



Welcome to the Full Circle Newsletter!

■ **National Steering Committee for Waste Management and Response Named**

Todd Barnell, Program Coordinator Senior

ITEP's Tribal Waste and Response Assistance Program (TWRAP) is very happy to announce the formation of a new national tribal steering committee. Members of this committee will be working closely with ITEP on all aspects of this five year project. In addition to assisting with the development of an annual conference on waste and response issues, the creation of new training courses and assistance activities, and research on hazardous substances and Superfund and contaminated sites, committee members will ensure that tribal ideas and concerns are kept in the forefront of all decision making. These committee members will also work closely with staff from USEPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER), which is funding these activities.

All of the new committee members possess a broad range of experiences as well as a deep commitment to assisting tribes through Indian Country and Alaska. The new committee members are:

Committee Member	Tribe	Primary Area of Expertise
Sherry Bishop	Assiniboine/Gros Venture Tribes	Brownfields
Dino Chavarria	Santa Clara Pueblo	Superfund and Solid Waste
Stephanie Hinson	Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community	Solid Waste
Tim Kent	Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma	Superfund
Katherine Kruse	Keweenaw Bay Indian Community	Tribal Response
Virginia LeClere	Prairie Band of Potawatomi	Solid Waste
Danny Joe Stensgar	Colville Confederated Tribes	Solid Waste
Danford Wadsworth	Hopi Tribe	USTs and Solid Waste
Ronald Wassillie	Newhalen Tribal Council (Alaska)	Solid Waste
Laura Weber	St. Regis Mohawk Tribe	Solid Waste

Many excellent applications were received for the ten spots on this committee, and the selection process was a long and tough one. A truly outstanding selection team – representing tribes throughout Indian Country, USEPA Regional offices, OSWER headquarter staff and ITEP – spent two months reviewing all of the applications. It was our goal to select ten individuals who would provide broad geographical representation as well as have experience in the various topics covered by this project.

Meet Our Staff:

■ **Todd Barnell, Program Coordinator Senior, TSWEAP and TWRAP**

Todd joined ITEP in 2002. In 2006 he began managing the ECI program and developed TSWEAP. Prior to joining ITEP Mr. Barnell worked for The Nature Conservancy and as a field researcher on ecology and climate projects.
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■ **John Mead, Program Coordinator Senior, ECI**

John has been with ITEP since 2002. In the past he has managed our Wastewater Training Program and worked on a green building project as well as ECI. In 2008 he began managing the ECI program.
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■ **Jennifer Williams, Program Coordinator Senior, TWRAP Alaska**

Jen joined ITEP in 2001 and has worked on a variety of issues affecting Alaskan Natives, including air quality, solid waste, environmental education, and hazardous substances. She oversees TWRAP's Alaskan projects.
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■ **Roberta Tohannie, Program Coordinator, TSWEAP**

As a member of ITEP since 2007, Roberta assists in the coordination of all

We have achieved those goals and I am very excited to have the opportunity to work with the ten individuals selected to serve on this committee. Committee members will be meeting for the first time during the first week of November, at the ITEP offices in Flagstaff, Arizona. At this meeting we will be creating bylaws for the committee, meeting with researchers assisting with the project, and discussing training needs for courses to be delivered in 2010.

TSWEAP activities. She has worked on tribal rangeland research, forest restoration projects, and higher education programs. 928-523-2082

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■ **ECI's New Inspector Course for Underground Storage Tanks A Hit**

John Mead, ECI Program Coordinator Senior



For you readers who are new to this newsletter and ITEP's Environmental Compliance Inspector (ECI) training program, the ECI staff responded to the many requests we received and developed ECI program's first Media Specific UST Inspector Training Course. The primary directive of the ECI program is to provide required training courses and technical assistance to tribal environmental

professionals who are performing environmental compliance inspections for their tribes. Many of the participants attend the training courses because they are seeking federal inspector credentials although many more ECI training course participants are simply looking to increase their skills as environmental compliance inspectors.

■ ***Pam Malone, Program Coordinator, ECI***

Pam joined ITEP in 2008. She provides research and trainings for Tribes conducting civil inspections under Tribal and/or EPA authority. Pam co-founded and serves as Board President of SAGE Council, in Albuquerque. 928-523-1055

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Planning the curricula and presentation of the new UST course was accomplished by Pam Malone. Several of the ECI courses are patterned after courses offered by the USEPA National Enforcement Training Institute (NETI) designed for training federal inspectors. Pam worked with the staff at NETI and obtained access to the basic UST inspector course material. She then used the NETI material as a conceptual basis for the training course and performed some serious tweaking to make the course material relevant to compliance inspectors working on tribal lands.

Tribal UST inspectors with a variety of experience from diverse geographical locations (Montana and Michigan) were recruited to perform the majority of the instruction for the course. Tom McClure from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation in Montana has acquired a federal UST inspector credential while Greg Shubel who inspects UST's for the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan's member tribes expects to obtain his federal UST inspector credential by the end of this year. The third member of the instruction team was Mark Restaino from the Region 5 EPA UST program office and has held a federal UST inspector credential for several years.

The UST course consisted of a couple of very full days learning the various components of regulated fuel delivery, storage and dispensing systems; conducting an inspection, records review and report writing. It is always interesting and enlightening to hear the different perspectives from participants regarding the pros and cons of compliance enforcement versus compliance assistance. On the last morning, the training course culminated with a site tour of a fueling facility owned and operated by the US Postal Service. The site visit was the highlight of the training course because participants were able to see and inspect each of the fueling system components and target specific sources of potential violation.

The ECI staff extends sincere appreciation to the instruction team for sharing their experiences and expertise and to the twenty-three participants representing EPA Regions 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10 who attended the first ECI Media Specific UST Inspector Training Course.

Upcoming Training Opportunities:

The TSWEAP program will be offering the following courses over the next several months:

- Addressing and Managing Illegal Dumps in Indian Country, San Diego, CA, December 8 – 10, 2009
- Source Reduction Strategies for Tribes, Minneapolis, MN May 18-20, 2010
- Developing a Tribal Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan, Denver, CO July 20-22, 2010

The ECI program will be offering the following courses over the next several months:

- Developing and Implementing Tribal Environmental Codes, San Diego, CA, January 12 – 14, 2010
 - Tribal Basic Inspector Training, Denver, CO, April 13-16, 2010
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Learn more...

➤ [Tribal Waste and Response Assistance Program \(TWRAP\)](#)

TWRAP is a program focused on assisting tribes with all waste management, brownfields, USTs, contaminated sites, and response programs. This program is funded by the USEPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.

➤ [Environmental Compliance and Inspection Program \(ECI\)](#)

ECI is funded by the USEPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. This program assists tribal professionals who are interested in conducting civil environmental compliance inspections.

➤ [Tribal Solid Waste Education and Assistance Program \(TSWEAP\)](#)

TSWEAP's focus is providing training and assistance to tribes working on solid and hazardous waste management. It is funded through a grant with the Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

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