

Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation
 Environmental & Air Quality Department
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 Lone Pine, CA 93545

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"The Earth is a spiritual presence that must be honored, not mastered"
 -Native American belief

LONE PINE PAIUTE-SHOSHONE RESERVATION
CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING
 DEC 26TH - JAN 30TH
 DROP OFF:
 LPPSR ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT
 1101 E-Sha Ln, Lone Pine, CA 93545
 FOR PICK UP CALL:
 (760) 876-4690

Annual Christmas Tree Recycling
 The Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation Christmas Tree Recycling event offers a hassle free way to recycle your tree and give something back to our environment. Starting on December 26th, you can either drop off your Christmas tree at the Environmental & Air Quality Department located at 1101 E-Sha Lane, or you can call 760-876-4690 to have your tree picked up.

Once the trees are collected, they are chipped and spread around tribal dirt parking areas, helping to reduce PM dust emissions. **To date, 1,181 trees have been recycled since the event began in 2004.**

LPPSR also works with the Inyo County Landfill for resident's bringing trees directly to the landfill for disposal.

Happy Holidays!

LONE PINE PAIUTE-SHOSHONE RESERVATION ENVIRONMENTAL AND AIR QUALITY DEPARTMENT

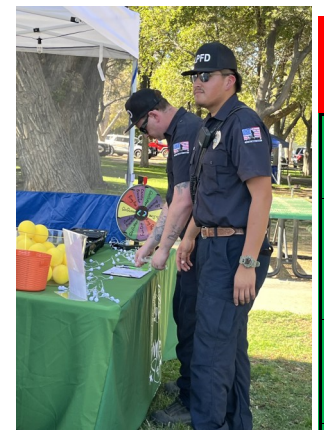
Education & Outreach Efforts

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On October 1st, EPA department staff participated in the National Night Out event sponsored by the Inyo County Sheriff's Office. The annual event provided an excellent opportunity for community engagement, allowing agencies to showcase their work, interact with the public, and foster positive relationships with the community. LPPSR had a booth that engaged participants in a Recycling/Composting Ball/Hoop game and presented information regarding "Emerging Contaminants/PFAS Education". 109 visitors signed in and received information while practicing their "hoops" skills and gaining knowledge of composting practices and PFAS.

Just this past spring, the EPA restricted levels of PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) in drinking water, setting the first nationwide, enforceable limits on these "forever chemicals". The proposal requires municipal water systems to monitor for five individual PFAS chemicals, tell the public what they find, and reduce levels that exceed the new limits. The EPA says the rule will reduce exposure for about 100 million people and prevent thousands of deaths and tens of thousands of illnesses.

PFAS have been used for decades in cookware, outdoor gear, food wrapping, and more, because of their nonstick and stain-resistant properties. They're known as forever chemicals because they persist so long in the environment and in human bodies. One study estimated that 97% of American adults have PFAS in their blood. Mounting evidence links the chemicals to health risks, including lung cancer and lowered immune responses, but no federal rules limited PFAS in drinking water until now. LPPSR is now including PFAS sampling as part of the Domestic Water testing with IHS and EPA's assistance.



Pictured above is Inyo County Sheriff, Stephanie Rennie along with her husband. Also pictured are members of the Lone Pine Volunteer Fire Department. Stopping by the both to check things out! Fun had by all ages.

During the week of October 21st - 25th, EPA department staff attended the 2024 Tribal EPA Region 9 Annual Conference held at Hayes Mansion in San Jose, CA.

On Day 4 the Environmental Director and fellow EPA Colleagues presented a session entitled "Time for Some Trash Talk. GAP Solid Waste Implementation and Data Collection". LPPSR showcased its unique solid waste program and history of GAP Capacity building since 1998.



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Environmental Department News

Janice Aten, Air Program Coordinator - Mel O. Joseph, Environmental Director

How to Clean up Dust in Your Home

Last quarter we discussed The Danger in Your Dust and ways dust gets into your home. This quarter we will discuss places where dust can hide and some idea's on how to control it. When a sunbeam hits just right, you see them: tiny particles of dust suspended in the air. They look innocuous-until you stop and think about their tendency to collect on surfaces throughout your house. If you take a close look at those specks, you may spot skin, hair, and dander. Look closer still, with an electron microscope or a chemical analysis, and more unsettling things reveal themselves: lead paint and other heavy metal fragments, microbes, fungi, mold, mites, microplastics, PFAS, and even toxins in some pesticides.

