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***Thank you for your work to advance Zero Waste!***

There will be **major new federal funding opportunities** in the coming years from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act, with a strong focus on equity and environmental justice, so these are exciting times for federal government.

As these programs are developed, EPA and other agencies will continue to seek online public comments to support the development of these funding programs. Many thanks to those who have provided or will provide public comments!

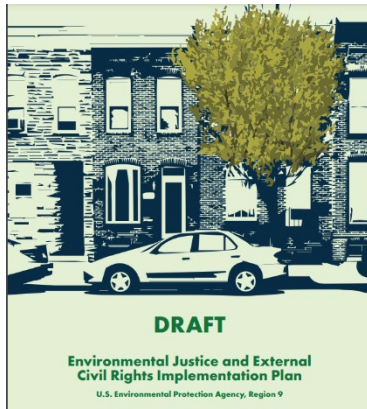
## EPA Environmental Justice News

**Funding: \$100 Million Available for New EPA Environmental Justice Grants – Additional information in the funding section**

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-availability-100-million-through-inflation>

**Impacts: Updated Legal Guidance on Identifying, Addressing Cumulative Impacts to Advance Environmental Justice, Equity**

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-releases-updated-legal-guidance-identifying-addressing-cumulative-impacts-advance>



**Planning: EPA Region 9 has released a Draft Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights Implementation Plan – Fiscal Year 2023:**

**Comments:** Written input on the draft plan are being accepted by trough February 10, 2023, through email:

[R9Communities@epa.gov](mailto:R9Communities@epa.gov)

## Around the Region

**First “Islands Zero Waste Newsletter” published by the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**

The first newsletter from the CNMI’s Office of Planning and Development was published in January. Please share it with islands colleagues, subscribe and share content for future editions!

[Islands Zero Waste Newsletter](#)

[Subscribe to the Islands Zero Waste Newsletter](#)



Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan Edwin P. Aldan, left, hands over a reusable bag to a Tinian community member during a roadside waving that was held after a CNMI Recycles Week ceremony held on November 15 in Tinian.

## EPA Awards More Than \$2.49M to Small Business to Develop Innovative Technologies

EPA has funded new innovative research projects: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-research-funding-25-small-businesses-develop-environmental-technologies-0>

Six of the businesses funded are from EPA Region 9, including four Zero Waste projects. The Zero Waste projects will research:

- artificial intelligence for organics collection compliance under SB 1383
- microplastics identification and in-water floating debris removal system
- methane emissions monitoring and remote sensing,
- reducing food waste with biopreservative ingredients and smart food storage systems
- geospatial circular economy platform
- real time construction and demolition debris recycling measurement
- regional packaging reuse strategies, and
- digital verification of recycled content in plastic products.

[Learn more about these research projects](#)

[Learn more about EPA's SBIR program & the federal SBIR program](#)

## Interview Request: EPA-funded research on SB 1383 Compliance Technology

[Zabble](#), a tech startup based in Northern California, works with universities and hospitals who use our Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered web and mobile apps to obtain end-to-end visibility on their waste operations, optimize logistics and conduct targeted outreach to close the loop with stakeholders.

The company recently received [EPA Small Business Innovation Research funding](#) to help build technology to support jurisdictions on compliance with [SB 1383](#) -- which requires short lived climate pollutant reduction through organic waste recycling and food recovery.

To further this research, Zabble would love to chat with California jurisdictions, haulers and consultants in a **30 minute interview in early February** to learn about current and future challenges and needs for SB 1383 compliance. If you are interested, please email the Principal Investigator Nik Balachandran at [Nik.Balachandran@zabbleinc.com](mailto:Nik.Balachandran@zabbleinc.com)

## Federal Public Comment Requests

### Federal Trade Commission Green Guides

The Federal Trade Commission is seeking public comments on the effectiveness of the Green Guides and on specific definitions of Carbon Offsets and Climate Change, Compostable, Degradable, Recyclable, Recycled Content and Sustainable.

