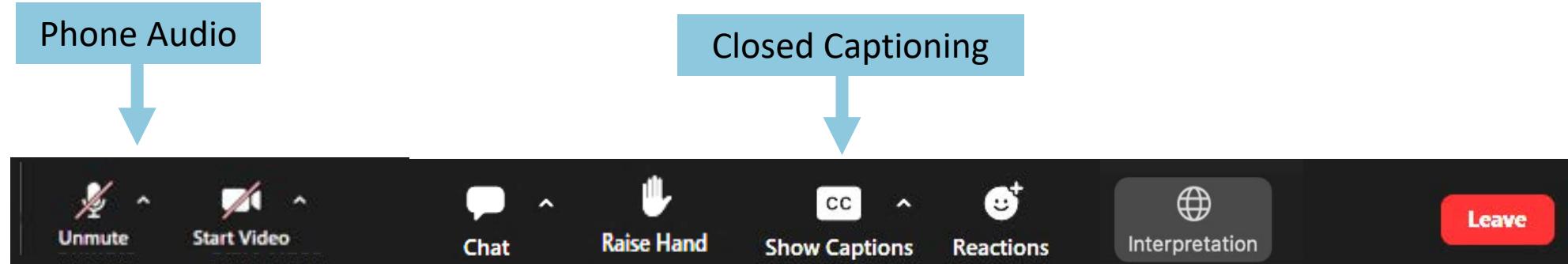




EPA Region 7 Environmental Justice Quarterly Community Stakeholder Meeting

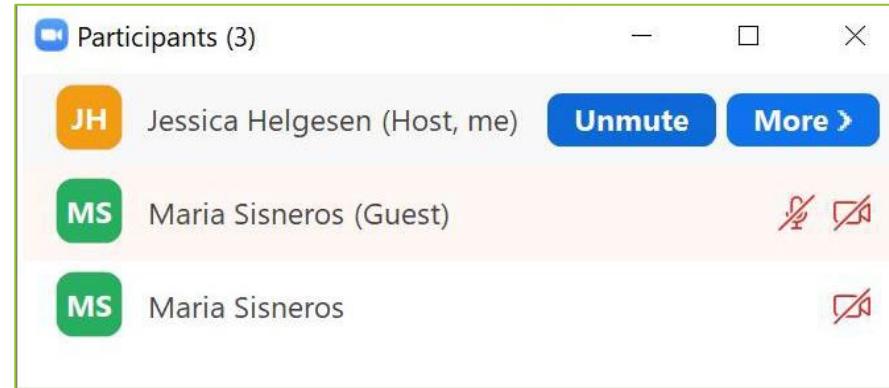
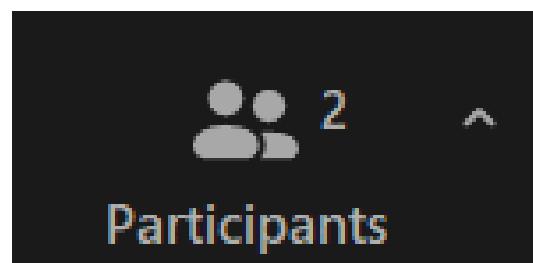
October 17, 2024
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Housekeeping



- Turn on **closed captioning** by selecting the “CC” icon.
- Toll-free call-in number is: **833-568-8864**. Meeting ID is **161 518 9844**.
- If you are attending by phone only and doesn’t have access to the chat function, please send your questions or comments to R7-EJ-Stakeholders@epa.gov.

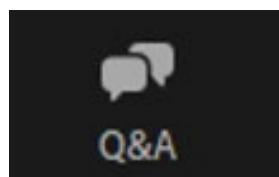
Participant Name Change



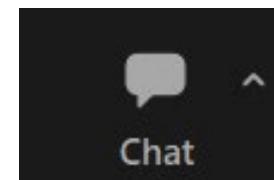
- ▶ In your meeting/webinar controls (bottom bar), click **Participants**, and a pop-up box will allow you to see everyone in meeting.
- ▶ **Change your Name:** In pop-up box, select **More** , then click on “Rename”

Please Ask Questions.

- ▶ You can ask questions through the **Q&A** box.
- ▶ Please type technical difficulties in the **Chat** box, and we will troubleshoot issues with you.
- ▶ Brownfields or Superfund site-specific questions can be added to the **Q&A**, and someone will reach out to you after the meeting.
- ▶ We will not be taking questions from the press during this meeting.



Questions

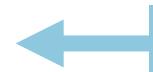


Technical difficulties

Verbal Questions

- ▶ We will take a couple questions after each presentation.
- ▶ Please raise your hand using the 'Raise Hand' button in your Zoom control panel.
- ▶ You will be given the ability to unmute yourself, which you can do by clicking on the mute/unmute button.
- ▶ We will prioritize verbal questions from community members in EPA Region 7 (Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, and Nine Tribal Nations).



