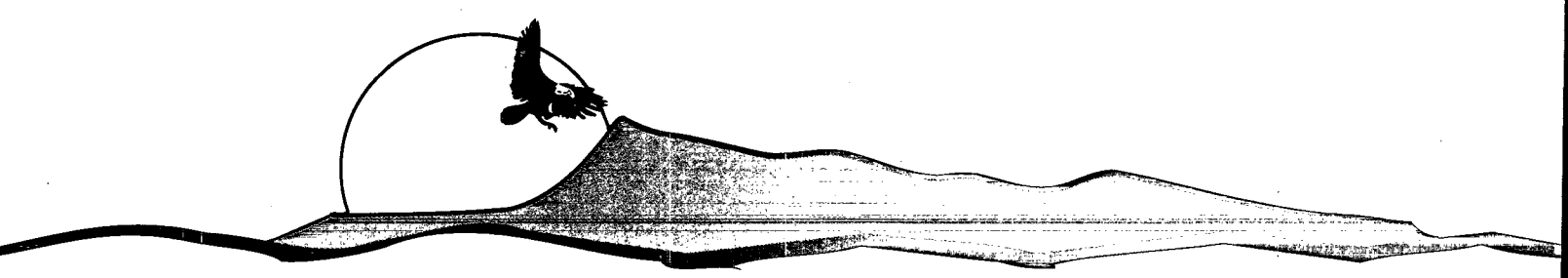
United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Solid Waste
and Emergency Response
(5306W)

EPA530-N-97-006
September 1997
http://www.epa.gov

EPA

Native American Network



WELCOME

Welcome to *Native American Network*, an EPA Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) newsletter to help keep you on top of environmental issues affecting Indian Country. We will feature articles on tribal waste management programs, information about important laws, tips for obtaining funding, and updates on conferences and publications. We hope you find *Native American Network* to be a valuable resource for tribal waste management issues. We encourage you to contact us if you would like to tell other readers about the solid waste challenges your tribe has faced and ways you have found to address them, solid waste meetings that you are planning, or other solid waste information. Please direct this input to EPA's Karen Rudek at 703 308-1682, fax 703 308-8686, or e-mail rudek.karen@epamail.epa.gov. We hope *Native American Network* will help all of us to better work together for the preservation and protection of the environment in Indian Country.

The White Mountain Apache Tribe: Working Together to Restore the Earth

On a clear morning in July, the White Mountain Apache Tribe held a ceremonial reblessing of the land at the former Whiteriver dump site. Representatives of the Tribal Council, Planning Department, Public Works Department, student interns, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), the Indian Health Service (IHS), and EPA stood on the final cover, surrounded by mountains and overlooking a wooded valley. It was hard to believe that for over 30 years, members of the tribe had used the 15-acre site to dispose of household garbage, tires, batteries, refrigerators, and dead animals. Decomposing waste, rusted metal, fires, and feral cats and dogs were replaced by newly seeded fields of native grasses.

White Mountain Apache Tribe Public Works Department employees install erosion control blankets atop the closed Whiteriver dump.

While actual closure activities occurred from January to May of this year, the planning process started in 1993. The Tribal Council realized that, to address the growing environmental and health hazards from open dumps, it had to make solid waste management a priority. It allocated a portion of General Assistance Program funding from EPA to develop a solid waste management plan and increase its Planning Department staff. In addition, it applied for and received a $1.1 million Indian Community Block Grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which helped pay for the design and construction of a new municipal solid waste (MSW) landfill.

By developing its own landfill, the tribe provided an alternative to open dumps. To encourage use of the new landfill and discourage open dumping, the tribe started a residential collection program and expanded community education efforts. With the opening of the new landfill in May 1996, the tribe locked the gate to the Whiteriver dump. While the Whiteriver dump was no longer active, it still remained a problem.

continued on page 7

Printed on paper that contains at least 20 percent postconsumer fiber.