#### Request for Comments and Comment Submission:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/12/20/2022-27558/guides-for-the-use-of-environmental-marketing-claims>

**Comments Due:** February 21, 2023

## EPA Seeks Input on Inflation Reduction Act Programs to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions Associated with Construction Materials and Products (Embodied Carbon)

EPA is seeking public input on new programs focused on lower carbon construction materials made possible by a \$350 million investment from President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act. The new programs will provide grants, technical assistance, and tools to help states and Tribal Nations, manufacturers, institutional buyers, real estate developers, builders, and others measure, report, and substantially lower the levels of embodied carbon and other greenhouse gas emissions associated with the production, use, and disposal of construction materials and products.

### Additional Information:

Press Release: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-seeks-input-inflation-reduction-act-programs-reduce-greenhouse-gas-emissions>

### Public Engagement Webinars

- March 2 - Construction Materials Prioritization and Environmental Data Improvement
- March 22 - Grants and Technical Assistance for Environmental Product Declarations
- April 19 - Carbon Labeling for Construction Materials and Products

Request for Information and Webinar Registration: <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/inflation-reduction-act-programs-fight-climate-change-reducing-embodied#request>

Written Comments Due: May 1, 2023



### Conferences and Trainings

- [COMPOST 2023](#), U.S. Composting Council, January 24-27, 2023, Ontario, CA
- [REMADE Circular Economy Tech Summit & Conference](#), Ellen MacArthur Foundation, supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, March 20-21, Washington, DC
- [Recycling Update](#), Northern California Recycling Association, March 28, 2023, San Francisco, CA.
- [WasteExpo 2023](#), May 1-4, 2023, New Orleans, LA, May 1-4, 2023
- [2023 Food Waste Solutions Summit](#), ReFED, St. Louis, MO, May 16-18, 2023

- [California Resource Recovery Association Conference](#), August 13-16, 2023, Burlingame, CA
- [Greenbuild International Conference + Expo](#), Sept. 26-29, 2023, Washington, DC
- [TRUE Advisor Certificate Program](#), Online/On Demand Commercial/Facility Zero Waste Certification
- [CalRecycle Events and Meetings & Webcasts](#)
- [SWANA Events and Training](#)

## EPA Webinars

### Recorded EPA Sustainable Materials Management Webinars

<https://www.epa.gov/smm/sustainable-materials-management-web-academy>

### Recorded EPA Trash Free Waters Webinars

<https://www.epa.gov/trash-free-waters/trash-free-waters-webinars>

### Recorded West Coast Climate and Materials Management Forum Webinars

<https://westcoastclimateforum.com/resources/webinars>



**Search all federal grants online:** <https://www.grants.gov>

After you find a specific federal grant page, the full grant solicitation is usually under the “Related Documents” tab.

**Register to apply for federal grants:**

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants.html>

### [SAM.gov Quick Start Guide for New Grantees](#)

SAM.gov assistance - Federal Service Desk at 1-866-606-8220 or [fsd.gov](https://www.fsd.gov) (M-F 5am-5pm PT)

**Background:** Federal Funding Legislation and Guidance

- **Inflation Reduction Act**, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5376/text>
  - **Inflation Reduction Act Guidebook**  
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/cleanenergy/inflation-reduction-act-guidebook/>
- **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act** (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law), <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684>
  - **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Guidebook:** [https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/BUILDING-A-BETTER-AMERICA\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/BUILDING-A-BETTER-AMERICA_FINAL.pdf)

- **Save Our Seas Act 2.0**, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1982/text>

## **EPA Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling and Recycling Education Grants for Political Subdivisions of States and Territories (Local Government)**

Funding for projects that are designed to build and transform solid waste infrastructure -- including Municipal Solid Waste and Construction and Demolition Debris -- equitably reduce waste and manage materials to achieve a circular economy, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and create cleaner, resilient, and healthier communities. The EPA also recognizes and encourages applications that demonstrate innovative solutions and programs that provide or increase access to prevention, reuse, recycling, anaerobic digestion, and composting opportunities in areas that currently do not have access. In addition, the EPA is seeking post-consumer materials management projects that address environmental justice concerns.

