

EPA's National Recycling Strategy and New Infrastructure Funding

Engagement in USEPA Region 10:
Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska



Presented for the Alaska Statewide IGAP Call on March 9, 2022

Overview

National Recycling Strategy

- Alignment with Tribal priorities
- Relevance / implementation in R10 and AK
- Ways for Tribes to be involved

EPA Funding for Waste Management

- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- New grant funding opportunities
- Outreach, engagement, and feedback with Tribes

National Recycling Strategy

Part One of a Series on Building a Circular Economy for All



Objectives of the Strategy

- A. Improve markets for recycled commodities
- B. Increase collection and improve materials management infrastructure
- C. Reduce contamination in the recycled materials stream
- D. Enhance policies and programs to support circularity
- E. Standardize measurement and increase data collection

EPA's Circular Economy Strategy Series

Part 1: National Recycling Strategy

- Focuses on enhancing the national municipal solid waste (MSW) recycling system
- Identifies actions to create a stronger, more resilient, more equitable, and more cost-effective recycling system
- Acknowledges that recycling alone cannot help us achieve a circular economy
- Commits EPA to developing additional strategies (material reuse and reduction, food waste, plastics)

Part 2: Plastics

Part 3: Food Waste

Part 4: Critical Minerals and Electronics

Part 5: Built Environment

Part 6: Textiles

How you can be Involved

- Successful implementation of the National Recycling Strategy will require broad involvement and action
- EPA is looking for interested individuals/organizations to sign up to lead or support actions included in the Strategy
 - **Action Leads**
 - Help develop an implementation plan for the action
 - Coordinate and convene action supporters
 - Provide updates to EPA on progress and report on milestones
 - **Action Supporters:** work with Action Leads to implement action



To express interest in leading or supporting an action, sign up at epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/forms/take-action

Next Steps and Engagement

Implement the Recycling Strategy

- Continue national, regional, and local efforts to implement the National Recycling Strategy

Develop Additional Circular Economy Strategies

- Develop additional circular economy strategies around plastics, food waste, critical minerals and electronics, built environment and textiles

Develop New Grant Programs

- Develop new grant programs and funding opportunities to support solid waste infrastructure and education/outreach

Gather Feedback

- Collect input to inform strategies and grant opportunities
- Conduct regional outreach to States, Tribes, and local governments

Tribal Hazardous Waste Mgmt Grants

One-on-one pre-application
sessions available through
March 17th, 2022

- **>\$500,000 anticipated in FY22**
- These grants support the development and implementation of tribal hazardous waste programs, including:
 - Building capacity to improve and maintain regulatory compliance
 - Developing solutions to address the management of hazardous waste on Tribal lands and communities
- Annual grant competition—selected projects are awarded and managed through EPA’s regional offices
 - Additional points are awarded for demonstrating that the outcomes of the project will benefit more than one Tribe
- Individual awards up to \$100,000
- No cost share/match requirement; grants can be added to PPGs

<https://www.epa.gov/tribal-lands/hazardous-waste-management-grant-program-tribes>

Project Examples and Transferability

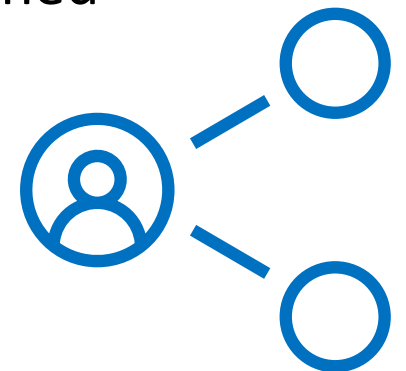
Project examples/ideas:

- Identify and assess potentially contaminated hazardous waste sites
- Develop a Hazardous Waste Management Plan for your community
- Provide training on the safe handling and disposal of hazardous waste
- Conduct community education and outreach workshops
- Build partnerships to address hazardous waste in the community (by working with your Consortia or through an MOU with the local City government)
- Hold a cleanup/collection event



Additional points are awarded for demonstrating that the outcomes of the project will benefit more than one Tribe, so consider share what you learned and how you did it with other nearby Tribes or your Consortia

- Become a mentor through EPA's National Tribal Waste Management Peer Matching Program
- Give a conference or webinar presentation about your project
- Write a success story and submit it to EPA's Tribal Solid Waste Journal
- Train the trainer—if you attended a training, teach others what you learned
- Develop lessons learned, an SOP, or template



Pollution Prevention Grants (P2)

P2 grants provide technical assistance to develop and adopt source reduction practices. P2 means reducing or eliminating pollutants from entering the waste stream or being released into the environment prior to recycling, treatment, or disposal.

Applications due April 11th, 2022

EPA-HQ-OPPT-2022-001

- **\$9,380,000 for two-year grants (from FY22-23)**
- Individual grant awards can be up to \$800,000 for the two-year funding period or \$400,000 funded per year
- 50% cost share/match requirement; grants can be added to a Tribe's PPG to reduce the match to 0%

EPA-I-OCSP-OPPT-FY2022-001 (New under the BIL)

- **\$13,900,000 for two-year grants (from FY22-23)**
- Grants will be fully funded at the initial award with a maximum individual award ceiling of \$350,000
- 0% cost share/match requirement (none); grants cannot be added to a PPG

Pollution Prevention
Grants: Informational
Webinar for Tribes

March 10th, 2022
at 9:30AM (AKST)

**National Emphasis Area (NEA) #6:
Supporting Pollution Prevention in Indian
Country and for Alaska Native Villages**

Carry out P2 technical assistance and projects with businesses in Indian Country and Alaska Native Villages. Projects under this NEA should facilitate and encourage businesses and their facilities in Indian Country or in Alaska Native Villages to identify, develop and adopt P2 practices.