OSWER Awards a Record Amount of Funding in 1997

Many tribes have reported that finding sufficient financing is one of the most difficult barriers to overcome when developing environmental programs in Indian Country. Grants from both federal agencies and private organizations can provide an important source of funding for tribes and Alaska native villages. Two new EPA grant programs will award more than $2.8 million this year. In addition, existing EPA grant programs have been used by tribes to fund numerous successful projects, some of which are described below. For more information on grant funding opportunities, call the EPA RCRA, Superfund, and EPCRA Hotline at 800 424-9346 and order the recently published guide *Grant Resources for Solid Waste Activities in Indian Country* (EPA530-R-96-051).

EPA LAUNCHES THE MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE GRANT PROGRAM FOR INDIAN COUNTRY

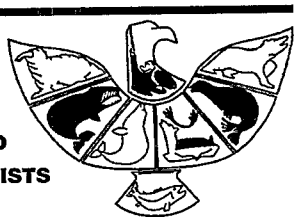
WASTE MANAGEMENT IN INDIAN COUNTRY

EPA's Office of Solid Waste recently launched the 1997 MSW Grant Program for Indian Country, inviting all federally-recognized tribes, Alaska native villages, and tribal consortia to submit proposals for cooperative agreements under the MSW Indian Program. The goal of the MSW Indian Program is to encourage integrated solid waste management practices in Indian Country that are protective of human health and the environment. This grant program focuses on building tribal capacity for MSW activities; developing tribal organizational infrastructure; ensuring future sustainability of tribal solid waste programs; and building partnerships among tribes, states, and local communities. In fiscal year 1997, EPA is awarding eight demonstration grants of $50,000 to $100,000 per grant per year for up to three years. Grant recipients will be formally announced in late September. For more information, contact your EPA Regional Solid Waste Indian Coordinator (see page 5 for contact information).

OSWER TRIBAL INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE AWARDS LARGEST GRANTS EVER FOR INDIAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

EPA recently awarded funding to support the establishment of integrated waste management programs in four tribes: the **Jicarilla Apache Tribe** in New Mexico, the **Gila River Indian Community** in Arizona, the **Metlakatla Indian Community** in Alaska, and the **Oglala Sioux Tribe** in South Dakota. Each will receive $550,000 for a 2-year cooperative agreement enabling it to develop regulatory infrastructure to ensure proper waste management. The grant program addresses solid waste, hazardous waste, underground storage tanks, and emergency response planning. For example, the Jicarilla Apache Tribe plans to use this grant funding to work with the Taos Pueblo to develop solid waste management regulations; conduct training and site assessments; establish a regional planning and information data exchange program; and identify, evaluate, prioritize, and find solutions for waste management related risks in their communities.

EPA AND ALASKA NATIVE HEALTH BOARD PROGRAM ASSISTS 19 VILLAGES



To assist small tribes, EPA has involved statewide or regional nonprofit organizations as primary grant recipients who award subgrants to tribes and villages. This approach proved successful for 19 Alaska native villages who took part in a 1996 demonstration project with the **Alaska Native Health Board** (ANHB), a statewide, nonprofit, Alaska native-operated public health group.

EPA provided one $150,000 grant to ANHB, which then distributed subgrants of up to $10,000 to villages, typically with populations of 200 to 500 people. Each village was required to provide a 5 percent monetary or in-kind matching contribution. ANHB handled EPA's reporting requirement and devised simplified application and reporting procedures for the villages.

The demonstration project successfully reduced administrative costs, fostered local initiative and self-sufficiency, and built a transferable solid waste knowledge base in the villages.

From a pool of 40 applicants, 19 villages won funding for projects such as landfill improvements, recycling programs, litter cleanups, and community education activities. Each village completed a brief agreement that spelled out streamlined reporting procedures and served as the grant contract with ANHB.

The demonstration project successfully reduced administrative costs, fostered local initiative and self-sufficiency, and built a transferable solid waste knowledge base in the villages. ANHB found that almost all of the 19 villages improved sanitation, and many also successfully made solid waste management decisions and managed projects at the local level. Due to its success, EPA and ANHB renewed the project for 1997 and ANHB has subgranted funds for a new round of village projects.

EPA INCLUDES TRIBES IN BROWNFIELDS PILOT GRANT AWARDS

As part of its Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative, EPA awards pilot grants to tribes and localities to promote the cleanup and return to productive use of contaminated properties. To date, EPA has funded two tribal Brownfields Pilot projects.