**Eligibility:** Cities, towns, parishes, and similar units of governments that have executive and legislative functions (see full RFA for details)

**Funding Available:** \$40 million total; \$4 million award ceiling and \$500,000 award floor. No matching funds required.

**Applications Due:** February 15, 2023 (8:59 PM PST)

**Additional Information:** <https://www.epa.gov/rcra/grants-political-subdivisions> and <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=344492> (click related documents to download the Request for Applications)

**Questions & Answers:** <https://www.epa.gov/rcra/grants-political-subdivisions#updates>

**Recorded Webinars:** <https://www.epa.gov/rcra/grants-political-subdivisions#webinars>

## **EPA Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grants for Tribes and Intertribal Consortia**

These grants will provide funds for tribes and intertribal consortia to develop or update plans focused on encouraging environmentally sound post-consumer materials management; establish, increase, or expand materials management infrastructure, utilize funds for equipment and construction related costs as part of their implementation plans, and identify, establish, or improve end-markets for the use of recycled materials. Funding also be used for projects that improve materials management and infrastructure, including collection, transport, systems, and processes related to post-use materials that can be recovered, reused, recycled, repaired, refurbished, or composted.

**Eligibility:** Federally Recognized Tribes, which include Alaskan Native Villages as defined in Public Law 92-203, and former Indian reservations in Oklahoma, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, and Intertribal consortia, consistent with the requirements in 40 CR 35.504(a)



**Funding Available:** \$40 million total; award ceiling \$1.5 million and \$100,000 award floor. No matching funds required.

**Applications Due:** April 4, 2023

**Additional Information:** <https://www.epa.gov/infrastructure/grants-tribes-and-intertribal-consortia> and <https://www.epa.gov/infrastructure/grants-tribes-and-intertribal-consortia#webinars> (click Related Documents for the Request for Applications)

**Upcoming Webinars on January 25, February 1 and 7:**

<https://www.epa.gov/infrastructure/grants-tribes-and-intertribal-consortia#webinars>

## **EPA Consumer Recycling Education and Outreach Grants**

Funding for consumer education and outreach related to commonly recycled materials, such as aluminum and steel containers, glass, cardboard paper and plastics, as well as food, organics (yard and tree trimmings, wood, etc.), textiles, batteries and electronics. Education and outreach activities that prevent or reduce waste by reducing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing, remanufacturing, recycling, composting or using anaerobic digester systems to treat these types of materials or to reduce related contamination. See full RFA for eligible activities.

**Eligibility:** U.S. State, including the District of Columbia; Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, and any agency or instrumentality thereof exclusive of local governments; a unit of local government as defined in the Local government provision of 2 CFR 200.1; an Indian Tribe; a Native Hawaiian organization; the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands; the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; a nonprofit organization; or a public-private partnership

**Funding Available:** \$30 million nationally; \$2 million award ceiling and \$250,000 award floor. No matching funds required.

**Applications Due:** January 16, 2023 (8:59 PM PST)

**Additional Information:** <https://www.epa.gov/rcra/recycling-education-and-outreach-grant-program> and <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=344491> (click related documents to download the Request for Applications)

**Information Session Webinars:** <https://www.epa.gov/rcra/recycling-education-and-outreach-grant-program#webinars>

## **EPA Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving (EJCPS) Grants**

EPA's EJCPS Program working on or planning to work on projects to address local environmental and/or public health issues in their communities. The program assists recipients in building collaborative partnerships with other stakeholders (e.g., local businesses and industry, local government, medical service providers, academia, etc.) to develop solutions that

will significantly address environmental and/or public health issues at the local level. EPA will give special consideration to the following focus areas:

- Projects addressing climate change, disaster resiliency, and/or emergency preparedness
- Projects located in and/or benefitting rural areas
- Projects conducting [Health Impact Assessments \(HIA\)](#)

**Eligibility:** Community-based nonprofit organizations (and partnerships of these organizations)

**Funding Available:** \$30 million total with \$5 million reserved for small community-based nonprofit organizations with five or fewer employees; EPA anticipates 50 awards of 500,000 and 30 awards of \$150,000.

