



Owens Lake Update

Barnard Construction continues work on the Owens Lake Dust Mitigation Phase 7 Shallow Flooding improvements (9.2 square miles). A very windy (and dusty) spring has made working conditions difficult, but according to the Great Basin Unified AP Control Officer, Ted Schade, Barnard has never missed an Owens Lake deadline. The work is scheduled to be completed before April 2010. The City of Los Angeles continues preparation of the Supplemental EIR for their 3.5-square mile Moat & Row project. The release of the draft EIR for public review and comment has been seriously delayed. The City's latest schedule predicts the EIR will be certified in October. This is when the Moat & Row construction is required to be complete. Obviously, the City will not make this required deadline. Prior to starting construction they also need lease/agreements from the State Lands Commission and the Department of Fish and Game. There are no assurances they will receive these permissions. This is a very serious issue. If the City fails to get an extension of the deadline from the District, they will be subject to penalties of \$10,000 per day. In addition, they could be subject to additional penalties from the U.S. EPA. LPPSR continues to monitor and comment on LADWP's progress regarding the dust mitigation project.

RADON GAS

The LPPSR Environmental and Air Quality Department (EAQD) recently began work on its Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for radon testing. The radon QAPP is required by USEPA in order for the LPPSR EAQD to conduct radon testing on the Reservation. The LPPSR EAQD plans to have this QAPP finalized and approved by the USEPA by fall 2009, so that radon testing of homes and buildings on the Reservation can begin during winter 2009-2010.

Testing radon concentrations is important because radon is a known cancer causing gas. Radon gas is produced by the radioactive decay of the element Uranium, found in nearly all soil types. Radon typically moves up through the ground to the air above, then into the home through cracks and other openings in the foundation. Homes and buildings trap radon inside, where radon levels can build up. You can't see, smell, or taste radon. But it may be a problem in your home.

Radon is estimated to cause many thousands of deaths each year. Breathing air with high concentrations of radon over a long period of time can greatly increase the risk of lung cancer. In fact, the Surgeon General has warned that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States today. Only smoking causes more lung cancer deaths. If you smoke and your home has high radon levels, your risk of lung cancer is especially high.

The LPPSR EAQD plans to test radon concentrations in the homes and buildings on the Reservation via passive charcoal canisters. The charcoal canisters require no power and will be placed in a home or building for a time span ranging from 2 to 7 days. During this time Radon and its decay products are absorbed onto the charcoal in the canisters. When the testing period is over the canisters are sealed and sent to a certified Radon testing lab for analysis. The LPPSR EAQD looks forward to working with Tribal members this coming winter in order to get as many residences as possible tested for radon. Stay tuned!



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Environmental Department News

Cynthia Naha, Environmental Specialist - Janice McRoberts, Environmental Program Assistant

Water Conservation

As peoples Indigenous to our lands, we have a strong connection with our environments. Understanding the relationships we have with our lands and territories provides a connection in which we honor, recognize, and respect water as being sacred because it sustains all life. Many Indigenous Communities view their role within their homelands as caretakers and assert this responsibility to ensure the next generations will have a clean, safe and healthy place to live.

While populations grow and sprawl, the amount of Earth's most precious resource, water, is getting shorter and shorter in supply. According to information gathered for the Indigenous Environmental Network's Water Campaign in 2005; about 70 % of the Earth's surface is covered largely by water. However, of that seventy percent, 97.5% of it is sea water and 2.5 % of fresh water is locked up in glaciers, permafrost, and groundwater, which leaves about 1% of the world's water available for human consumption. Knowing and understanding the amount of water available for our daily consumption is important in sustaining and preserving what is left of this valuable resource.

There are ways in which we can make certain that our waters are protected and able to sustain us for future use. Because California ecosystem is defined as a Mediterranean climate with unpredictable rainfall, it is important to use water wisely and not take it for granted. Water is vital to present and future generations locally, nationally, and globally and one way to ensure we have an adequate, high-quality water supply is conservation.