 Raise hand to ask verbal questions

Ground Rules & Logistics for Participation

- ▶ Be present & participate (find a quiet & comfortable space).
- ▶ Acknowledge challenges & consider solutions.
- ▶ Make comments succinct; (suggested one to two minutes or less if on phone); and use jargon-free language.
- ▶ Treat others with respect and listen to understand.

- ▶ Reminder, as mentioned, we will take a couple questions verbally and respond to comments via the Q&A box after the first couple of updates.

Who's On the Call?

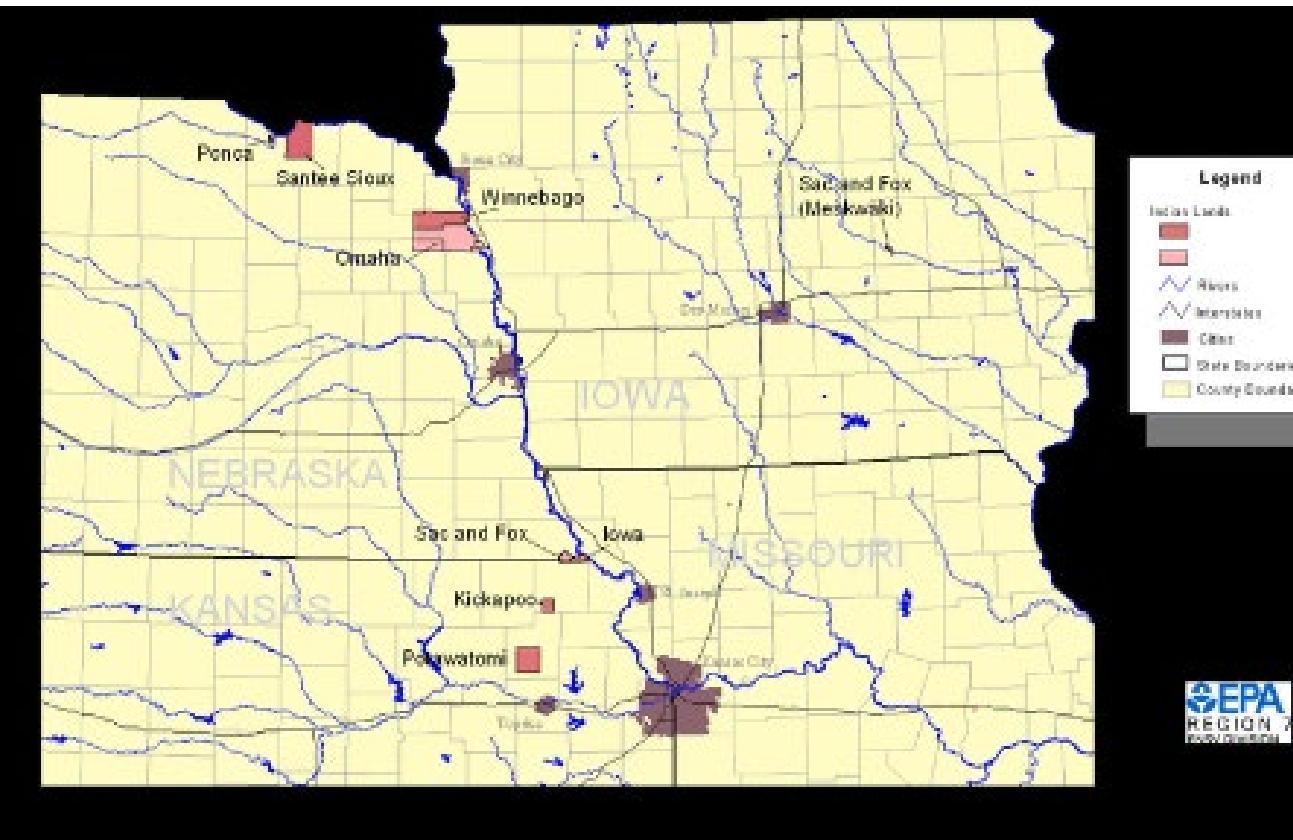
- ▶ Please put in the chat your
 - ▶ Name & City
 - ▶ Organization (if applicable)
 - ▶ What is a fall tradition in your community?



Welcome & Purpose

*Amy Bhesania, Director
Environmental Justice, Community
Engagement, and Environmental Review
Division, EPA Region 7*

EPA Region 7 Covers nine tribal nations and four states



Mission: To Protect Human Health and the Environment

Goals for EJ Community Stakeholder Meetings

1

Hear directly from communities about the issues you're facing and learn about your **priorities**.

2

Be available to look into questions or concerns raised and **relay information** to appropriate EPA Region 7 experts.

3

Share EPA EJ updates and grant opportunities with communities as applicable.

4

Provide community members with the **opportunity to connect with others** working on similar issues.