Businesses
or Facilities



Tribal Facilities/Office

Powerplant

Clinic

Schools/Childcare
Facilities

Store

Washeteria

Pollution Prevention Opportunities

Reduce Hazardous Chemicals and Materials

- Transition to safer chemicals for cleaning and disinfecting: Safer Choice
- Establish an integrated pest management program to reduce the use of pesticides
- Reduce plastic consumption through purchasing guidelines



Save Energy and Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Conserve electricity through energy efficiency: ENERGY STAR
- Transition to the use of lower impact fuel sources



Save Water

- Repair leaks
- Conserve water: WaterSense



Save Money!

- Read past P2 grant summaries to learn more and get ideas
- Tribal Pollution Prevention Action has a great list of resources
- Set up a time to meet with me (compton.kathleen@epa.gov) to talk about your project idea



New Funding Under the BIL

Solid Waste Infrastructure and Recycling Grants (SWIFR)

- **\$275,000,000 (\$55M/yr from FY22-26)**
- Support improvements to local post-consumer materials management, including municipal recycling programs; and assist local waste management authorities in making improvements to local waste management systems.
- Funds the grant program outlined in the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act

Recycling Education and Outreach Grants

- **\$75,000,000 (\$15M/yr from FY22-26)**
- Focused on improving material recycling, recovery, management, and reduction
- Directs EPA to develop a model recycling program toolkit for States, Tribes, local governments for use in carrying out the grant program

Battery Collection Best Practices

- **\$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2022, available to be expended until September 30, 2026**
- Develop battery collection best practices that are technically and economically feasible; are environmentally sound and safe for waste management workers; and optimize the value and use of materials derived from recycling of batteries

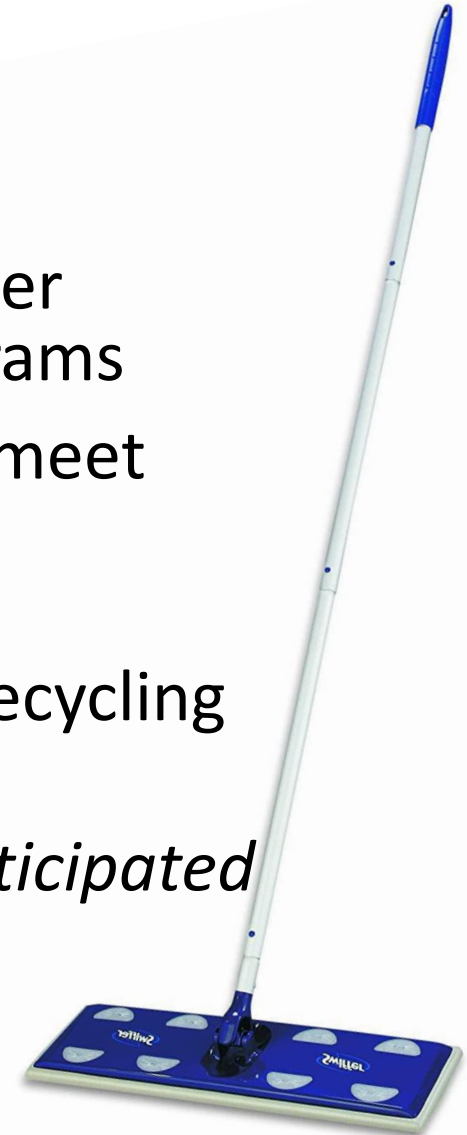
Voluntary Battery Labeling Guidelines

- **\$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2022, available to be expended until September 30, 2026**
- Establish a program to promote battery recycling through the development of voluntary labeling guidelines for batteries and other forms of communication materials for battery producers and consumers about the reuse and recycling of critical materials from batteries

Solid Waste Infrastructure and Recycling Grants

- **\$275,000,000 (\$55M/yr from FY22-26)**
- Tribal, State, and Local governments are eligible
- These grants will support improvements to local post-consumer materials management systems and municipal recycling programs
- The goal is to fund a range of projects that will enable EPA to meet communities “where they are” in terms of their materials management needs
- Funds could be used to for capacity building, or to purchase recycling equipment, new technology, and small-scale infrastructure
- *The program is currently under development, with the RFA anticipated later this year*

“SWIFR”



Feedback Questions

- What is needed, in terms of solid waste and recycling infrastructure or education/outreach, in order to help advance Tribe's programs in R10?
- What other limitations are there to supporting effective and efficient recycling programs for your Tribes?
- To what extent would new solid waste infrastructure and education/outreach grant money help to address those needs or limitations?
- What aspects should EPA consider when developing these new grant programs?

Contact Information

- Sign up to stay connected to learn about:
 - EPA reports
 - New grant programs!
 - Circular Economy strategies (development and implementation)
 - epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/forms/stay-connected
- Email EPA at SMMPartners@epa.gov
- EPA Regional contacts:
 - Tribal Solid Waste Program krauss.kayla@epa.gov
 - Sustainable Materials Mgmt Program calabro.domenic@epa.gov
 - Pollution Prevention Grants compton.kathleen@epa.gov
 - Pollution Prevention & Communities Branch winters.melissa@epa.gov