So what can you do to help conserve water indoors and outdoors? Here are some simple and easy tips that not only help save this precious resource, but also help in reducing water bills:

BATHROOM

*Replace regular showerheads with low-flow showerheads (saves 230 gallons a week)

*Take shorter showers, every minute you shorten can save up to 75 gallons per month

*Turn off the water while lathering up and turn back on to quickly rinse (saves 75 gallons a week per person)

*Turn off water while brushing your teeth or shaving (saves 35 gallons a week per person)

*Check toilets for leaks. Drop a dye tablet or a teaspoon of food coloring in the tank. If color appears in the bowl after 15 minutes, replace the "flapper" valve or report the leak (saves 100 gallons a week for each toilet repaired)

*Replace your older model toilets with new ultra-low flush models (saves 350 gallons a week)

KITCHEN

*If you use a dishwasher, run it only when you have a full load (saves 30 gallons a week)

*Scrap food scraps off dishes in the garbage can or rinse them off with short blasts of hot water (saves 60 gallons a week)

*Never use hot running water to defrost frozen foods. Plan ahead and place frozen items in the refrigerator overnight or use the microwave oven (saves 50 gallons a week)

*Run your garbage disposal on alternate days (saves 25 gallons a week)

AROUND THE HOUSE

*Repair or report all leaky faucets, fixtures and pipes both inside and outside your home (saves 150 gallons for each leak)

*When doing the laundry, never wash less than a full load or change the settings to accommodate the load size (saves 100 gallons a week)

OUTDOORS

*Set lawn mower blades one notch higher since longer grass reduces evaporation. Use chunks of bark, peat moss, or gravel to cover bare grounds in gardens and around trees (saves 200 gallons or more a week)

*Never hose down your patio or balcony-use a broom or blower (saves 100 gallons a week)

*Don't allow children to play with the hose (saves 10 gallons a minute)

*If you have a pool, use a cover to cut down evaporation. This will also keep your pool cleaner and reduce the need to add chemicals (saves 250 gallons a week)

*Take your car to car wash that recycles its wash water. If home car washing, use a bucket of water and sponge to wash you car. Rinse quickly at the end. Never allow the hose to run continuously (saves 150 gallons a week)

*Water your lawn and landscaping early in the morning or after the sun sets when there's less evaporation (saves 250 gallons a week)

*Ensure that you plant the right plants....native plants to our area are more likely to use less water than plants that are more suitable for wetter climates

For more information on what you can do to conserve water, contact the Water Quality Program at 876-4690 or visit the internet and Google "water conservation", there are many websites available that provide information on this important topic.

Treatment In The Same Manner As A State (TAS) for LPPSR Water Quality Standards

In May of 2009, the Lone Pine Tribal Council passed Resolution No. 5-03-09-01, which gives the LPPSR Environmental & Air Quality Department the approval to submit a proposal to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the purpose of establishing Water Quality Standards (WQS) for the Reservation.

Basic requirements are needed in order for LPPSR to establish WQS, and these are:

- I. be Federally Recognized
 - II. have a governing body carrying out substantial governmental duties and powers over a Federal Indian reservation,
 - III. have appropriate authority to regulate the quality of reservation waters and
 - IV. be capable of carrying out the functions of an effective water quality standards program.
- For this last item, a Tribe must have either the technical capability for administering the program or provide a plan showing how it will get such capability.

Since LPPSR presently operates the Clean Water Act 106/319 Programs, we need only supply additional materials relevant to the water quality standards program which were not previously submitted. The Water Quality Program with assistance from the Utilities Department will be developing the standards and application to be submitted to EPA. Obtaining Water Quality Standards for LPPSR will eventually permit the program to carry out the capacity of monitoring and sampling the water on behalf of the interests of the members of the reservation.

Once the application and standards are submitted, EPA will inform us of the next steps to take to continue this process. The Water Quality Department and the Utilities Department are eager to have the WQS approved as soon as the end of the year for LPPSR.