Agenda

- ▶ **1. Meaningful Engagement Policy Update** – Shereen Kandil, EPA
- ▶ **2. Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program** - Toni Jones, RTI
Brief Q&A
- ▶ **3. EJScreen 2.3 Update** – Amanda Berry, EPA
- ▶ **4. Vista AmeriCorps** – Cassandra Krul, EPA
- ▶ **5. EJ Grantee Spotlight** – Cody Smith, Iowa Environmental Council
Brief Q&A
- ▶ **Break Out Rooms on five main topics above and one open room** – (optional) - Everyone



EPA's Meaningful Involvement Policy Update

*Shereen Kandil, Supervisor, Community
Involvement and Engagement Section,
EPA Region 2 (NYC)*

Key Points of the Meaningful Involvement Policy

Primary audiences: EPA Teams (e.g., staff, managers, fellows, interns, appointees, senior executive service, contractors, and senior environmental enrollees)

Purpose: Promote a consistent EPA-wide approach to providing meaningful engagement opportunities and support EPA employees in doing this work effectively

Aligns with and is responsive to:
Administration priorities, E.O. 14096, the Equity Action Plan, and OMB's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) guidance on broadening public engagement



This policy aims to:

- **Reaffirm EPA's commitment** to early and frequent outreach, accessibility, and meaningful engagement.
- **Establish a clear and effective process** for providing meaningful engagement and public participation opportunities.
- **Promote a wide variety of practices** to create early and continuing opportunities for public participation in EPA actions, (including regulatory & non-regulatory decisions and activities, when appropriate.)
- **Ensure EPA makes decisions with an understanding** of the interests and concerns of the interested and affected public.
- **Improve efficiency, equity, and transparency** of EPA's decisions, consistent with applicable laws and regulations.

EPA's Meaningful Engagement Policy outlines three steps to help EPA teams design an appropriate and effective process for meaningful engagement and public participation.



Step 1: Understand the EPA Action and Key Issues the Public Can Inform



The first step is to understand the EPA action and identify opportunities to make decisions, knowing what decisions have already been made, and understanding the legal requirements. This understanding will help EPA teams identify the required or most effective time in the process to ask for public input and share this input within EPA to help make decisions.

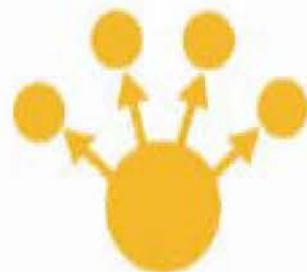


Step 2: Identify the Expected Level of Participation Using EPA's Public Participation Spectrum

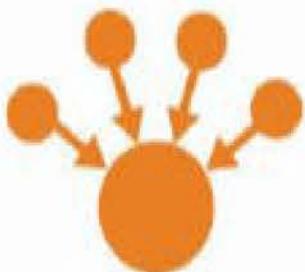


The second step is to use EPA's Public Participation Spectrum, which includes guiding questions, to select an appropriate level of participation for planning purposes. This spectrum describes five levels of public participation to help EPA teams set and communicate clear expectations about how they intend to provide opportunities for meaningful engagement.