- In June 1996, **The Navajo Nation** received the first Brownfields Pilot grant awarded to a tribe. The Navajo Nation will use the $200,000 grant to revitalize the Navajo Forest Product Industries mill site in McKinley County, New Mexico. The mill closed in 1995, and there is evidence of potentially hazardous substances on the site. Under this pilot grant, the Navajo Nation plans to determine the local community's needs and concerns through an education campaign in the Navajo language, perform a site assessment to establish the nature and extent of the contamination, prepare a remediation plan, and conduct a public tribal meeting to secure a financial commitment from the Red Lake Chapter of the tribe. For more information, contact Steve Simanonok of EPA Region 9 at 415 744-2358.

Puyallup Tribe of Indians

- In September 1996, **The Puyallup Tribe** was selected for a regional Brownfields Pilot grant of $100,000 to help redevelop a 52 acre industrial waterfront area in Tacoma, Washington. The site is currently owned by Reichhold Chemical, Inc., and is subject to a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) storage and corrective action permit. The tribe is interested in purchasing parcels of the Reichhold property in a phased manner. Part of the grant monies will be used to finalize the tribe's assessment of one portion of the site. The tribe expects to lease this portion of the site to the state Department of Corrections for a pre-release correctional facility. The tribe believes that the biggest hurdles to cross thus far occurred during the application process and the development of the work plan. The tribe is willing to share its work plan with other tribes. For more information, contact James May of Puyallup International, Inc. at 206 383-2820 or Robbie Hedeen of EPA at 206 553-0201.

NEW ASSOCIATION GIVES TRIBES VOICE IN SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

In July 1997, The Tribal Association on Solid Waste and Emergency Response (TASWER) was formed to involve tribes more actively in EPA's policy and regulatory decision-making process. Through TASWER, tribes will enhance their understanding of EPA regulations by working closely with the Agency. Prior to the establishment of TASWER, EPA awarded a cooperative agreement to Americans for Indian Opportunity (AIO) to hold three regional meetings and a national meeting with tribal leaders to gauge interest in forming such an association. From these meetings, tribal members identified the need for, structure of, and objectives of TASWER.

The TASWER board consists of Calvin Murphy of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Chad Williams of the Walker River Paiute Tribe, and Dore Bietz of the Tuolumne Band of Mee-Wuk Indians. The Board voted for the association to be housed in Washington, DC, and AIO employees will act as temporary staff until permanent personnel are hired. TASWER should be fully functional by January 1998.

OSWER is excited about the opportunities that TASWER will provide to tribal governments. It will provide tribal governments with a vital connection to EPA regulatory managers and technical experts who can assist tribes in developing program capabilities to manage waste in the most efficient and effective manner possible. For more information, please contact LaDonna Harris of AIO at 505 867-0278.

If you are involved in solid waste management in Indian Country, you may find the following EPA documents helpful. They are available through the EPA RCRA, Superfund, and EPCRA Hotline. The Hotline operates from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. e.s.t. Call 800 424-9346 or 800 553-7672 (TDD for hearing impaired).

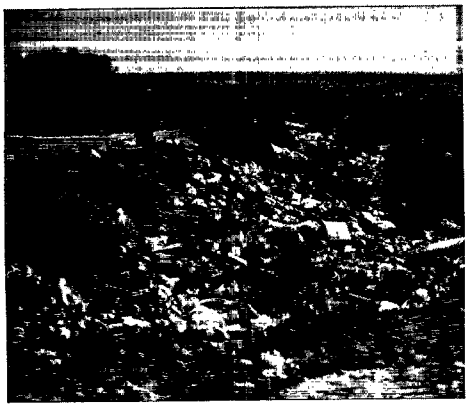
- *Grant Resources for Solid Waste Activities in Indian Country.* Order Number: EPA530-R-96-051
- *Publications on Solid Waste Management in Indian Country.* Order Number: EPA530-B-96-008
- *Publications on Mining Waste Management in Indian Country.* Order Number: EPA530-B-96-009
- *Do You Know About the Upcoming Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Deadlines?* Order Number: EPA530-F-97-019