**Eligibility:** Community-based nonprofit organizations (and partnerships of these organizations)

**Applications Due:** April 10, 2023

**Additional Information:** January 24, 2023, Webinar, [register here](#); Request for Applications: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=345310> (under Related Documents tab). Projects selected will begin on October 1, 2023.

## **EPA Environmental Government-to-Government (EJG2G) Grants**

The EJG2G Program works to support and/or create model state activities that lead to measurable environmental or public health results in communities disproportionately burdened by environmental harms and risks. These models should leverage or utilize existing resources or assets of state agencies to develop key tools and processes that integrate environmental justice considerations into state governments and government programs. EPA will give special consideration to the following focus areas:

- Projects addressing climate change, disaster resiliency, and/or emergency preparedness
- Projects located in and/or benefitting rural areas
- Projects conducting [Health Impact Assessments \(HIA\)](#)

**Funding Available/Eligibility:** \$70 million total, of this – \$20 million will be for State governments to be used in conjunction with Community-Based Organization (CBO) partners, \$20 million will be for local government with CBO partners, \$20 million will be for Federally Recognized Tribal Nations with CBO partners, and \$10 million will be for U.S. territories and remote tribes with limited access to CBO partners. EPA anticipates funding approximately 70 projects of up to \$1 million each for a 3-year project.

**Applications Due:** April 10, 2023

**Additional Information:** Request for Applications: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=345311> (under Related Documents tab)

## **Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Native Americans. Environmental Regulatory Enhancement Program**

This program is designed to support projects that plan, develop, and implement initiatives



designed to improve the capability of the governing body of an Indian tribe to regulate environmental quality pursuant to federal and tribal environmental laws. The ERE program enhances the ability of tribal governments to provide effective stewardship over the lands, water, and air that encompass their Native communities.

Projects must follow tribal cultural preservation and natural resource management priorities to achieve environmentally healthy and sustainable American Indian/Alaska Native communities and support locally designed projects that strengthen environmental regulatory programs in a manner consistent with the goals of tribal and Alaska Native communities.

The solicitation provides an Example Project Goal: To develop a community recycling program with a Community Recycling Awareness Action Plan that enrolls households into the program and increases participation in recycling.

**Funding Available:** \$2 million total funding, individual grants from \$100,000-\$300,000; a 20% match of federal funding with cash or in-kind contributions is required, but applicants may request a need-based match waiver

**Eligibility:** Federally-recognized Indian tribes, as recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA); Incorporated non-federally recognized tribes; Incorporated state-recognized Indian tribes; Non-profit Alaska Native community entities or tribal governing bodies (Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) or traditional councils) as recognized by the BIA; Non-profit Alaska Native Regional Associations and/or Corporations with village specific projects; Other tribal or village organizations or consortia of Indian tribes; or Tribal governing bodies (IRA or traditional councils) as recognized by the BIA

Applications **Due:** March 31, 2023

**Additional Information:** <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=329547>

## **EPA P3 Awards: A National College Student Design Competition Focusing on People, Prosperity, and the Planet**

The EPA seeks applications proposing to take a holistic approach, grounded in research and innovation, to develop and demonstrate solutions to real-world challenges. The People, Prosperity, and the Planet Program highlights the use of scientific principles in creating innovative technology-based projects that achieve the mutual goals of improved quality of life, economic prosperity, and environmental protection. This award program is split into four separate funding opportunities:

- Clean and Healthy Air (EPA-G2023-P3-Q1)
- Clean and Safe Water (EPA-G2023-P3-Q2)
- Safeguard and Revitalize Communities (EPA-G2023-P3-Q3) – includes Objective 6.2: Reduce Waste and Prevent Environmental Contamination
- Ensure Safety of Chemicals (EPA-G2023-P3-Q4) – includes Objective 7.2: Promote Pollution Prevention

**Funding Available:** Total funding \$1.2 million/nationally; up to \$75,000 per grant, over 2 years. No matching funds required.

**Eligibility:** Public, private and nonprofit institutions of higher learning are eligible to apply to be the recipient of a grant to support teams of undergraduate or graduate students, or both. See full Request for Applications for additional information.

**Applications Due:** February 1, 2023

**Additional Information:** <https://www.epa.gov/P3> and <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=343925>

## **Federal Funding to Replace Diesel Trucks and Equipment**

EPA will provide grants to support the replacement of diesel equipment and trucks -- including reuse, recycling, composting, and disposal vehicles. The applications for these funds are often much more streamlined than other grant programs. For additional information sign up for updates from EPA's:

- 1) [West Coast Collaborative](#) - Source of information for EPA Region 9 funding opportunities
- 2) [Clean Diesel News](#)
- 3) [Ports Initiative](#)
- 4) [Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicle Program](#)

## **United Nations Environment Programme Requests Proposals for Food Loss and Waste and Household Food Waste Research**

The United Nations Environment Programme issued two calls for proposals related to food loss and waste to support the U.S. Food Loss and Waste Reduction Goal to halve food loss and waste by 2030, in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal.

**Project 1 Objective:** To identify unique systemic drivers of food loss and waste in the United States and recommend strategies to address these unique drivers.

**Project 2 Objective:** To recommend strategies and tools to reduce household food waste in the United States, based upon a comparative analysis of households in the United States and in other developed countries with less per capita food waste.

**Applications Due:** February 10, 2023

**Additional Information:** UNEP's Open Call for Proposals website <https://www.unep.org/calls-for-proposals>

## **CalRecycle**

- **Open Funding Opportunities:**  
<https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/funding#OpenApps>
- **California Recycling Market Development Zone Program:**

<https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/rmdz>

## **StopWaste (serving Alameda County, CA) Waste Prevention Grants**

StopWaste is offering grants totaling \$1.1 million to businesses, nonprofits and institutions for innovative projects that prevent waste in Alameda County in six categories for:

- Food Waste Prevention & Recovery
- Surplus Food Donation Equipment Grants
- Community Food Systems Grants
- Reusable Foodware Pilot Projects
- Reuse & Repair Grants
- Reusable Transport Packaging Grants

**Applications Due:** March 3, 2023

**Additional Information:** <https://www.stopwaste.org/at-work/stopwaste-grants>

## **Jobs**

### **EPA is hiring**

Search for and apply for federal jobs: <https://www.usajobs.gov/>

Learn more about EPA careers: <https://www.epa.gov/careers>

View and apply for open EPA jobs: <https://www.usajobs.gov/Search/Results?a=EP00>

### **Department of Energy Clean Energy Corps**

Overview & video: <https://www.energy.gov/CleanEnergyCorps>

Applicant Portal: <https://www.energy.gov/applicant-portal>

### **Region 9 Territories and States are hiring**

**Guam EPA** - <http://epa.guam.gov/careers/>

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands** - <https://www.cnmiopm.net/jobs.asp>

**American Samoa EPA** - <https://www.epa.as.gov/job-announcements>

**Arizona** - <https://azdeq.gov/careers>

**California** - <https://calrecycle.ca.gov/jobs/>

**Hawaii** - <https://health.hawaii.gov/employment/job-opportunities>

**Nevada** - <https://ndep.nv.gov/about/ndep-career-opportunities>

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