Inform



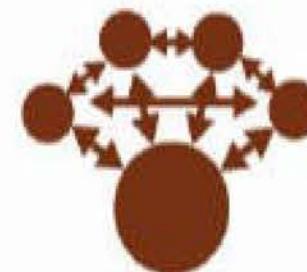
Consult



Involve



Collaborate



Empower



Inform

Low level of
public engagement

Involve

Mid level of
public engagement

Empower

High level of
public engagement



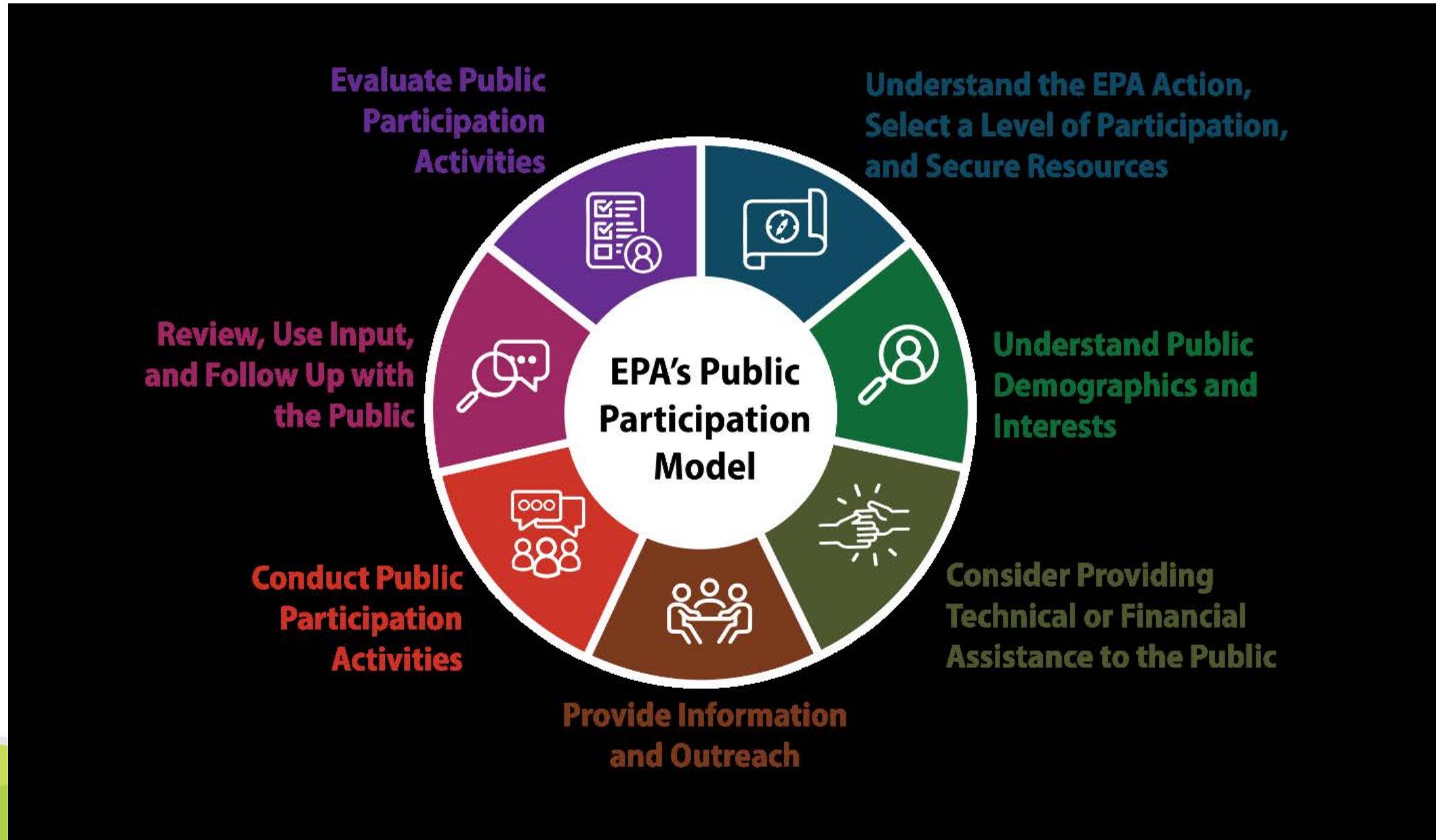


Step 3: Identify the Appropriate Engagement Tools and Practices Using EPA's Public Participation Model



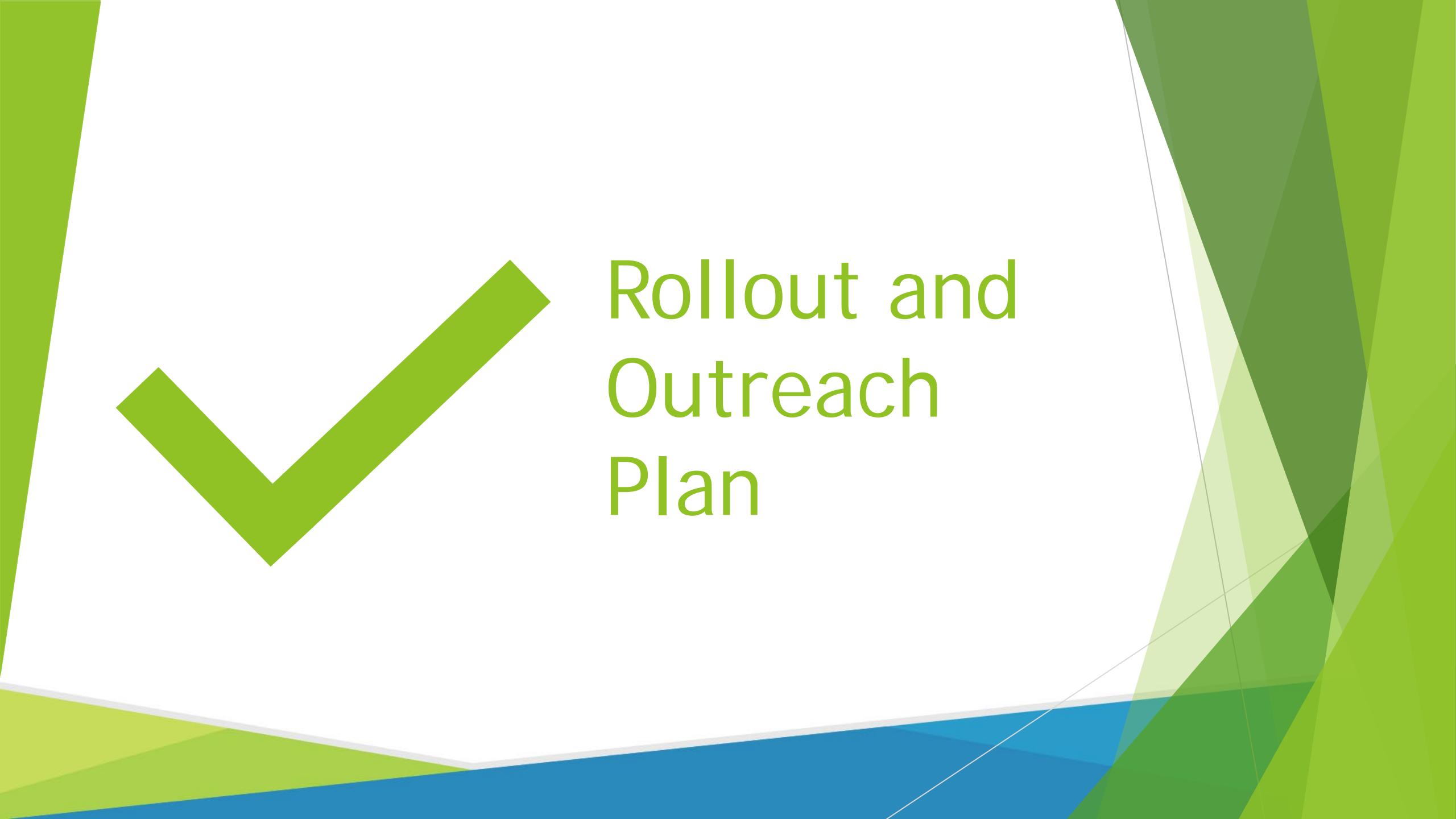
After identifying the appropriate level of public participation, EPA teams can use EPA's Public Participation Model to select tools and practices that help provide opportunities for meaningful engagement. The right tools and practices can help EPA teams meet the promise to the public identified in the Public Participation Spectrum. This iterative model for helping achieve health and environmental protection includes seven stages.

