

WELCOME!

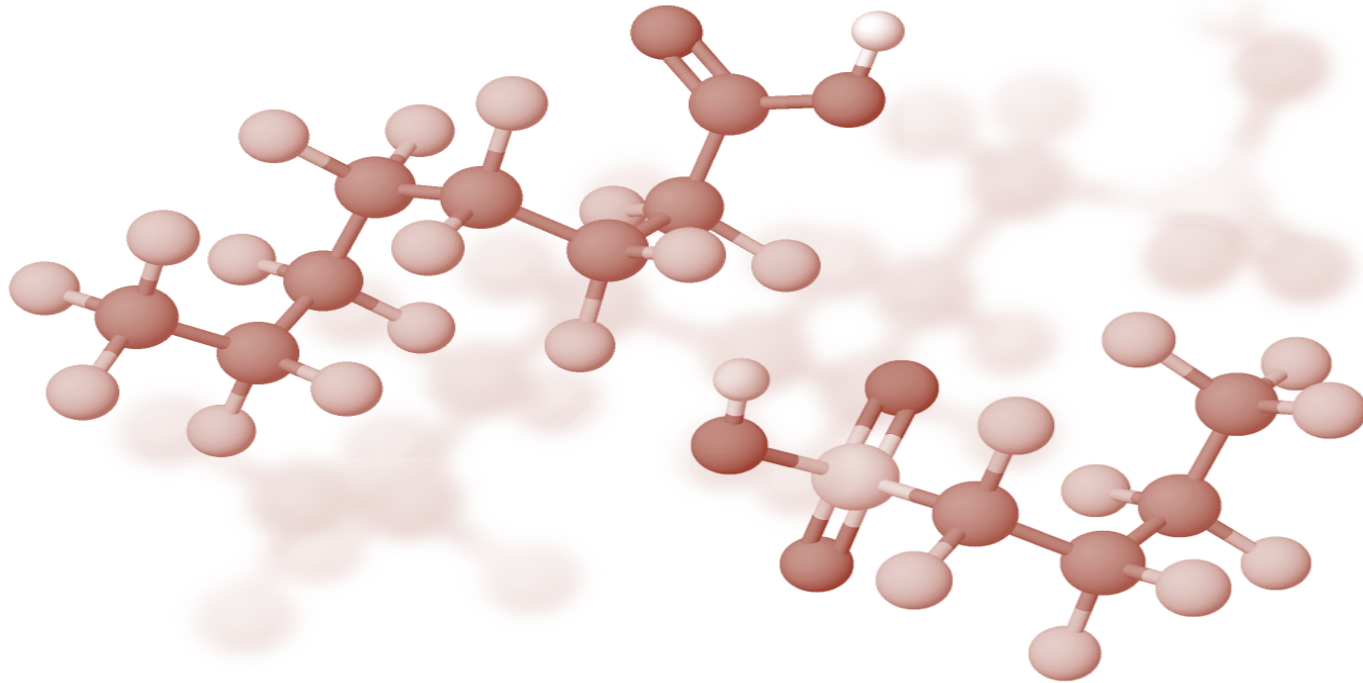
Before we get started...

- Today's webinar is scheduled to last 60 minutes.
- All participants will be muted.
- Submit questions via the Chat or Q & A button at the bottom of your screen.
- A copy of the presentations is available in the Chat box.
- A recording of this presentation will be available at www.epa.gov/tribal-lands in approximately 2 weeks.
- Please contact Emily Wexler (Emily.Wexler@erg.com) if you are having technical issues with the webinar.



Tribes Training Tribes: National Tribal Waste Management Peer Matching Program

November 9, 2023



Today's Presenters

- Tonya Barnett, Co-Team Leader: EPA Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery Tribal Program Team
- Denise Roy, Co-Team Leader: EPA Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery Tribal Program Team
- Heather Christopher, Associate: Ross Strategic
- Jen Parks, Environmental Coordinator: Bay Mills Indian Community
- Linda Nguyen, Environmental Director: Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Presentation Overview

- Welcome comments and introductions
- Overview of EPA National Tribal Waste Management Peer Matching Program
- Update on recent Peer Matching Program activities and upcoming opportunities
- Tribal participant perspectives:
 - Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (Mentor)
 - Bay Mills Indian Community (Mentee)
- Questions and Discussion
- Adjourn

EPA National Tribal Waste Management Peer Matching Program

- Aims to strengthen tribal capacity and assist with developing sustainable waste management programs on tribal lands.
- Peer matches are voluntary, structured opportunities for tribes, Alaska Native Villages and tribal consortia who are working on similar issues to **exchange experiences and practical knowledge through a peer-to-peer mechanism.**
- Allows tribes, Alaska Native Villages and tribal consortia to collaborate to address a specific challenge, such as designing and supervising construction of a transfer station, or support for developing an Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP).



What is EPA's Role in the Peer Match Program?

- EPA HQ, in collaboration with EPA regions, facilitates peer matches between tribes seeking technical assistance (**mentee**) and tribes with the appropriate expertise (**mentor**).
- Peer matches can be conducted **virtually** or **in-person**.
- EPA provides facilitation, technical assistance, or other support to tribal participants.

What is the Role of the Mentor Tribe?

- Leverages experience and knowledge of waste management.
- Serves as a volunteer and not intended to take place of general contractor or consultant.
- Engages with EPA after the match is complete to document the results of the peer match.

What is the Role of the Mentee Tribe?

- Identifies a specific challenge that needs to be addressed.
- Lacks the funding for travel or costs of formal training.
- Engages with EPA after the match is complete to document the results of the peer match.

What Types of Issues can be Addressed through a Match?