Circuit Riders Take to the Road With Solid Waste Assistance

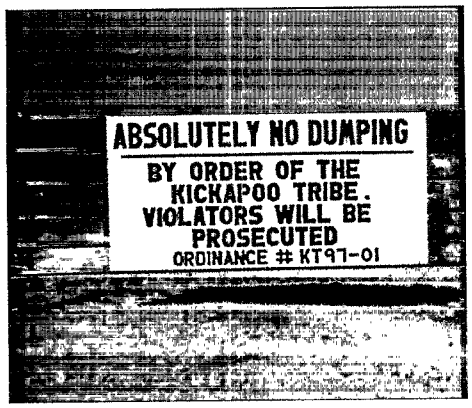
EPA's Solid Waste Circuit Rider program provides hands-on technical assistance and training to tribes on solid waste management issues. Circuit Riders are typically senior solid waste specialists with years of technical and planning experience. Circuit Riders are not EPA employees, but grantees to the Agency. Each rider works with the tribes within his EPA region to assess the tribes' current solid waste management activities and issues, identify what kinds of assistance are needed, and determine how best to target EPA financial, human, and technical resources.

The work of circuit riders includes policy and planning support for tribes as well as technical assistance. Many tribes want help establishing or altering environmental policies. Circuit riders assist in this area by training tribal personnel to manage their solid waste programs independently; making recommendations for building a solid waste team; and working with tribal leaders and communities to develop solid waste management codes, ordinances, and plans. They provide training on federal environmental laws, such as RCRA, on which codes are often modeled. Circuit riders also provide safety and environmental expertise in the development and implementation of closure plans for open dumps. The type of assistance tribes receive depends on the unique needs of each tribal community. Circuit riders work to help tribes address whatever waste-related challenges they and the tribe may identify.

Currently, EPA Regions 2, 4, 7, 9, and 10 have active circuit riders (see sidebar for contact information). If your tribe is interested in more information about EPA's circuit rider program, contact your EPA regional solid waste Indian coordinator (see box on page 5).



The Kickapoo Tribe worked with Region 7 Circuit Rider Ira Salvini to close this open dump site, shown here before cleanup.



The former dump site, shown here after cleanup, is now fenced and clearly signed to prevent future dumping.

CIRCUIT RIDERS HELP GET THE JOB DONE

Many tribes have already received solid waste assistance from EPA circuit riders. For example, Region 9 circuit rider Bob Shelnutt is working with the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians to clean up a 500-yard-deep open dump. Mr. Shelnutt helped the tribe determine which closure approach to use, acted as the safety engineer for the operation, and worked with the tribe to find funding for the project. "Mr. Shelnutt was tenacious in his continued efforts to assist the tribe in satisfying regulatory responsibilities for solid waste," said Anthony Largo, spokesman for the Santa Rosa reservation.

In Region 7, circuit rider Ira Salvini assisted the Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas with another dump closure. Under Salvini's guidance, the tribe bulldozed the dump area and covered the waste with a soil layer, which they will plant with vegetative cover. The tribe has now accepted bids for hauling waste to an off-reservation landfill. They also have contacted a local dealer to handle scrap iron and old appliances and have plans to set up a recycling collection program.

CIRCUIT RIDERS

Region	Circuit Rider
2 (New York, NY)	Garrett A. Smith
4 (Atlanta, GA)	Clem Egger
7 (Kansas City, KS)	Ira Salvini
9 (San Francisco, CA)	Bob Shelnutt
10 (Seattle, WA)	Al Latourette

Note: To request the services of your region's circuit rider, contact your regional solid waste Indian coordinator at the phone number listed on page 5.

New Flexibility for Small Municipal Solid Waste Landfills

Small municipal solid waste landfills (MSWLFs)—those that receive no more than 20 tons of waste per day (averaged yearly)—now have more flexibility. For example, Congress has established a ground-water monitoring exemption for small MSWLFs located in dry or remote areas. To qualify, a small MSWLF must have no evidence of ground-water contamination and the community in which it is located must either:

- Have no practical waste management alternative, and the landfill must be located in an area that receives 25 inches or less of precipitation annually; or
- Undergo an annual interruption of surface transportation, lasting at least 3 consecutive months, that prevents access to a regional landfill facility.

