



Notes from the Environmental Workforce Professional Learning Community
(PLC) –4/6/2022

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Post Session Notes
Session 272, April 6th, 2022

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1. Latest from Washington

National Environmental Justice Community Engagement Call
April 19th, 2022, 2 p.m. Eastern

The purpose of these calls is to inform communities about EPA's environmental justice work and enhance opportunities to maintain an open dialogue with environmental justice advocates. As environmental justice continues to be integrated into EPA programs and policies, the Agency

hopes these calls will reaffirm EPA's continued commitment to work with community groups and the public to strengthen local environmental and human health outcomes.

Topics to be discussed include Leadership Updates, Listening Session, and Dialogue: Q&A about ongoing EJ initiatives. Click the link below to join the webinar on April 19th.

Registration not required. To access this ZOOM call, go to:

[EPA Nat'l Environmental Justice Community Engagement Call \(April 19, 2022\) Registration, Tue, Apr 19, 2022 at 2:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Brownfields 2022

Scheduled to August 16-19, 2022

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Cosponsored by EPA and ICMA

Brownfields 2022 registration opened 12:00 p.m. Eastern on Monday, April 4th.

At Brownfields 2022, you will learn about the unprecedented Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's \$1.5 billion investment in communities through the EPA Brownfields Program, and directly interact with the nation's leading brownfield practitioners.

Job Training Grants

Up to \$1 million per grant

\$30 million available

Previously up to \$200,000 per grant (likely to be increased)

<https://brownfields2021.org/>

Follow on Twitter

@Brownfields2022

Poster Gallery - Submit Your Poster Idea

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and International City/County Management Association (ICMA) are now accepting abstracts for poster presentations at the 2022 National Brownfields Training Conference.

The Poster Gallery offers a venue to visually depict innovative practices (brownfields assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment), share brownfields success stories, and present research findings. Posters will be displayed in the [Exhibit Hall](#) for the duration of the conference, and will feature an award for the Best Overall Poster and a People's Pick Award voted by conference attendees. The deadline to submit a poster idea is May 16, 2022.

[Submit Your Poster Ideas Here](#)

EPA Releases Final Strategic Plan to Protect Public Health, Address Climate Change, and Advance Environmental Justice and Equity

Environmental Protection Agency published its final Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan to accompany EPA's FY 2023 President's Budget. The Strategic Plan provides a roadmap to achieve EPA's and the Biden-Harris Administration's environmental priorities over the next four years. At the foundation of the Plan is a renewed commitment to the three principles articulated by EPA's first Administrator, William Ruckelshaus — follow the science, follow the law, and be transparent — while adding an additional fourth principle: advance justice and equity. See section 6 of these post session notes for a more detailed look at the EPA Strategic Plan.

The President's Fiscal Year 2023 budget requests \$11.881 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s essential work to protect people from pollution

The Budget makes historic investments to advance key priorities in the FY 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan, including tackling the climate crisis, advancing environmental justice, protecting air quality, upgrading the Nation's aging water infrastructure, and rebuilding core functions at the Agency. Note that the \$30 Million increase in environmental job training over 5 years from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (BIL) will supplement the President's budget request. In FY22 the budget for job training programs totaled \$3.8 Million allowing for nineteen \$200K grants. See section 6 of these post session notes for more information regarding the President's budget request.

2. Events and happenings

2022 Mid-Year Virtual Networking Workshop

May 4th, 2022

12:00 to 4:00 p.m. Eastern

On May 4, 2022, HMTRI will be hosting a Midyear Virtual Networking Workshop for JT grant recipients and stakeholders interested in environmental job training programs. The event will include informal brainstorming and networking sessions guided by a facilitator. Three topic areas will be addressed including (1) partner development and engagement, (2) participant recruitment, assessment, and retention, and (3) curriculum. In addition, participants will have an opportunity to refresh relationships with EPA Regional Job Training Coordinators, current grant recipients, and others interested in starting environmental job training programs. Discussions will be impromptu without PowerPoints or prepared presentations.