- Developing an Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP).
- Waste management or enforcement codes.
- Constructing and operating a transfer station, recycling facility, or landfill.
- Establishing a fee collection system or acquiring best practices for pollution prevention, composting, or recycling programs.

What are the Major Steps in a Peer Match?

1 The tribe completes the Request for Participants Form at <https://www.epa.gov/tribal-lands>.



2 EPA confirms receipt of the request and may ask a few questions to further assess the needs of the tribe requesting assistance.



3 EPA identifies a tribal match between the tribe seeking the technical assistance (mentee) and a tribe with the appropriate expertise (mentor). EPA confirms the mentor tribe's availability to assist the tribe requesting assistance. EPA provides contact information to both tribes.



4 The tribes work collaboratively to define and address the needs of the tribe requesting assistance.



5 As requested, EPA provides facilitation (e.g., periodic conference calls and/or meetings) or other support to work towards accomplishing project goals.



How are Peer Matches Funded?



- EPA provides logistical and travel support to facilitate peer matches, as needed.
- Travel for peer matches may be available through the American Indian Environmental Office General Assistance Program (GAP).
- Funding is only intended to be used for travel expenses.

Benefits of Peer Matches


- Improve waste management and save money.
- Increase self-sufficiency.
- Build competence and confidence.
- Work together for the common good.




Peer Match Impact Statements


- EPA interviews tribal participants after peer match is completed.
- Impact statements highlight the type of technical assistance that was provided, lessons learned, and benefits/results.
- Impact statements will be published to EPA's National Tribal Waste Management Peer Matching website and may be printed by EPA to share at in person events.

Tribes Training Tribes on Sustainable Waste Management Programs



MATCHED TRIBES:
Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians (Mentee) and Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma (Mentor)

Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians (Mentee)

The Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians are situated in Redwood Valley in Mendocino, California.¹ With only a few employees on staff, the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians requested technical assistance on building a solid waste and recycling program, as well as developing complaint forms, code regulations, and littering and illegal dumping protocols. In 2022, under EPA's National Tribal Waste Management Peer Matching Program, the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians was matched with the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.

Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma (Mentor)

The Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, which is the largest of three Cherokee federally-recognized tribes,² had also experienced past problems with littering, recycling, and illegal dumping. To remedy these issues, the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma has a large environmental media program, recycling program, and complaint database to report illegal dumping. Because of the successes and knowledge gained in developing their own waste management initiatives, the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma has previously provided mentorship to other tribal communities through the National Tribal Waste Management Peer Matching Program on a variety of issues.

Resource Sharing to Improve Community Knowledge and Awareness
In March 2022, Jason White (Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma), Chelsea Jones (Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma) and Christina Lara (Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians) met to discuss Coyote Valley Band of Pomo's requested needs for technical assistance. The Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians Tribe was starting fresh with their waste management program; previous initiatives had been unsuccessful largely because of limited staff capacity to monitor activities. The Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians was facing growing challenges with littering, recycling, and illegal dumping. With no formal programs in place to address these challenges, the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians was seeking technical assistance to establish a recycling collection center. Cherokee Nation had extensive knowledge and experience to offer effective strategies for launching a waste management program.

The Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma has a recycling program in place that is only open for Tribal employees. Currently, their recycling program focuses on cardboard and paper, but the Tribe is looking to expand the program. The Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma also has recycling initiatives for electronic waste, which are easy to run and cost-effective. Using an EPA Indian General Assistance (IGAP) program grant, the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma has partnered with the city to do street clean-ups. Jason and Chelsea encouraged Coyote Band of Pomo Indians to hold similar events a couple times a year for their community, partnering with the nearby city so they can dispose of the trash collected.

Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma shared resources and example materials for Coyote Band of Pomo Indians to

KEYWORDS:
Illegal Dumping
Recycling
Waste Management
Littering
Electronic Waste
Hazardous Waste

¹ <https://www.coyotevalleytribe.org/>
² <https://www.cherokee.org/>

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Previous Peer Matches

- Cherokee Nation (Mentor) and Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians (Mentee).
- Santee Sioux Nation (Mentor) and Confederated Salish Kootenai Tribes (Mentee).
- Kawerak, Incorporated (Mentor) and Orutsararmiut Native Council (Mentee).
- Morongo Band of Mission Indians (Mentor) and Oneida Nation (Mentee).
- Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (Mentor) and Santo Domingo Tribe (Mentee).
- Pueblo of Acoma (Mentor) and Ute Mountain Ute Tribe (Mentee).
- Forest County Potawatomi Tribe (Mentee) and Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (Mentor).

Upcoming Opportunities

- EPA anticipates being able to support several more matches through July of 2024.
- Those interested in participating in the program in a mentor or mentee capacity are encouraged to fill out the online form.
- EPA will determine if there are suitable match options between potential mentors and mentees and reach out to tribes as appropriate.

Tribal Participant Perspectives:
Bay Mills Indian Community
&
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa



Bay Mills Indian Community



Tribal Waste Management Peer Matching Program



- Matched with Cherokee Nation
- Education and Outreach for Household Hazardous Waste
- Other solid waste and recycling topics discussed
- Resources shared



Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Tribal Waste Management Peer Matching Program





- **Matched with San Carlos Apache in Arizona**
- **Site Visit**
 - 4 Districts = 4 Transfer Stations
 - Staffing Capacity
 - Department Roles
 - Leadership Support
 - Solid Waste Code/Enforcement
 - Funding Evaluation
 - No Fee Structure
 - Opportunities (GAP, CWA 319, IHS, HUD)

EPA National Tribal Waste Management Peer Matching Program

If you are interested in participating as a mentor or mentee, please visit our website: <https://www.epa.gov/tribal-lands/forms/national-tribal-waste-management-peer-matching-program>

If you have any additional questions, please contact:
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Thank you!

Questions and Discussion