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[www.nau.edu/iaqtc](http://www.nau.edu/iaqtc)

## Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Communities Newsletter

### New ITEP Indoor Air Quality Blog

Visit the ITEP Indoor Air Quality blog and post questions you have related to an indoor air quality project. We also encourage you to participate in the discussions to answer questions asked by others.

Questions may be related to starting an indoor air quality project, how to conduct assessments, or specific issues you've encountered recently.

<http://itep-iaqtc.blogspot.com/>

### Program Spotlight

#### Cold Climate Housing Research Center



The Cold Climate Housing Research Center (CCHRC) is a private non-profit corporation that promotes sustainable, durable, healthy building technologies in the Circumpolar North.

The Center's research efforts include product

#### About Us:

##### *Mansel A. Nelson, Senior Program Coordinator*

Mansel joined ITEP in 1998. He is the program Manager for the Tribal Environmental Education Outreach Program and the Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Communities Program. Prior to joining ITEP Mansel was a chemistry teacher on the Navajo Nation and a chemical officer in the US Army.

[Mansel.Nelson@nau.edu](mailto:Mansel.Nelson@nau.edu)

##### *Graylynn Hudson, Senior Instructor Specialist*

Graylynn rejoined ITEP in December 2010 to assist with the Environmental Education Outreach Program's efforts to increase awareness of the environmental issues facing tribal communities.

[Graylynn.Hudson@nau.edu](mailto:Graylynn.Hudson@nau.edu)

#### Technical Assistance

To make a request for technical assistance please click on the button below.

[Online Request Form](#) ➡

development and testing, policy analysis, energy efficiency R&D, and public education. The Center also design and demonstrate prototype homes for rural Alaska that match the climate, resources, culture, and economy of individual communities.

The program areas include:

- Building Science Research
- Product Testing Lab
- Sustainable Northern Communities
- Policy Research
- Hybrid Micro Energy

CCHRC Website: Website: <http://www.cchrc.org/>

### ITEP IAQ Newsletter

Did someone forward this newsletter to you? Send an email to [Mansel.Nelson@nau.edu](mailto:Mansel.Nelson@nau.edu) to subscribe or unsubscribe to the newsletter.

### Indoor Air Quality Listserv

Join the ITEP Indoor Air Quality Listserv to learn about training opportunities and updates in the field of indoor air quality. Visit the listserv site at [tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/IAQ-L/](http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/IAQ-L/) or send a request to [Mansel.Nelson@nau.edu](mailto:Mansel.Nelson@nau.edu)

## ITEP Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Course – Fairbanks, Alaska

Tanana Chiefs Council (TCC) Office of Environmental Health (OEH) staff partnered with ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program (AIAQTP) staff to conduct an Indoor Air Quality course for tribal and village staff in the Fairbanks Alaska region. In addition to classroom activities the course included two field trips. The group visited a residence and a school to apply what they had been learning in the classroom. The instructional team included Richard Seifert, a building scientist from University of Alaska – Fairbanks and Mary Ellen Gordian, a physician and air quality researcher from Anchorage, Alaska. Michael Reed of the TCC also helped with the instruction and coordinated for several local air quality professionals to make guest presentations. Upon completion of the course participants received a smoke stick, a device that helps determine air movement, which is a critical component of doing an indoor air quality building assessment.

There were fourteen participants representing twelve Alaska Villages and Village Councils in attendance. The participants provided the following comments:

- *"I think ITEP did a great job with this training."*
- *"I was not aware of Radon and its dangers. This has really peaked my interest and I will be sure to learn more about Radon. I will be an advocate for smoke free buildings. The household cleaning chemical were very interesting."*
- *"This was also a rewarding day, the information was presented effectively and delivered in a good manner. The session on mold was very informative. It will help me to identify problems in the homes around my community."*

The AIAQTP staff is seeking additional partnerships for conducting IAQ courses. Indoor air quality

is a critical issue facing many tribes throughout the country. Improving indoor air quality for homes and schools can result in significant improvements in health, thereby decreasing medical costs and improving quality of life.

## **Summer Internship Host Sites Needed**

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals – Environmental Education Outreach Program at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona is seeking air quality and climate change focused offices and programs to host a summer intern for 10 weeks. Tribal environmental offices, regional EPA offices, and other tribal environmental organizations are encouraged to apply.

The interns will be undergraduate or graduate students majoring in environmental or related careers from different colleges and universities nationwide. ITEP provides each student intern with a \$4,000 stipend, and limited housing and travel allowances. The host site provides a work place, a project, and supervision for the intern.