HMTRI is requesting your participation in this unique networking opportunity. To register, please use the following link:

[REGISTER TODAY!](#)

HMTRI Mid-Year Virtual Networking Workshop 2022

Wednesday, May 4th, 2022

12:00 – 4:30 pm Eastern

Tentative Agenda

12:00 – 12:15	Introductions & Meeting Overview
12:15 – 12:30	Introductory Address: Looking forward and JT Awareness
12:30 – 1:15	Regional Introductions and Networking Sessions - Regional JT Coordinators
1:15 – 1:45	Critical issue #1 Partner development and engagement
1:45-2:00	BREAK
2:00 – 2:30	Critical issue #2 Participant recruitment, assessment, and retention
2:30-3:00	Critical issue #3 Curriculum
3:00 – 3:05	Return to Plenary
3:05- 4:00	Freestyle Discussion & Breakout Results
4:00 – 4:30	Grant recipient directory
4:30	After Hours: Video Tours & Discussion

2022 In person Annual All Grantee Meeting

An in-person event October 11th – 14th

Full day sessions on October 12th and 13th

HMTRI's 24th Annual All-Grantee Meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 12th - 14th in Alexandria Va. Topics including grant administration, recruitment, retention, curriculum, placement, and partnership development will be discussed. The All-Grantee Meeting provides a platform to continue conversations on critical issues and best practices among successful JT programs. The workshop is facilitated by HMTRI, grant recipients, EPA staff and outside experts. As in the past, the meeting will include complementary registration and housing. Travel, meals, incidentals, and other costs are not included.

Both events are open to JT grant recipients and organizations interested in establishing local environmental job training programs.

News from Energy Coordinating Agency (ECA)

Integrated Pest Management Training Press Conference, April 19th, 11:00 a.m., ECA Knight Green Jobs Training Center.

ECA Energy Center Tour

April 29th, 8:30 a.m., ECA Knight Green Jobs Training Center. See the training center in action and learn about high-impact programs in weatherization, community energy and emergency

services.

To RSVP for these events, or to schedule a customized tour, contact

Chris Petersen, cpetersen@ecasys.org

To learn more about ECA. Go to:

<https://www.ecasavesenergy.org/who-we-are>

Share your news

Post events and announcement with the PLC community. Return these notes with your comments or announcements.

3. Questions and concerns

Question 1:

We are in year 2 of our EPA Job training grant. We plan on applying for FY23 Funding. Can we use previous letters of support as part of our application?

Response 1:

No. Letters of support should not be older than 6 months. It is important that you expand, maintain and refresh your partner relationships.

Question 2

I heard the FY23 grants can be funded up to \$1Million. Is that true?

Response 2:

While OBLR has granting authority up to \$1M, it is not likely grants will be awarded at that level. HMTRI would like to see increased funding, annual competitions to expand the number of JT grantees and longer grant periods. As of today, we do not know how the dramatic increase in funds available for job training will impact the application guidelines. HMTRI encourages **all** grantees and interested stakeholders to prepare for the FY23 Request for Applications (to be issued this summer).

Question 3

We are considering online training as part of our job training curriculum. Does anyone have experience with online instruction?

Response 3:

As far as those who are doing solely on-line training, we are not familiar with anyone who is doing online training exclusively. Part of the reason for that is so much of the brownfields training requires a hands-on component (like 40-hour HAZWOPER), which is almost impossible to duplicate online. Some organizations have done more of a hybrid version - offering the textbook knowledge online and the hands-on component in-person - even if it is socially

distanced. Another frequent problem that we hear about is, some regulations require certain courses be offered only through in-person training. Life skills and awareness training are excellent candidates for online instruction. Be cautious of anyone offering OSHA certified training requiring personal protection instruction strictly online.

4. Training to Work an Industry Niche (TWIN) – Dr. Tonia Thomas

Tonia - Thank you for today's presentation.

TWIN has been an EPA Job Training grantee since 2018 focusing on career development in Charlotte, NC, however their effort in establishing a community environmental training program dates back to 2016. With annual competitions, EPA provides community organizations an opportunity to reapply for federal funding if their first attempt is not successful. If an application is not initially funded, applicants have an opportunity to work with their Regional Job Training Coordinators, take advantage of technical assistance opportunities and reapply with a more comprehensive fundable application the following year. This is exactly the strategy TWIN has used successfully. After an unsuccessful first attempt at obtaining EPA support, the Charlotte nonprofit established a pilot program to demonstrate their ability to develop an environmental job training program in their community. With support from the city and local partners Training to Work an Industry niche (TWIN) obtained their first grant in 2018 and has successfully continued their program for two grant cycles. TWIN is targeting unemployed and underemployed residents of the City of Charlotte, with a focus on low-income neighborhoods that have public housing units. TWIN plans to train 30 students and place at least 27 graduates in environmental jobs.

Curriculum

The training program includes 134 hours of instruction

- 40-hour HAZWOPER
- OSHA 10-hour construction industry health and safety
- Confined spaces
- Soils and water sampling
- 16-hour lead-based paint worker initial training
- 32-hour asbestos worker initial training
- CPR.
- The program also offers 24 hours of life skills training, job search support,
- Participants who complete the training will earn three state and three federal certifications

Key partners

- Bergman Brothers
- Environmental Staffing
- City of Charlotte Economic Development Department
- City of Charlotte Engineering and Property Management Division
- Charlotte Housing Authority

As an offshoot of the EPA Job Training program, TWIN was able to provide disinfecting services to six senior communities during the COVID pandemic providing additional work skills and community service.