EPA's Public Participation Model





Rollout and Outreach Plan





Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmakers Program in Region 7

*Toni Jones, Deputy Director,
Research Triangle Institute (RTI) International*

EJ Thriving Communities Grantmaking (TCGM) Program

Toni Jones
Deputy Director
Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program
RTI International

*As of October 16, 2024.
Details may change as program needs change.



Who We Are

National Central, Region 4, and Region 7



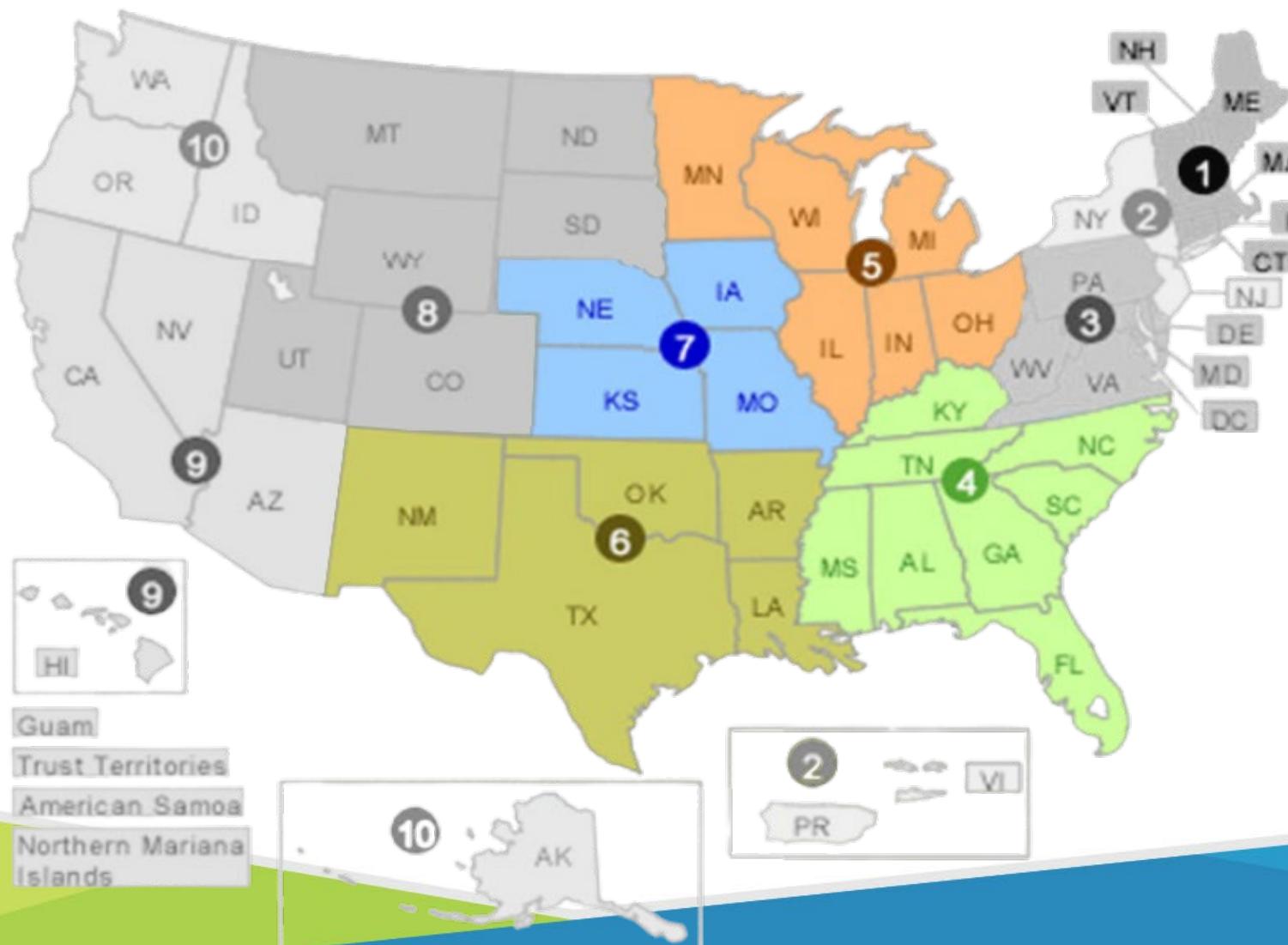
RTI's Transformative Research Unit for Equity (TRUE) transforms traditional research practices and mindsets to reimagine and create systems that advance equity and social justice. Environmental justice is a priority area in our work.