Most landfills that may qualify for this exemption are located in the western contiguous United States and Alaska.

EPA also will soon allow small MSWLF owners and operators flexibility in the frequency of cover, in methane monitoring requirements, and in final cover requirements. Owners and operators of small MSWLFs located in Indian Country can request this flexibility using the process described in the EPA guidance document *Site-Specific Flexibility Requests for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills in Indian Country.* Under this process, tribal government owners and operators submit such requests directly to EPA regional offices. Other owners and operators, including individual tribal members, submit requests to the tribal government. This new flexibility helps small landfill owners and operators reduce their operating costs, while continuing to protect human health and the environment.

This new flexibility helps small landfill owners and operators reduce their operating costs, while continuing to protect human health and the environment.

EPA REGIONAL SOLID WASTE INDIAN COORDINATORS

Region	Coordinator	Phone number
1 (Boston, MA)	Joe DeCola	617 565-3276
2 (New York, NY)	Lorraine Graves	212 637-4099
	John Filipelli	212 637-4125
4 (Atlanta, GA)	Sydney Harper	404 562-8483
	Clem Egger	404 562-8470
5 (Chicago, IL)	Dolly Tong	312 886-1019
6 (Dallas, TX)	Anan Tanbouz	214 665-8195
7 (Kansas City, KS)	Vickie Pastorino	913 551-7269
8 (Denver, CO)	Linda Walters	303 312-6385
	Marcella Devargas	303 312-6243
9 (San Francisco, CA)	Rebecca Jamison	415 744-2098
	Susanna Trujillo	415 744-2099
10 (Seattle, WA)	Fran Stefan	206 553-6639
	Al Latourette	206 553-8202

WasteWi$e Invites Tribal Governments to Join

Since 1994, WasteWi$e, EPA's voluntary partnership program to reduce solid waste, has worked with more than 500 leading businesses to reduce waste, cut costs, and increase efficiency. To continue expanding the WasteWi$e program, EPA is now inviting tribal governments to join.

Like WasteWi$e business partners, tribal partners set 3-year waste reduction goals and track their progress annually. Tribal governments can join in entirety, or sign up just those departments or facilities interested in developing or expanding waste reduction activities.

The Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, of north-central Wisconsin, was the first tribal partner. Since joining in January, the tribe has set its waste reduction goals and its 800 members are working towards achieving them.

Prior to joining the program, the tribe boasted a successful recycling program, but had not yet looked at waste prevention, reuse, or buying recycled products. Dee Allen, an environmental specialist for the tribe, recognized how well the program goals fit with the tribe's goals, and decided to join.

"We are constantly looking for new resources for our businesses and the community," Allen said. "By joining WasteWi$e, we combine our waste reduction efforts [with EPA's] and obtain new materials on issues that are important to us."

For more information, contact the WasteWi$e Helpline at 800 EPAWISE (372-9473).

Southern Ute Indian Tribe Co-Sponsors Solid Waste Round Table With EPA

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe hosted a 3-day "solid waste round table" on its reservation in Ignacio, Colorado, from May 12 to 14, 1997. Funded by a grant from EPA Region 8, the event included workshops, networking, and discussions covering many aspects of solid waste management, including landfill permitting, transfer stations, recycling, and public education. Representatives from over 20 tribes attended. Speakers at the conference included tribal environmental coordinators; federal, state, and local government officials; and representatives of the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona.

The conference opened with a workshop on collecting and marketing recyclables in small communities, hosted by the Southwest Public Recycling Association. Over 30 tribal representatives attended this workshop, which was designed to help recycling coordinators understand effective design, operation, and marketing of small community recycling services. During the remaining two days, concurrent sessions addressed a wide array of topics. Representatives from BIA, for example, described landfill closures on the Navajo Reservation, addressing cost and financial and technical assistance. Other sessions highlighted household hazardous waste, solid waste management plan preparation, and composting. The conference closed with round table discussions on funding and policy issues, education and community involvement, and state-tribal relationships.