Retention

Monthly peer group meetups over a six-week period. TWIN was able to partner with a City of Charlotte grant to leverage life skills and case management services not provided by the EPA grant.

Placement

Staffing and manpower firms have provided graduates employment opportunities that might not exist using traditional placement methods. Employers will often use temp and staffing agencies as strategy to “tryout” potential full-time hires. Additionally, they are able to indemnify workers who might not otherwise be considered for entry level positions.

Training to Work an Industry Niche (TWIN) has demonstrated strategies that make the program outstanding.

- Small nonprofits can compete with larger organizations to deliver successful EPA Job Training programs.
- When an EPA Job Training application is not funded on its first try, pilot programs can be developed. Proposals for additional support can then be expanded for successful future outcomes.
- The importance of networking with City Hall is demonstrated by leveraging funds associated with existing City grants to provide services not supported by EPA.
- Job training programs can reach out to provide community service and provide additional opportunities for program participants.
- It is suggested that Job Training grant Recipients consider including manpower and staffing agencies in their mix of potential employer partners.

Dr. Thomas would be happy to discuss TWINs success in establishing a pilot job training program, without EPA assistance, and its eventual expansion into an EPA Environmental Job Training grant recipient.

Dr. Tonia Thomas

Training to Work an Industry Niche

tonnia@twinnonprofit.org

5. Looking forward – Job training in FY23

After the FY22 award announcement this spring, EPA has 49 active Environmental Job Training Programs from FY20 to FY22. That number is expected to grow dramatically each year for the next 5 years due to increased (\$30 Million) funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Funds have already been authorized and appropriated. Additional support for the Job Training program may come as part of the normal budgetary process. Here are EPA policy guidelines potential Job Training applicants are waiting for resolution as the next grant cycle approaches.

- Grants funding levels and duration of \$200K for three years may change (\$1M is authorized).
- The number of grants to be awarded has not been indicated but is likely to increase dramatically.
- Curriculum resources may increase (unsupported training is not likely to change).
- The length of the grant cycle may also be affected.
- It is likely that FY22 grant recipients will have an opportunity to participate in additional FY23 funding.

In our opinion, while funding and resources available to JT will be increasing, the substance of JT and ranking criteria will essentially remain the same. Here is a laundry list of hopeful outcomes resulting from an expected expansion of the Job Training Program expressed by current grant recipients.

- With an expanded number of grants to be awarded in FY23, organizations interested in developing an environmental Job Training program or those interested in continuing/expanding their current program are strongly encouraged to apply.
- Increased funding per grant
- Increased duration of grants
- Keep annual competition

When the Request for Applications (RFA) is issued this summer, applicants might anticipate the following schedule for application submission, award, and program implementation. This “sketchy” schedule is today’s “best guess” based on the current conditions. Dates may move forward or slip depending on EPAs scheduling priorities. Unlike many grants, the environmental JT program requires extensive partnership development, community networking, and leveraging support. Establishing community relationships is a long-term process requiring solid plans and a roadmap for program success. Now is the time to anticipate how training may look moving forward and consider expanding job training development plans.

- **Preproposal planning**-Spring, 2022 (new applicants need to begin planning now)
 - **Community relationship and partnership development** – Spring and Summer, 2022
 - **EPA request for proposals** – Summer, 2022
 - **Proposals due**- Fall, 2022 (60 days after announcement)
 - **Proposal evaluations** - Winter, 2022
 - **Award announcements** - Spring, 2023
 - **Grant administration and work plan approvals** –Spring and Summer, 2023
 - **Authorization to spend funds** – Late Summer, 2023
 - **First year training cohorts** –Fall, 2023
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6. EPA’s Final Strategic Plan and the President’s Fiscal Year 2023 budget requests

EPA Releases Final Strategic Plan to Protect Public Health, Address Climate Change, and Advance Environmental Justice and Equity

Environmental Protection Agency published its final Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan to accompany EPA's FY 2023 President’s Budget. The Strategic Plan provides a roadmap to achieve EPA’s and the Biden-Harris Administration’s environmental priorities over the next four years. At the foundation of the Plan is a renewed commitment to the three principles articulated by EPA’s first Administrator, William Ruckelshaus — follow the science, follow the law, and be transparent – while adding an additional fourth principle: advance justice and equity.

This Strategic Plan furthers the agency's commitment to protecting human health and the environment for all people, with an emphasis on historically overburdened and underserved communities. For the first time, EPA’s final Plan includes a strategic goal focused exclusively on addressing climate change, as well as an unprecedented strategic goal to advance environmental justice and civil rights.