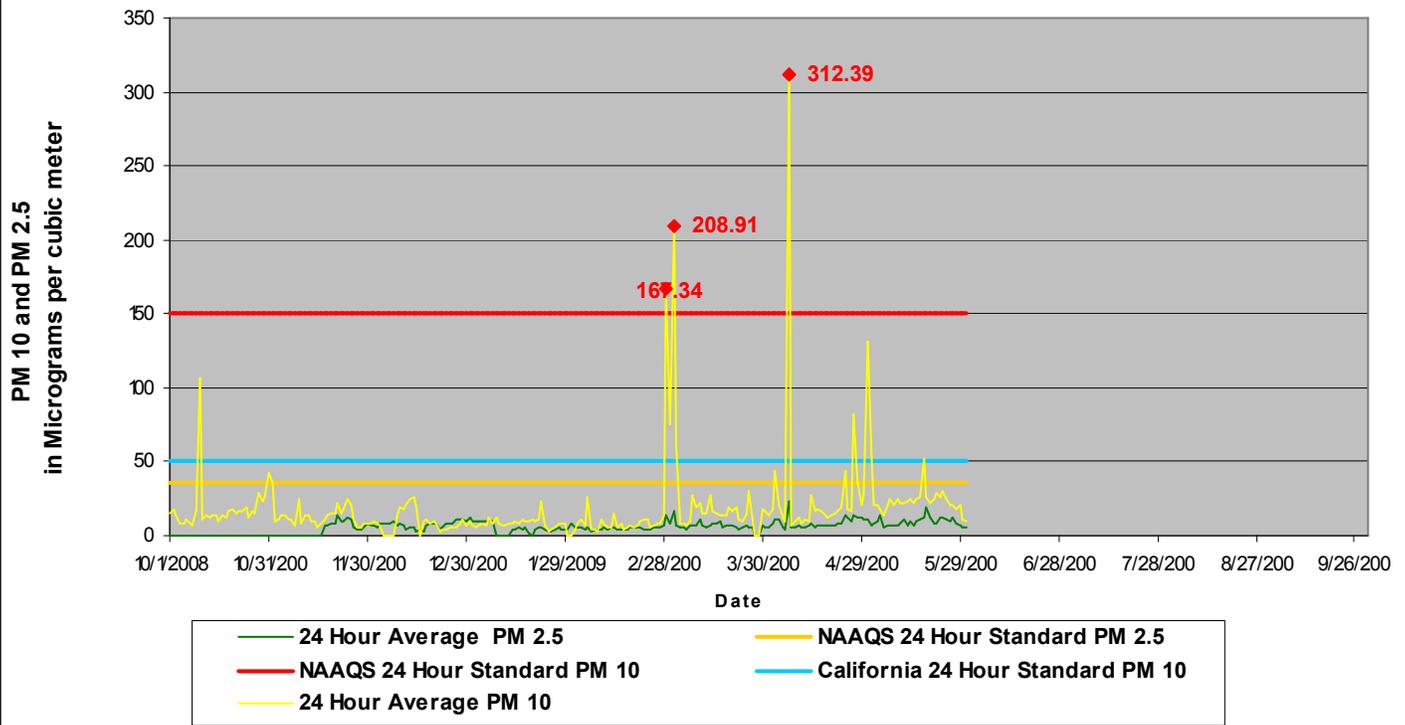
As this process continues, the LPPSR Water Quality Program will continue to provide updates through the E-Sha Newsletter, officer reports and Tribal Council meetings. If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact the Environmental & Air Quality Department.



Air Quality Department News

Mel O. Joseph, Air Quality Specialist — Justin Raglin, Air Quality Technician

Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation Air Quality Data FY 2009



Want to do something to help stop global warming?

Here are 10 simple things you can do and how much carbon dioxide you'll save doing them.

Change a light

Replacing one regular light bulb with a compact fluorescent light will save 150 pounds of carbon dioxide per year.

Drive less

Walk, bike, or carpool more often. You'll save one pound of carbon dioxide for every mile you don't drive!

Recycle more

You can save 2,400 pounds of carbon dioxide per year by recycling just half of your household waste.

Check your tires

Keeping your tires inflated properly can improve gas mileage by more than 3%. Every gallon of gasoline saved keeps 20 pounds of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere!