PLEASE NOTE that the projects must be focused on addressing air quality, (indoor or ambient) and/or climate change issues in tribal communities.

Provided below are some examples of internship projects and their host sites this past summer:

- **Department of Environmental Conservation in Anchorage, AK**  
Project: Road Dust Monitoring in Rural Alaska (Level 1 Internship)  
Intern: Mali'o Kodis (Brown University, Rhode Island)  
In partnership with the State of Alaska DEC, equipment, training, filters, and technical support was provided to several tribes to monitor road dust in their community before and after dust suppressants are tested out in the communities.
- **Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indian's Environmental Department in Sault Sainte Marie, MI**  
Project: Air Sealing Technologies and Community Outreach  
Intern: Dana Kremetz (Northern Arizona University, Arizona)  
The internship focused on promoting the use of air sealing to reduce energy consumption in homes owned by tribal members. Dana worked with local utilities to help promote their demand-reduction programs, including distribution of free or low-cost air sealing products if available, and she developed outreach materials.
- **Native Village of Eyak in Cordova, AK**  
Project: Air Pollution from Cordova, AK Landfill  
Intern: Simeon Haynes (Humboldt University, California)  
Simeon worked with the Native Village of Eyak and the City of Cordova to reduce / eliminate hazardous air pollutants emissions from municipal waste burning practices.



*Simeon during his internship in Cordova, AK.*

Read more about 2010 host sites and interns on the EEOP website.

Submit a host site application online at [http://www4.nau.edu/eeop/internships/ssi\\_host.asp](http://www4.nau.edu/eeop/internships/ssi_host.asp)

Deadline: Apply by the end of December 2011.

Interns must apply by February 15, 2012.

For detailed information on the requirements and internship, visit the site at <http://www4.nau.edu/eeop/internships/>.

Please contact Graylynn Hudson at [Graylynn.Hudson@nau.edu](mailto:Graylynn.Hudson@nau.edu) or 928-523-8864 if you have questions about submitting an application.

## **Clean, Green and Healthy Tribal Schools**

The Environmental Protection Agency Region 8's *Clean, Green and Healthy Tribal Schools Initiative* will host six weekly ninety-minute webinars beginning January 11, 2012 for Environmental Protection Agency personnel, school administrators, risk managers, educators, health and safety coordinators, school health professionals, parents of school children and their communities. Each 45-minute webinar will be followed by 45 minutes for questions and answers with the featured speaker.

The goal of the webinar series is to provide information and tools for tribal school personnel and EPA personnel to ensure that tribal schools are clean, green and healthy for themselves, school children and their community. Please register to attend. You may attend one or more presentations in the webinar series and there is no cost to attend.

- **Schools Chemical Clean Out** – Matt Langenfeld, USEPA  
1/11/2012 at 3:30 PM MST

- **Energy & Water Conservation** – Irvin Jones, Navajo Nation  
1/18/2012 at 3:30 PM MST
- **Asbestos & Lead Repair, Renovation and Painting Rule in Tribal Schools** – Chris Maksimuk, USEPA  
1/25/2012 at 3:30 PM MST
- **Integrated Pest Management & Green Cleaning in Tribal Schools** – Clyde Wilson, Marie Zanolick, EPA  
2/1/2012 at 3:30 PM MST
- **Waste Reduction, Recycling, Composting & Gardening in Tribal Schools** – Marie Zanolick, EPA & Diane Jourdan, Oneida and Stockbridge Tribe  
2/8/2012 at 3:30 PM MST
- **Indoor Air in Tribal Schools** – Mansel A. Nelson & Graylynn Hudson, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals  
2/15/2012 at 3:30 PM MST

More information at [www.epa.gov/region8/tribalschools](http://www.epa.gov/region8/tribalschools)

## Training Resources

The following links include information on training opportunities and workshops:

### National Tribal Healthy Homes Trainings

Learn how to conduct a proper Healthy Homes assessment as well as how to remediate household health and safety hazards if/when they are found in the home. Take the information to enhance your Healthy Homes assessments and educational capacity.

[http://www.tribalhealthyhomes.org/training\\_schedule.htm](http://www.tribalhealthyhomes.org/training_schedule.htm)

### ITEP Indoor Air Quality, Level 2 Training, Las Vegas, Nevada – TAMS Center

April 24–27, 2012

This Level 2 course will bring together tribal environmental, housing, and health staff to learn how weatherization can impact indoor air quality.

After completing this course participants will be able to:

- \* Explain the importance of ventilation for IAQ
- \* Assess a home for asthma triggers
- \* Investigate a home for radon and suggest methods for mitigation
- \* Involve teachers and students in assessing IAQ in schools.

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