“This final strategic plan is the result of tireless work across EPA to develop a comprehensive strategy that delivers on our mission to protect all people from pollution,” **said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan**. “I’m confident that our plan meets the moment. Our solutions are designed to confront the challenges in front of us, where achieving justice and equity are central to addressing climate change and environmental protection.”

The Strategic Plan outlines seven goals and four cross-agency strategies. The strategies articulate essential ways of working to accomplish EPA’s goals and mission outcomes. The Plan also includes a suite of measures that will help the Agency monitor progress and

ensure accountability for achieving its priorities to protect human health and the environment for all Americans.

More information on EPA's Strategic Plans can be found at:

<https://www.epa.gov/planandbudget/strategicplan>

<https://www.epa.gov/planandbudget/strategicplan>

The President's Fiscal Year 2023 budget requests \$11.881 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s essential work to protect people from pollution

The President's Budget details his vision to expand on the historic progress our country has made over the last year and deliver the agenda he laid out in his State of the Union address—to build a better America, reduce the deficit, reduce costs for families, and grow the economy from the bottom up and middle out.

The Budget makes historic investments to advance key priorities in the FY 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan, including tackling the climate crisis, advancing environmental justice, protecting air quality, upgrading the Nation's aging water infrastructure, and rebuilding core functions at the Agency.

"The President's budget request for EPA reflects this Administration's unwavering commitment to protect people from pollution, especially those living in overburdened and underserved communities across America. It funds a broad suite of transformational programs enacted by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and it will enable us to implement the President's historic Justice40 commitment, among other key priorities," said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan. "Almost half of the Budget announced today, \$5.7 billion, will support Tribes, states, and localities, reaffirming EPA's commitment to work in concert with our partners and local communities to tackle the climate crisis and ensure that no American family has to worry about the air they breathe, the water they drink, or the environmental safety of their homes and workplaces."

The Budget makes critical investments in the American people that will help lay a stronger foundation for shared growth and prosperity for generations to come. At the EPA, the Budget invests in:

- **Upgrading Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Nationwide.**

The Budget provides approximately \$4 billion to advance efforts to upgrade drinking water and wastewater infrastructure nationwide, with a focus on underserved communities. The Budget funds 20 new targeted water grant programs authorized in the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act (DWWIA). In total, more than \$940 million in new resources are provided to implement DWWIA in FY 2023. The Budget also supports water infrastructure with an increase of \$160 million in grants to reduce lead in drinking water and an increase of \$240 million for the Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse grant program. The Budget proposes a new \$25 million water sector cybersecurity grant program. The Budget also maintains funding for the State Revolving Funds, which will complement the \$23.4 billion provided for the traditional

SRF programs over five years in the recently enacted Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

- **Ensuring Clean and Healthy Air for All Communities.**

The Budget allocates \$1.1 billion to improve air quality and reduce localized pollution, reduce exposure to radiation, and improve indoor air for communities across the country. This includes \$152 million to support the development and implementation of national emission standards to reduce air pollution from vehicles, engines and fuels. The Budget also supports \$299 million to assist air pollution control agencies in the development, implementation, and evaluation of programs for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and to establish standards for reducing air toxics.

- **Tackling the Climate Crisis.**

The Budget prioritizes funding for tackling the climate crisis and invests an additional \$100 million in grants to Tribes and states that will support on-the-ground efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase resiliency in the Nation's infrastructure. The Budget proposes an additional \$35 million to implement the American Innovation in Manufacturing Act to continue phasing out potent greenhouse gases known as hydrofluorocarbons and invests an additional \$13 million in wildfire prevention and readiness.

- **Advancing Environmental Justice.**

The Administration is committed to increasing efforts to deliver environmental justice in communities across the Nation. The Budget supports the President's Justice40 commitment to ensure at least 40 percent of the benefits of federal investments in climate and clean energy reach historically overburdened and underserved communities. The Budget invests more than \$1.45 billion across the Agency's programs that will help create good-paying jobs, clean up pollution, advance racial equity, and secure environmental justice for all communities. To elevate environmental justice as a top Agency priority, EPA has proposed a new national environmental justice program office, to coordinate and maximize the benefits of the Agency's programs and activities for underserved communities.

- **Protecting Communities from Hazardous Waste and Environmental Damage.**

Preventing and cleaning up environmental damage that harms communities and poses a risk to public health and safety continues to be a top priority for the Administration. The Budget provides \$1.15 billion for EPA's Superfund programs to continue cleaning up some of the Nation's most contaminated land and respond to environmental emergencies. The Budget also includes \$215 million for EPA's Brownfields programs to provide technical assistance and grants to communities, including overburdened and underserved communities, so they can safely clean up and reuse once contaminated properties. The Budget supports additional Community Development Specialists to manage land revitalization projects and works with Tribal, rural, and overburdened and underserved communities to address brownfields.