Areas of Expertise

- Managing large scale grantmaking processes for federal agencies
- Experience with EPA, contractor for multiple EPA national programs
- Assistance with the QA process, financial management and tracking, pre-award certification, and ICR
- Scientific advisors who can support potential subrecipients with their project development.
- Community engagement
- Strong project tracking and reporting systems

Who We Are

National Central, Region 4, and Region 7



National Center for
HEALTHY HOUSING

University of
Kentucky

ICMA

INTERNATIONAL CITY/COUNTY
MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

RTI's Program Overview

- ▶ Role as a conduit and **facilitator** of a set of coordinating activities that will reach underserved and disadvantaged communities
- ▶ Advance racial equity by positioning **community members as decision makers** in selecting recipients of the competitive and noncompetitive awards
- ▶ Build broad **awareness** of the EJ TCGM Program and support key communities in applying for funding
- ▶ Implement an **easy, accessible** grant application process and support grantees as they carry out their projects

About the TCGM Grants Program



Support capacity-building through assessment, planning and project development.



Increase efficiency and **reduce barriers** to accessing federal grant funding.



Encourage meaningful involvement of community members in decision-making that may affect their communities.

Types of TCGM Grants

Assessment

Tier I

Fixed Amount

Up to \$150k

Duration: 1-year

Noncompetitive Awards

Severely-capacity Constrained Organizations

Fixed Amount

\$75k

Duration: 1-year

Planning

Tier II

Up to

\$250k

Duration: 1-2 years

Development

Tier III

Up to

\$350k

Duration: 2 years

Range of different environmental project activities, including (but not limited to) small local clean ups, local emergency preparedness and disaster resiliency programs, environmental workforce development programs for local jobs reducing greenhouse gas emissions, fence line air quality and asthma related projects, healthy homes programs, and projects addressing illegal dumping.

Eligibility for TCGM Grants

- Nonprofit organizations, community-based and grassroots nonprofit organizations
- Philanthropic and civic organizations with nonprofit status
- Tribal governments (both federally recognized and state-recognized) and intertribal consortia (i.e., a partnership between two or more tribes that work together to achieve a common objective.)
- Local governments
- Native American Organizations (includes Indian groups, cooperatives, nonprofit corporations, partnerships, and associations that have the authority to enter into legally binding agreements)

Ineligible recipients include: Individuals, for-profit businesses, state governments



TCGM subgrants may address a variety of issues:

- Air quality & asthma
- Fence line air quality monitoring
- Monitoring of effluent discharges from industrial facilities
- Water quality & sampling
- Small clean-up projects
- Improving food access to reduce vehicle miles traveled
- Stormwater issues and green infrastructure
- Lead and asbestos contamination
- Pesticides and other toxic substances
- Healthy homes that are energy/water use efficient and not subject to indoor air pollution
- Illegal dumping activities, such as education, outreach, and small-scale clean-ups
- Emergency preparedness and disaster resiliency
- Environmental job training for occupations that reduce greenhouse gases and other air pollutants
- Environmental justice training for youth

Key Dates

Fall 2024

Notice of Funding Opportunity
(NOFO) released
Applications accepted

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through
Spring 2027!