Over 30 tribal representatives attended this workshop, which was designed to help recycling coordinators understand effective design, operation, and marketing of small community recycling services.

Participants found the event informative and rewarding. "I have made many resourceful contacts that will exchange information with me if needed in the future," said Vina Smith, who represented the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation in Montana.

For more information, contact Cheryl Wiescamp, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's environmental specialist, at 970 563-0135.

The highly successful round table is just one example of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's environmental leadership. The tribe established a recycling drop-off point, collected used motor oil, planted trees, and conducted recycling and composting seminars. As a result, the tribe's recycling coordinator received an EPA award for leadership in pollution prevention and environmental education.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT TRAINING

A number of organizations will host solid waste conferences, training sessions, or other events of interest to tribes this fall. A calendar of these events appears below. For the most up-to-date calendar of tribal environmental events, contact EPA's American Indian Environmental Office at 202 260-7939 or visit their Web page at **http://www.epa.gov/indian/calen.html**

CALENDAR OF SOLID WASTE CONFERENCES, TRAINING SESSIONS, AND OTHER TRIBAL EVENTS

October 22	MSW Focus Group Meeting, Warm Springs Reservation, OR	Boyd Nystedt, NTEC, 505 242-2175
October 27–30	WASTECON 1997, St. Louis, MO	Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), 301 585-2898
November 3–5	Region 10 Tribal Environmental Conference, Seattle, WA	Kathy Hill, Region 10, 206 553-6220
November 4–6	Tribal/EPA Conference for Region 9 Tribes, San Francisco, CA	Marico Sayoc, Region 9, 415 744-1949
November 16–21	National Congress of American Indians 54th Annual Conference, Santa Fe, NM	Tanya Thrasher, 202 455-7767 or Teresa Ipina, 800 640-2462

Tribal Operations Committee Brings Tribes, EPA Together

Tribal leaders and EPA formally chartered the Tribal Operations Committee (TOC) in April 1996 "to advance the protection and improve the conditions of tribal health and the environment in Indian Country." The TOC accomplishes this by providing input into EPA operational decision-making affecting Indian Country and facilitating communication and stronger partnerships between tribes and EPA.

"The TOC assists the agency on policy issues of a national concern," according to its co-chair, James Fletcher of southern California's Morongo Tribe. The TOC, which had met without formal charter since 1994, consists of the Tribal Caucus—19 tribal leaders or environmental managers—plus EPA's Administrator, Deputy Administrator, Assistant Administrators, and Regional Administrators. The group holds four meetings each year, two as the full TOC and two at which the Tribal Caucus meets with EPA's American Indian Environmental Office and National Indian Working Group. The meetings facilitate discussion of environmental protection programs for which tribes and EPA share regulatory authority.

The Tribal Caucus also provides annual budgeting recommendations to EPA as the Agency assesses funding priorities. In its recent budget plan for fiscal year 1999, the Tribal Caucus recommended total spending of $242.4 million on tribal environmental issues, of which $72 million would be earmarked for waste management programs. Calling solid waste facilities in Indian Country "either inadequate or nonexistent," the Tribal Caucus placed waste management second behind water programs among its top 10 budget priorities for fiscal year 1999. Fletcher said the Tribal Caucus "feels it's a multi-agency issue," and the recommendation reflects this, calling for the $72 million to be comprised of $20 million from EPA and $52 million from BIA, IHS, and HUD.

The TOC's primary goal is to strengthen awareness of environmental issues facing tribal communities. In fiscal year 1996, only 44 percent of federally recognized tribes had environmental programs in place. The Tribal Caucus recommended, therefore, that EPA continue to work with tribes to put programs in place, and to "assist Indian tribes to move from capacity building to active implementation of programs."

White Mountain Apache Tribe *continued*

After developing a permanent closure plan for the dump and receiving a high bid from a private contractor, the tribe determined that its Public Works Department could do the work more cost effectively and, at the same time, develop expertise for future dump closures. The Planning Department provided engineering oversight and helped obtain closure funding from the tribe's own resources and from BIA, HUD, and IHS grants.