- **Strengthening Our Commitment and Ability to Successfully Implement Toxic Substances and Control Act (TSCA).**

The Budget provides \$124 million and 449 FTE for TSCA efforts to deliver on the promises made to the American people by the bipartisan Lautenberg Act. These

resources will support EPA-initiated chemical risk evaluations and protective regulations in accordance with statutory timelines.

- **Tackling Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Pollution.**

PFAS are a group of man-made chemicals that threaten the health and safety of communities across the Nation. As part of the President’s commitment to tackling PFAS pollution, the Budget provides approximately \$126 million in FY 2023 for EPA to increase its understanding of human health and ecological effects of PFAS, restrict uses to prevent PFAS from entering the air, land, and water, and remediate PFAS that have been released into the environment. EPA will continue to act on the Agency’s PFAS Strategic Roadmap to safeguard communities from PFAS contamination.

- **Enforcing and Assuring Compliance with the Nation’s Environmental Laws.**

The Budget provides \$213 million for civil enforcement efforts, which includes increasing enforcement efforts in communities with high pollution exposure and to prevent the illegal importations and use of hydrofluorocarbons in the U. S. The Budget also includes \$7 million to operate a coal combustion residuals compliance program, \$148 million for compliance monitoring efforts, and \$69 million for criminal enforcement efforts, including the development of a specialized criminal enforcement task force to address environmental justice issues in partnership with the Department of Justice.

- **Restoring Critical Capacity to Carry Out EPA’s Core Mission.**

The Budget includes more than 1,900 new Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) relative to current levels, for a total of more than 16,200 FTEs, to help rebuild the Agency’s capacity. Restoring staffing capacity across the Agency will facilitate and expedite EPA’s work to reduce air, water, and climate pollution and advance environmental justice. The Budget continues to strengthen the Agency’s ability to recruit, hire, develop, promote, and retain top talent and remove barriers to equal opportunity at the management and staff levels in order to strengthen and advance diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility.

The Budget makes these smart investments while also reducing deficits and improving our country’s long-term fiscal outlook. For more information on the President’s FY 2023 Budget, please visit:

[President’s Budget](#).

7. Virtual conferences, webinars, and resources

Opioids and the Workplace: Prevention and Response Series.

**NIEHS, NIOSH, and AIHA with support from the NIH Office of Disease Prevention
“Initiatives to Prevent Opioid Misuse and Promote Recovery Friendly Workplace Programs”
Monday, April 11, 2022**

2:00 – 3:30 p.m. EDT

April 11th as the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Worker Training Program (WTP) hosts a webinar in the Opioids and the Workplace: Prevention and Response Series.

Registration:

https://nih.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_QdG72kUNTIuc03ZEVrcUFg

A new NIEHS publication

[“Initiatives to Prevent Opioid Misuse and Promote Recovery Friendly Workplace Programs,”](#)

Highlights training programs, toolkits, resources, and initiatives from NIEHS and other agencies and organizations.

Webinar objectives:

- Provide an overview of the new NIEHS Opioid Initiatives publication.
- Learn what organizations are doing in the fight to prevent substance use disorder and to implement recovery friendly workplace programs.
- Learn how to use the document to kick start your own substance use disorder prevention or recovery friendly workplace program.

This event will be recorded and will be posted at

<https://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/index.cfm?id=2460>

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Guidebook

The White House has released the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law guidebook](#) to show governments how they can benefit from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law programs.

Environmental remediation and brownfields start on page 373. You can also check out this [data file](#) published by the White House with a brief summary of all programs in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

National Environmental Justice Community Engagement Calls



The purpose of these calls is to inform communities about EPA's environmental justice work and enhance opportunities to maintain an open dialogue with environmental justice advocates. As environmental justice continues to be integrated into EPA programs and policies, the Agency hopes that these calls will help reaffirm EPA's continued commitment to work with community groups and the public to strengthen local environmental and human health outcomes. Next Call:

April 19th, 2022

2 - 4 p.m. Eastern

EPA environmental justice initiatives

Listening Session and Dialogue: Q&A about ongoing EJ initiatives

Click the link below to join the webinar on April 19th:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/epa-natl-environmental-justice-community-engagement-call-april-19-2022-registration-299567132357>

EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment is pleased to announce the launch of a new webinar series.

The webinar series, which will take place over three weeks starting in April, is intended for grant applicants and recipients. Participants will hear from EPA staff about key aspects of the grants process and have the opportunity to submit questions.