Region 7 Community Advisory Boards

Total of 4
Community
Advisory Boards

8
Reps

8
Reps

8
Reps

8
Reps

Extent of Engagement in TCGM Program

Inform

- Program updates
- Conflicts of Interest
- Roles and expectations
- Budgets

Consult

- Guide program implementation
- Identify barriers
- Outreach strategies

Collaborate

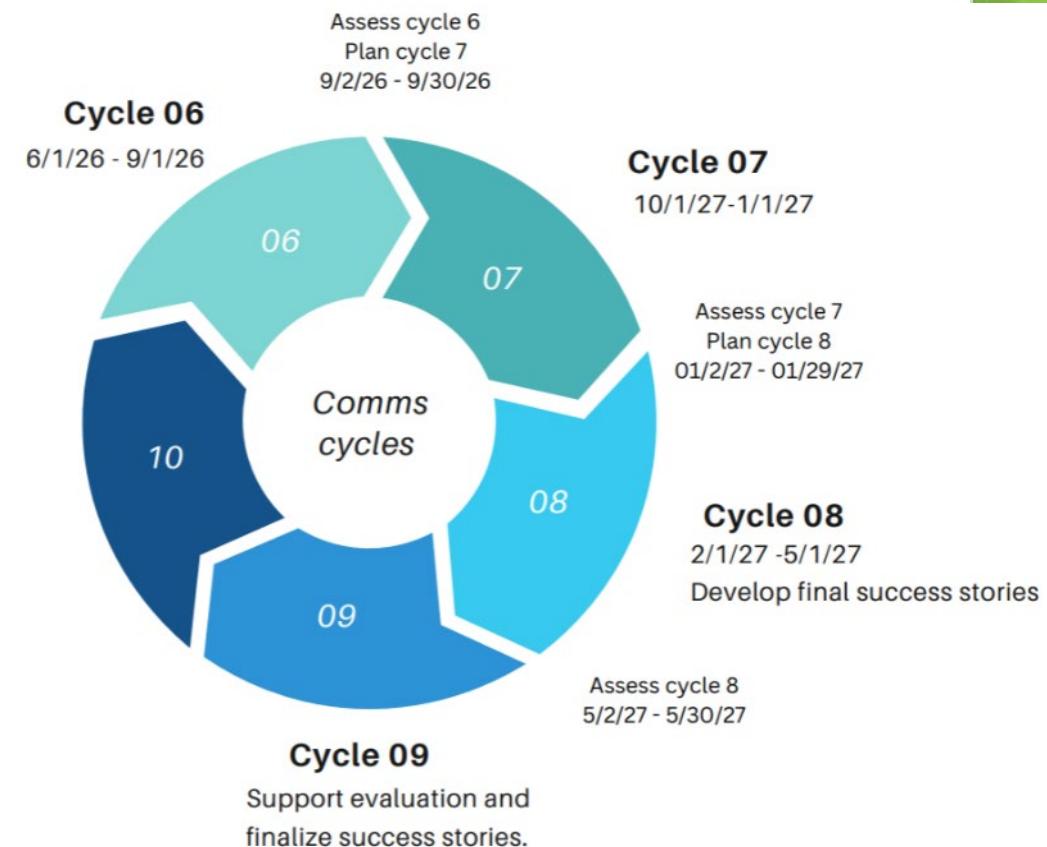
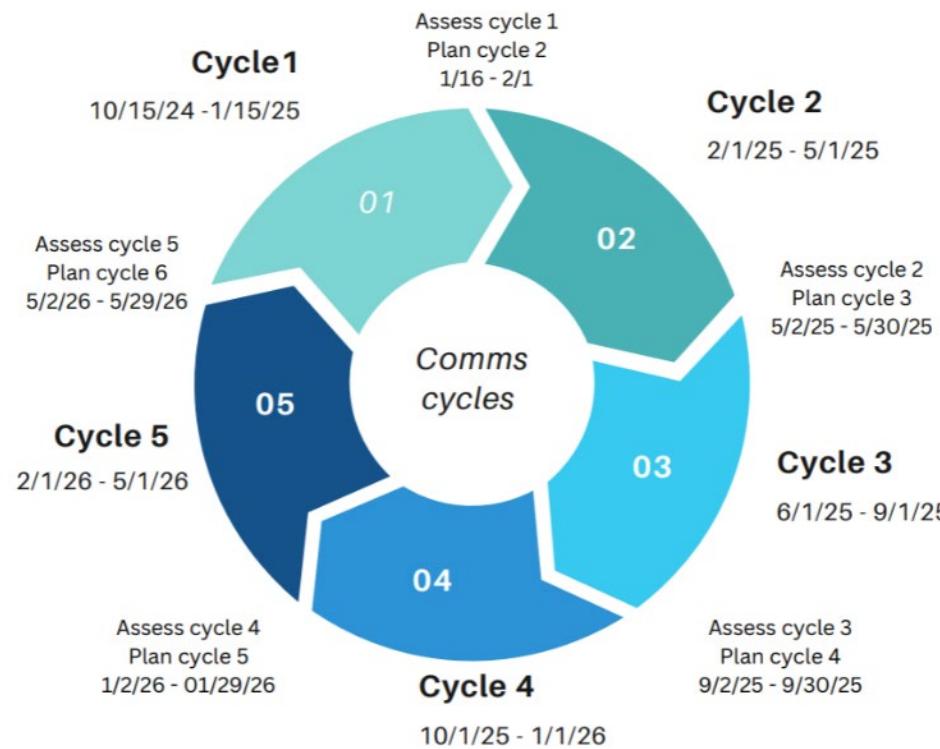
- Co-design application process
- Proposal assessment criteria
- Co-design governance structure
- Determine how to make decisions

Shared Leadership

- Review and make final decisions on competitive and noncompetitive awards
- Shared accountability in ensuring subawards are equitably distributed

Locations include: Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and Nine Tribal Nations