Here are 6 places where dust can hide. 1. In High Places. Think the tops of doors, windows, bookshelves, and picture frames. To clean: Use a microfiber towel dampened with water or an all-purpose cleaner. If you can't reach, use a duster on an extension pole. 2. Under Furniture. That includes below the bed or couch, behind the toilet, and in the back of closets. To clean: Use a wet/dry microfiber mop or an extendable duster. 3. On Blinds and Air Vents. To clean: Close slats, wipe with a damp cloth, then reverse the slats and wipe again. If they're still dirty, wash gently in a bathtub of warm, soapy water. 4. On Drapes (also upholstered furniture). Use your vacuum hose, adjusting the suction to avoid damaging delicate items like lampshades. 5. Under Range Hoods. Steam and vaporized oil make dust stick there, and to kitchen cabinets and fans. To clean: Spray with a degreaser approved for the surface, then wipe. For fans, spray on extendable duster with an all-purpose cleaner, bend into a C-shape, and draw over each blade. 6. Behind Appliances. Dust that gathers behind a refrigerator, washer, or dryer can interfere with its operation. To clean: If you can't pull out the appliance, sneak a vacuum hose or a flexible duster, on a pole if needed, behind and under it.

Even if you take the precautions mentioned before to keep dust out of your living spaces, some will still get in. When it does, your goal is to limit its spread in the air. Here are a few ways to help with dust control. **In Your Air:** Air Purifiers-These devices draw in air that's in your home, trap pollutants with filters that are in devices, then send clean air back out. HVAC Air Filters-If your house has an HVAC heating & cooling system, it has a filter that protects the equipment from damage and improves indoor air quality. Basic models are made from strands of fiberglass or metal mesh and capture large particles. Higher-end filters are pleated and can capture particles as tiny as bacteria. Dehumidifiers-Keeping your home at a relatively low humidity level-below 50%-can limit the spread of dust and mites and the allergens they produce. **On Sur-**faces: Cleaning Cloths-For routine dusting. A cotton rag moistened with water works well and is a cheap and environmentally friendly option. Dusters-Irregularly shaped objects require a duster. It should have a fluffy head so that you can attack multiple surfaces at once and catch particles that get knocked off as you dust. It should have a flexible handle so that you can skim along curved objects and squeeze into tight spots. Dusters with microfiber heads work best. Brooms and Mops-Vacuums work better, because sweeping can stir some dust back into the air. Still, brooms can be a quick way to pick up larger bits of food or other debris that attracts dust or, over time, break into smaller specks. Sweep as needed. Mop once a week, or more often if you have small children or pets. Vacuums-A key tool against dust is a vacuum. Vacuums that are good to use are ones that have tight seals and excellent filters to keep vacuumed-up debris from spewing back into the air. Vacuum at least once a week, especially if you have an active family with people and pets coming and going, live on a dusty road or have allergies. The best vacuums to buy are Upright, Canister, and Cordless Stick. Pay special attention to the bags and filters when choosing a "bagged" or "bagless" model.



On October 4th, EPA department staff met with Whitebark Institute to discuss the Defensible Space Pilot project on LPPSR. This project will complement the NRCS Fuels and Herbaceous Weed Treatment project such that this defensible space project will reduce fuels (including junk vehicle removal) near a subset of homes. The project proposed would allocate surplus funds from a CALFIRE grant to Whitebark Institute to reduce those fuels. EPA department staff has met with Whitebark Institute's Environmental Planner's to get an update on the environmental review and the possible CEQA amendment to the existing Whitebark grant to move the project forward this winter.

A site visit was conducted to gain a better understanding of the overall project site. On October 30th, LPPSR held a kick-off meeting for the "Mini Pilot" project for work commencing on November 4th. The Pilot Project home treated is located at 148 Burkhardt Road. The "Mini Pilot" project was completed on December 3rd. Funding is currently being secured to treat an additional 2 homes.