- April 28, 2:00—3:00pm ET
Competition Process: Learn how to find and successfully apply for EPA grants.
- May 5, 2:00—3:00pm ET
Developing a Budget: Learn how to develop budgets and budget narratives in this instructor-led version of EPA's Developing a Budget online training course
- May 10, 2:00—3:30pm ET
Financial Management: Hear from EPA's Research Triangle Park Finance Center about grant financial management, including how to successfully enroll in the Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system, properly draw down and account for funds, make adjustments in ASAP, submit financial reports, and financially close out a grant.

Stay tuned for registration information and more details!

Tools for Communities

Upcoming EJScreen 2.0 Tool Office Hours and Trainings

EPA is hosting the next virtual 'Office Hours' and Trainings for users of EJSCREEN, the Agency's environmental justice screening and mapping tool. Office Hours are a chance for the public to talk with EPA EJScreen experts about many topics including how to use and apply the tool, technical issues, and any other questions. The trainings will include information on the updates made to EJScreen 2.0, a demonstration of the newly available features, and tips on how to use the tool. All sessions are free, and registration is not required.

- April 20, 2022 Office Hours at 12 pm E.T. - [Click Here to Join](#)
- April 6, 2022 Training at 12 pm E.T. - [Click Here to Join](#)
- May 4, 2022 Training at 12 pm E.T. - [Click Here to Join](#)

We hope that you will join these open discussions and trainings to learn about EJSCREEN, as well as to get your questions answered.

8. In-person events

PFAS Forum II

May 2-4, 2022

Renaissance Tampa International Plaza Hotel

Tampa, Florida

The PFAS Forum II is being organized to provide an understanding of the environmental issues related to PFAS, educate the environmental/remediation industry and regulatory community on the potential risks from PFAS, as well as discuss regulatory and legal issues, monitoring, treatment, cleanup, and disposal technologies. Go to:

<https://pfasforum.org>

California Land Recycling Conference (CALRC)

Carson Civic Center

Carson, CA

June 21-23.

Reserve your seat for the California Land Recycling Conference (CALRC) at the Carson Civic Center in Carson, CA, from June 21-23. Communities recognize the urgent need to reuse, rebuild, and revitalize areas through land recycling. The innovative resolve communities have discovered to move their projects forward, creating vibrant cities, towns, and neighborhoods is

genuinely inspirational. CALRC 2022 will showcase the impact of land reuse while identifying historic funding opportunities and resources available to support your journey.

Early bird registration ends April 29.

<https://www.cclr.org/events/upcoming-events/california-land-recycling-conference-2022>



2022 GBA Brownfield Seminar
June 28th
Georgia State University

We are pleased to announce that the 2022 GBA Brownfield Seminar will take place Tuesday, June 28 at Georgia State University! We are thrilled to be back IN PERSON, offering you the same incredible content and networking you've come to expect from this event. Registration is open, and sponsorship opportunities are available.

This year's Brownfield Seminar once again will provide quality education opportunities with a wide range of participants, including leading development, legal, engineering, risk management, economic development, and other professionals throughout Georgia and beyond with a shared interest in cleaning and redeveloping contaminated properties and revitalizing surrounding areas around the state.

Again, this year, we plan to apply for CLE credits from the State Bar of Georgia and offer Certificates of Completion to professionals in other industries in need of CEs.

Click here to read more about past GBA Brownfield Seminars, including presenters, topics, sponsors and more!

[REGISTER NOW](#)

2022 National Brownfields Training Conference
Oklahoma City, OK
August 16-19, 2022

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! Registration is now open.

For more information, please visit

<https://brownfields2021.org>



**The 27th Annual
Florida Remediation Conference (FRC 2022)
Omni Orlando Resort at Champions Gate
Orlando, Florida
November 16-18, 2022**

Call for Speakers!

Submission Deadline: July 15, 2022

We have issued a call for oral and poster presentation abstracts for the 27th Florida Remediation Conference which will take place on November 16-18, 2022, at the Omni Orlando Resort at Champions Gate (Orlando), Florida.

If you have an interest in presenting an oral or poster presentation, please click on the link below.

<https://floridaremediationconference.org/call-for-speakers>

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 26 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. It is far from just being a Florida event. For more information, go to:

<https://floridaremediationconference.org>

9. Funding and leveraging opportunities

Targeted Brownfields Assessments (TBA)

A Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA) is an environmental investigation that documents environmental conditions at a property under consideration for redevelopment or reuse. These are conducted at no cost to communities requesting assistance. Applications are accepted and assessments are performed throughout the year. Assistance may include one or more of the following activities:

Phase I environmental site assessment, including a background and historical investigation and a preliminary property inspection.

Phase II environmental site assessment, including sampling activities to identify the types and concentrations of contaminants and the areas of contamination.