The dump was closed in two sections. In the main section, the Public Works Department used bulldozers to consolidate and compact waste in the center of the site. Crews removed trash from the surrounding woods and hillsides by hand and added it to the compacted waste. Trees damaged by dump fires were cut down and compacted. The second dump section consisted of a steep hillside where waste had been pushed over the edge whenever the main dump area had become full. Due to the high cost of pulling the waste back up the hillside, the tribe decided to flatten the slope and cover it in place.

In both sections, the tribe placed 18 inches of compacted earthen material over the waste. To meet federal regulatory requirements for cover impermeability, the tribe mixed soil from nearby ridges with leftover earthen material from other construction projects on the reservation. On top of this layer, the tribe added 6 inches of topsoil. Finally, since the topsoil was nutrient-poor, the tribe added fertilizer, sulfur to lower pH, and sawdust from the Fort Apache Timber Company to provide organic matter.

The tribe worked closely with BIA to identify native grasses for the final cover. In earlier dump closures, seeds had failed to take root because the grasses were not suited to the local climate. To minimize erosion from summer rainstorms, Public Works personnel and student interns put siltation fencing on the hillsides and fiber matting in drainage areas to hold seeds and soil in place until vegetation became established.

While closure costs reached approximately $300,000 for the dump site, this amount was less than half the private contractor's estimate. The tribe considers the result to be worth the price. The Whiteriver dump closure demonstrates that by involving the Council, federal agencies, and the community, a reservation open dump site can be restored. By working together, the tribe has taken major steps to change disposal practices and manage its waste in an environmentally protective manner.

For more information on the White Mountain Apache solid waste management program, contact Keith Jones, Environmental Planner for the White Mountain Apache Tribe, at 520 338-4346, ext. 223.

Site-Specific Flexibility Now Available For Landfills in Indian Country

To facilitate efficient, locally-tailored solutions to landfill challenges in Indian Country, EPA has published *Site-Specific Flexibility Requests for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills in Indian Country* (EPA530-R-97-016). This guidance describes how MSWLF owners and operators in Indian Country can request design or operating flexibility.

Federal regulations set landfill design and operating standards. EPA approves state permitting programs that allow owners and operators to meet performance standards using approaches other than those specifically contained in the federal regulations. A federal appeals court, however, ruled in the October, 1996 *Backcountry Against Dumps v. EPA* case that EPA cannot similarly approve tribal landfill permitting programs.

EPA, therefore, developed the site-specific process to encourage non-permit tribal involvement through means other than permitting. The tribe in whose part of Indian Country a landfill is proposed reviews and comments on the flexibility requests of non-tribal owners or operators or individual tribal members before passing them on to EPA. EPA considers the findings of the tribe when evaluating the flexibility request. In cases where the tribal government is the owner or operator, EPA handles flexibility requests directly. For information or to order a copy of the guidance, call the EPA RCRA, Superfund, and EPCRA Hotline. The Hotline operates from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. e.s.t. Call 800 424-9346 or 800 553-7672 (TDD for hearing impaired).

PLANNING UNDER WAY FOR THE NEXT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EPA sent out requests for tribes or Alaska native villages to host the Fourth National Conference on Tribal Environmental Management to be held in mid-1998. If you have ideas for sessions, please contact Steve Etsitty of EPA at 703 305-3194.

SEE YOUR PHOTOS ON THE INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY!

Environmental issues in Indian Country will soon go online with the launch of an EPA tribal solid waste Web site. It will offer grant information, tip sheets, and training materials. To add beauty and flair to the web site, we would like to feature your photographs of the land and people who benefit from environmental protection in Indian Country. If you have any pictures that you would like to see brightening the Web site, please send them to the address below with your name and a brief caption. Look for the Web site address in a future issue of *Native American Network* and check out this new information resource.

Photo contribution address:
Karen Rudek, OSW/MISWD (5306W)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460

- Photos must not be copyrighted.
- Photos must be freely donated. EPA cannot pay for pictures.

EPA
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Solid Waste (5306W)
401 M Street, SW
Washington, DC 20460

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use
$300