and equitable approaches to their locally-driven land revitalization projects. Each TA will offer \$30,000 to support site reuse for a brownfield or other contaminated property, and must be completed by Dec 2021.

Types of TA's work include:

- Market analysis, labor market and economic research
- Site design and revitalization plans, green infrastructure
- Reuse assessment of potential assets and barriers to implementing revitalization plans
- Identifying next steps and actions needed for implementing a redevelopment project
- Incorporating sustainable, equitable and/or resiliency practices into reuse

For more information please contact Tish Corbett at corbett.patricia@epa.gov, 215 814-3173.

Advancing Environmental Justice through Technical Assistance Mini Grants

The National Environmental Health Partnership Council, with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is currently accepting applications for a technical assistance mini-grant program for community-based organizations fighting environmental injustices. The project will provide technical assistance and a \$10,000 mini grant to three communities. The deadline to apply is Jan. 8, 2021.

[More Information](#)

[NOSI: Promoting Health, Safety, and Recovery Training for COVID-19 Essential Workers and their Communities](#)

The deadline to apply is Dec. 30.

NIEHS published a Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) for the purpose to provide support for successful applicants to develop partnerships with local worker centers and community organizations specifically targeting under served and disadvantaged communities with higher than average COVID-19 transmission rates. The deadline to apply is Dec. 30.

[Superfund Hazardous Substance Research and Training Program \(P42\)](#)

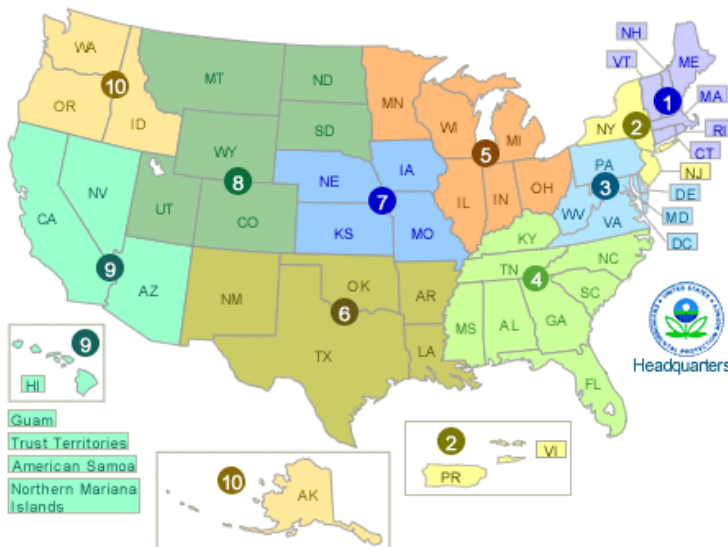
Application deadline: February 15, 2021

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.

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.

EPA Region 1 Myra Schwartz	CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT	Phone: (617) 918-1696 E-mail: schwartz.myra@epa.gov
EPA Region 2 Schenine Mitchell	NJ, NY, PR, VI	Phone: (212) 637-3283 E-mail: mitchell.schenine@epa.gov
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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Map of EPA Regions

Credit: [epa.gov](https://www.epa.gov)

11. JOIN US ON FUTURE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CALL

Upcoming PLC calls – Cycle 24 will begin in 2021

- January 13, 2021

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](https://brownfields-toolbox.org) 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.