Cleanup options and cost estimates based on anticipated future uses and redevelopment plans.

Every region has TBAs available on a no cost basis. For more information go the following EPA site.

<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/targeted-brownfields-assessments-tba>

EPA Announces Availability of up to \$1.6 Million Environmental Justice Grants for Tribal Public

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced the availability of up to \$1.6 million in [American Rescue Plan](#) (ARP) funding to support Tribal government efforts to establish or modify programs on environmental justice water and air quality issues. Earlier this year, EPA announced spending plans for the \$100 million in ARP funding appropriated by Congress in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and health outcome disparities, with \$50 million being designated to improve ambient air quality monitoring, and \$50 million designated to address disproportionate environmental or public health harms and risks in underserved communities. Congress made up to \$1.6 million in ARP funding available to Tribes, recognizing the importance of supporting Tribal public engagement programs and related priorities that have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

EPA anticipates awarding 16 to 20 grants nationwide in amounts of up to \$100,000 per award.

- “This funding opportunity will help ensure that our Tribal Nation partners and their communities are prioritized within EPA’s whole-of-government approach to address environmental challenges,” said JoAnn Chase, Director of the American Indian Environment Office.
- “This funding also serves as reaffirmation of EPA’s policy, and the Biden Administration’s priority, to advance and integrate environmental justice into all of our work, including our work with federally recognized Tribal governments and indigenous peoples.”

“Our partners in Tribal governments recognize that they, just like us, advance justice by starting with meaningful engagement,” said Matthew Tejada, Director of the Office of Environmental

Justice. “We are excited to support their efforts to lift up the voices of the people most impacted by and vulnerable to pollution.”

Applicants interested in this funding opportunity must submit grant proposal packages by **May 19, 2022**. Applicants should plan for projects to begin on October 1, 2022. To learn more about the pre-application assistance calls and how to apply for funding, visit: [Environmental Justice Small Grants Program](#).

- For more information about EPA’s programs in Indian Country, visit: [Environmental Protection in Indian Country](#)
- For more information on EPA’s Office of Environmental Justice, visit: [Environmental Justice](#).

State Farm Neighborhood Assist

Neighborhood Assist will award one hundred \$25,000 grants to fund neighborhood improvement projects. Anyone living in the U.S. (including individuals 18 years old or older, nonprofit organizations, schools, towns, and cities, etc.) is eligible to apply.

Submissions opened on February 1 at 10am PT. A maximum of 4,000 submissions will be accepted, so submit early.

[Learn more and prepare to apply>>>](#)

Bank of America Grants

In 2022, the Bank of America Charitable Foundation will issue requests for proposals (RFPs):

Environmental Focus:

Agriculture/Farming, Career Choices, Cultural Awareness, Environmental Justice, Gardening/Composting, Place-based Education, Plants, Sustainability, Team building/Problem-solving

Bank of America



Economic Mobility focused on needs of community (affordable housing, small business, neighborhood revitalization)

Applications accepted: 5/30/2022 – 6/24/2022

For additional information, go to:

Complete Details

[Bank of America Opportunities](#)

Federal Funding Sources Available to Energy Communities

The Interagency Working Group on Coal & Power Plant Communities & Economic Revitalization has created a centralized list of federal funding sources for communities to fund infrastructure, environmental remediation, job creation, and community revitalization efforts. There are many grants currently available!

[Find funding sources for your community>>>](#)

FY 2022 Brownfields opportunities to reach out to EPA cleanup grants Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants

EPA has announced the release of RFAs for Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grant funding. Evaluation criteria includes community engagement which involve

partnering with Brownfields Job Training programs in target communities. To learn more about Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants go to the following site.

[EPA RLF Requests for Applications](#)

10. Contact EPA Regional Coordinators

Regional Coordinators are the first place to go regarding questions about JT grants, extensions, budgets, or work plans. Many Regions maintain a Listserv for past, current, and potential recipients. It is important to be on their contact list for conference calls and newsletters.