Use less hot water

It takes a lot of energy to heat water. Use less hot water by installing a low-flow showerhead (350 pounds of carbon dioxide saved per year) and washing your clothes in cold or warm water (500 pounds saved per year).

Avoid products with a lot of packaging

You can save 1,200 pounds of carbon dioxide if you cut down your garbage by 10%.

Adjust your thermostat

Moving your thermostat down just 2 degrees in winter and up 2 degrees in summer could save about 2,000 pounds of carbon dioxide per year.

Plant a tree

A single tree will absorb one ton of carbon dioxide over its lifetime.

Turn off electronic devices

Simply turning off your television, DVD player, stereo and computer when you're not using them will save thousands of pounds of carbon dioxide per year.

Be a part of the solution

Very urgent, actions should be taken immediately!

Tribal Programs Team Up for Weather Week

During the week of May 11th, the LPPSR Air Quality Department teamed up with the Bishop Tribes Air Quality Department and the Bishop Indian Education Center for "Weather Week". During the week, youth from the Bishop Indian Education Center's Tutoring Program were taught some of the basics of weather forecasting. Youth from 1st through 8th grade participated.

Using a bank of computers set up at the Education Center, each computer displayed a different aspect of weather forecasting. As students came through the door, they were shown an animated display of photographs of clouds taken locally by Ms. Toni Richards, Bishop Tribe's Air Quality Specialist. It was explained how different cloud forms could help tell about the weather. Next, LPPSR's Air Quality Specialist explained the basics of reading the forecast and students looked at regional temperature maps. After learning about the basics of reading a weather forecast, the students then observed animated satellite images pertaining to high pressure and low pressure systems and how the weather moves around the globe. Lastly, LPPSR's Air Quality Technician showed the students how animated weather models help look at the future. The students were particularly interested in observing areas around the country that had weather warnings or watches for hazardous weather, including tornadoes. This was a great way for the youth to see some of the basic ingredients of weather forecasting. More exciting weather-related activities are planned for the near future and it is anticipated that LPPSR this fall will host an activity that will be presented by the National Weather Service.

**Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone
Reservation Environmental
and Air Quality Department**

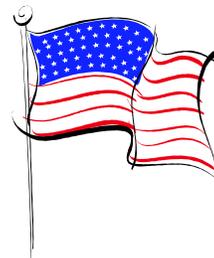
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*"The Earth is a
spiritual presence that
must be honored, not
mastered"*

-Native American belief



LPPSR Celebrates EARTH DAY 2009



On April 18th, LPPSR kicked off its Earth Day Celebration by cleaning up trash and debris at the Lone Pine Indian Cemetery. The cemetery was last cleaned during the 2007 Earth Day event.

During the week of April 27th, department staff participated in the 5th Annual Tire Amnesty Event. This year a total of 64 tires were collected and taken to the Inyo County Landfill bringing the total number of tires removed from the reservation to 841 over the past five years.



On May 9th department staff participated in the Annual Fiesta de Lone Pine Family Celebration held at the Lone Pine Park. The department set-up an information booth that focused on both Climate Change and Fire Prevention education. As part of the Climate Change aspect, visitors stopping by the booth participated in a bioremediation project where each participant planted seeds to grow in their yards that helps to naturally eliminate toxins from the soil, air and water. In addition, prizes were given out to visitors that correctly answered questions relating to Global Climate Change. This is the first year that the department has participated in the Fiesta de Lone Pine event and looks to make it an annual educational component of the General Assistance Program. The next event that the department will participate in is the Annual Fourth of July Celebration held in Independence, CA.

As part of the departments on-going Vehicle Removal Program, intakes were conducted on two vehicles that were requested by tribal members for removal, bringing the total number of vehicles removed from tribal lands to 52. LPPSR continues to coordinate with Pearson's Recycling for the vehicle removal program. As mentioned, the Vehicle Removal Program is ongoing, if you have a vehicle you would like removed, call the department at 876-4690. Coming in July watch for information regarding the 2nd Annual "White Goods" collection event. The week of July 27th-31st has been tentatively scheduled. HAVE A GREAT SAFE AND SANE FOURTH OF JULY!