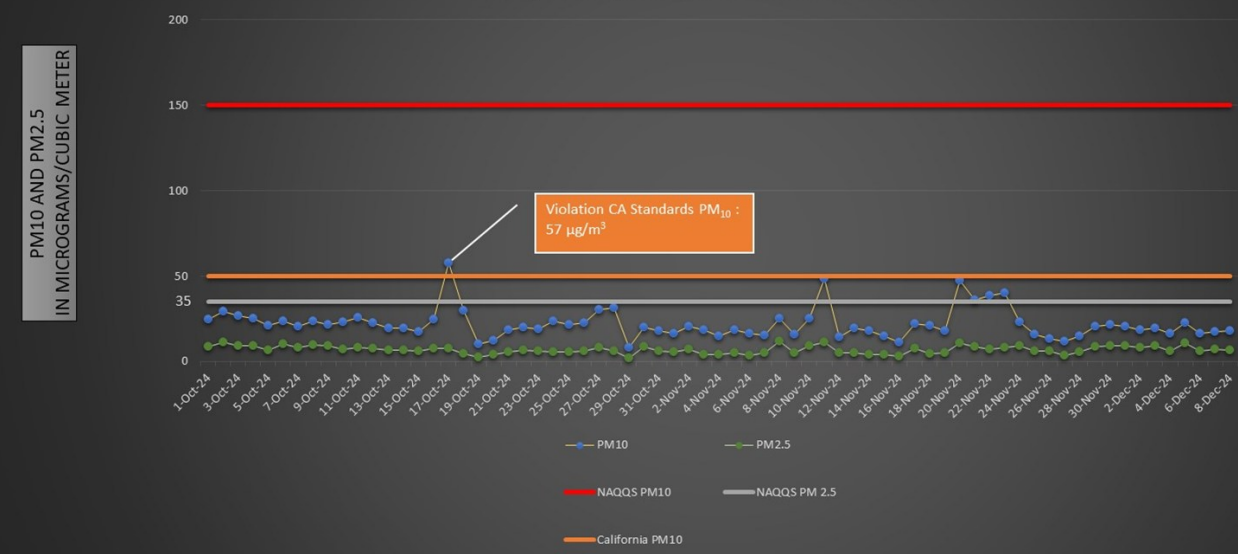
The Tribal Work Crew has performed the treatment including the removal of dead trees & shrubs, thinning, brush management, and pruning. A total of 11.8 tons of material was removed.



Environmental Department News

Leslie Bellas, Water Program Coordinator

Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation Air Quality Data
Daily Average October 1-December 8, 2024



LPPSR EPA department staff collaborated with the Lone Pine Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #8036 to educate the Community about electric vehicles (and give out treats) as part of the Healthy Communities of Lone Pine's Annual Treat-or-Treat down Main Street event.

CWA 106 Groundwater Monitoring

Throughout the first quarter, tail water, surface water, and monitoring well sites data loggers were downloaded. Parameters to be monitored include temperature, pH, turbidity, specific conductance, and dissolved oxygen. LPPSR in conjunction with the Owens Valley Indian Water Commission continue to monitor and collect data monthly. *The purpose of the monitoring is to sample, analyze, and characterize the water parameters including water depth.*



Solid Waste Collection

White Good collection is on-going, call the EPA office (760) 876-4690 for pick-up Thursday's/Friday's or you can drop off.

E-Waste collection is on-going, you can drop off at the EPA office.

Paper recycling is on-going, drop off your junk mail, magazines, paper, etc., at the EPA office for on-site shredding the last Wednesday of the month.

Inyo County Landfill Household Hazardous Waste disposal December 14, 2024.

Inyo County Landfill Free Green Waste disposal. Gate fee is waived for "GREEN WASTE ONLY" No MIXED Loads. **TBA**

Follow These Tips on Clean Burning To Heat More Efficiently and Reduce Air Pollution:

- **Start Your Fire With Softwood Kindling.** Softwoods (pine, fir) are generally low in density, ignite easily, burn fast and hot and will heat the firebox and flue quickly. They are ideal for kindling and starting your fires, but form creosote easily due to the high resin (sap) content.
- **Burn Longer and Cleaner With Hardwood.** Hardwoods (oak, cherry) are denser and take longer to ignite, but burn slower and more evenly, producing less smoke. They also provide more heat energy than softwood logs of the same size.
- **Burn Only "Seasoned" Firewood.** Firewood should be dry, or "season" a minimum of 6 to 12 months after splitting. Hardwoods dry more slowly than softwoods and may take over a year to dry. Seasoned firewood by definition contains 20% moisture or less by weight. Wood dries faster in a warmer storage area with more air circulation.
- **To Speed Drying: Split and Stack**- logs dry from the outside in, so split big logs right away for faster drying. Stack loosely in a crosswise fashion to get good air circulation. **Store High & Dry**-stack a foot or more above the ground and away from buildings in a sunny, well-ventilated area. Cover the top to keep dew and rain off the wood, but leave the sides open to breezes.