EPA Region 1

CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT

William "Bill" Lariviere

Phone: (617) 918-1231

E-mail: lariviere.william@epa.gov

EPA Region 2

NJ, NY, PR, VI

Schenine Mitchell

Phone: (212) 637-3283

E-mail: mitchell.schenine@epa.gov

EPA Region 3

DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV

Gianna Rosati

Phone: (215) 814-3406

E-mail: Rosati.Gianna@epa.gov

EPA Region 4

AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN

Olga Perry

Phone: (404) 562-8534

E-mail: perry.olga@epa.gov

EPA Region 5

IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI

Linda Morgan

Phone: (312) 886-4747

E-mail: morgan.linda@epa.gov

EPA Region 6

AR, LA, NM, OK, TX

Elizabeth Reyes
Phone: (214) 665-3163
E-mail: reyes.elizabeth@epa.gov

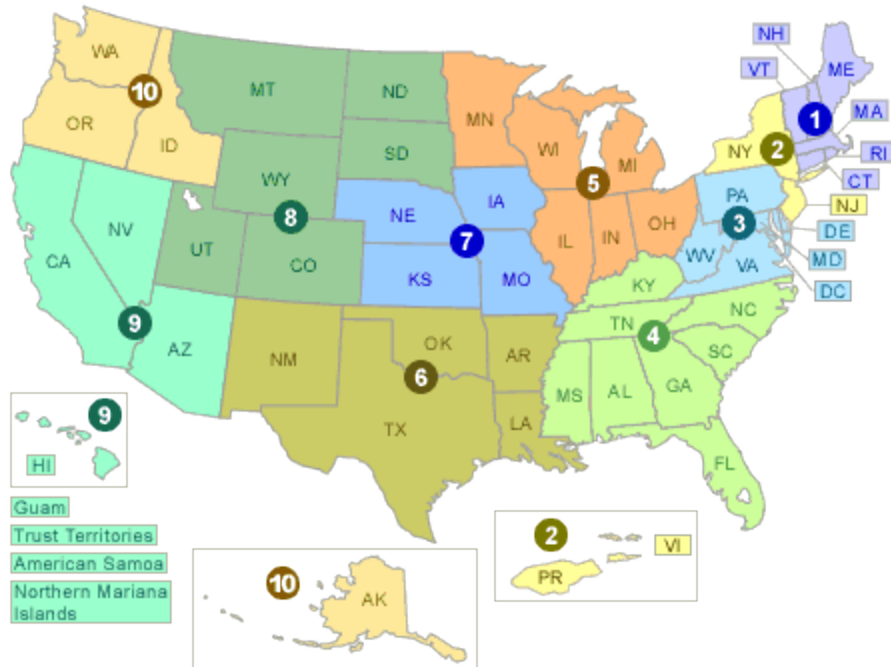
EPA Region 7
IA, KS, MO, NE
Alma Moreno Lahm
Phone: (913) 551-7380
E-mail: moreno-lahm.alma@epa.gov

EPA Region 8
CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY
Christina Wilson
Phone: (303) 312-6706
E-mail: wilson.christina@epa.gov

EPA Region 9
AZ, CA, HI, NV, AS, GU
Nova Blazej
Phone: (415) 972-3846
E-mail: blazej.nova@epa.gov

Noemi Emeric-Ford
Phone: (213) 244-1821
E-mail: emeric-ford.noemi@epa.gov

EPA Region 10
AK, ID, OR, WA
Angel Ip
Phone: (206) 553-1673
E-mail: ip.angel@epa.gov



11. Join us for the next Professional Learning Community ZOOM call April 20th

Join a conversation with EPA Brownfields Job Training grant recipients, alumni, and interested stakeholders. PLCs are scheduled every other week on Wednesdays. Same time Same Zoom link

- Wednesday Apr 20 2:00 p.m. Eastern
- Wednesday May 4 12:00 – 4:00 p.m. Mid-Year Networking Workshop**
- Wednesday May 18 2:00 p.m. Eastern
- Wednesday Jun 1 2:00 p.m. Eastern

To Join PLC Zoom Meetings, go to:
<https://zoom.us/j/93598658578>

Meeting ID: 935 9865 8578

On the road - Computer not available.....
 You can phone in using the nearest location

- +1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 935 9865 8578

The objective of the (PLC) is to promote and share innovative strategies among those interested in establishing community based environmental job training programs. Our sessions allow participants to stay in touch with JT happenings, ask questions, showcase their programs, and help others. The Environmental Workforce PLC is open to all and there is no cost or obligation to attend. Join us when you can. If you would like to invite a guest, feel free to forward this email.

Showcase your program – Biweekly, the PLC will hear from one of our grantees, discuss opportunities or exchange ideas related to environmental job training. HMTRI is inviting you to participate in the next cycle of Professional Learning Community ZOOMs. If you would like to present at an upcoming PLC contact Mike at:

msenew@gmail.com/

PLC notes presented represent individual opinions and ideas from Professional Learning Community participants and JT recipients. They do not represent EPA policy, guidance or opinions and should not be taken as such.

For more information on HMTRI technical assistance services or to be added to our Grantee and Community Outreach Listserv, please an email to:

hmtri@eicc.edu.



*The Brownfields Training PLC is sponsored under Cooperative Agreement with
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Hazardous Materials Training and Research Institute (HMTRI)
Advanced Technology Environmental and Energy Center (ATEEC)*