Outreach Strategy Timeline



TCGM-TCTAC Coordination

How to ensure effective and efficient coordination within Region 7

TCGM

- ▶ Refers potential applicants to TCTAC for technical assistance
- ▶ Provide information for dissemination
- ▶ Exchange/share information and updates
 - ▶ How to request info.
 - ▶ Provide detail on program awards and opportunities
 - ▶ Share guidance on applications

TCTAC

- ▶ Support potential applicants to prepare for EJ TCGM submissions
- ▶ Overlap with other projects/awards?
- ▶ Exchange/share information and updates
 - ▶ Upcoming TA sessions
 - ▶ Process to request TA
 - ▶ Detail on types of TA
 - ▶ Share awareness about upcoming opportunities
 - ▶ Share state-based focus areas
 - ▶ Share community feedback on TCGM



Thank you and Stay in touch!

Raise awareness about Grant Maker.
Support the review process.
Serve on Community Advisory Boards.

tcgm@rti.org

Brief Questions and Answers

- ▶ Any questions for previous speakers?

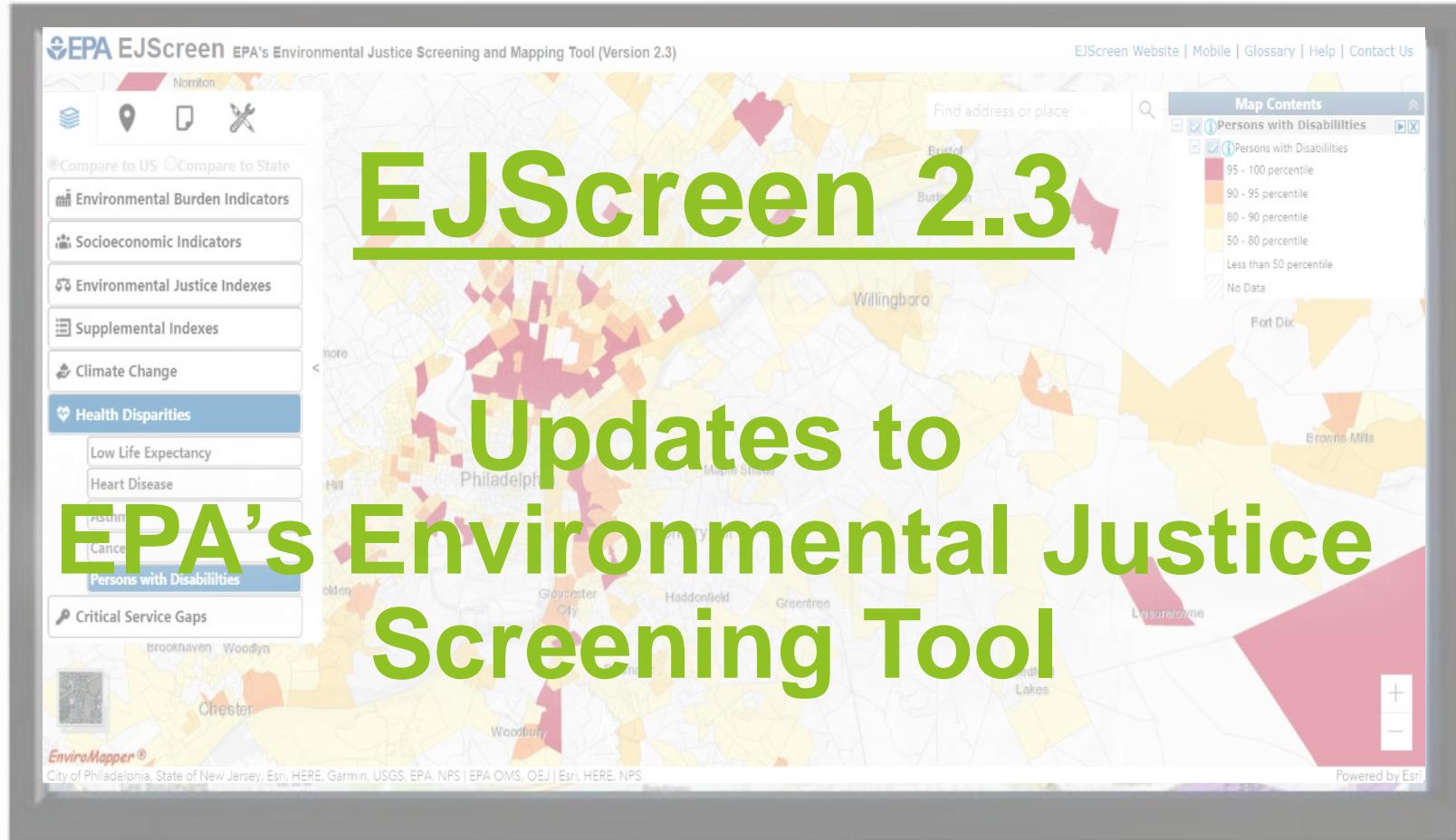


Please put your questions in the Q & A box or raise your hand.



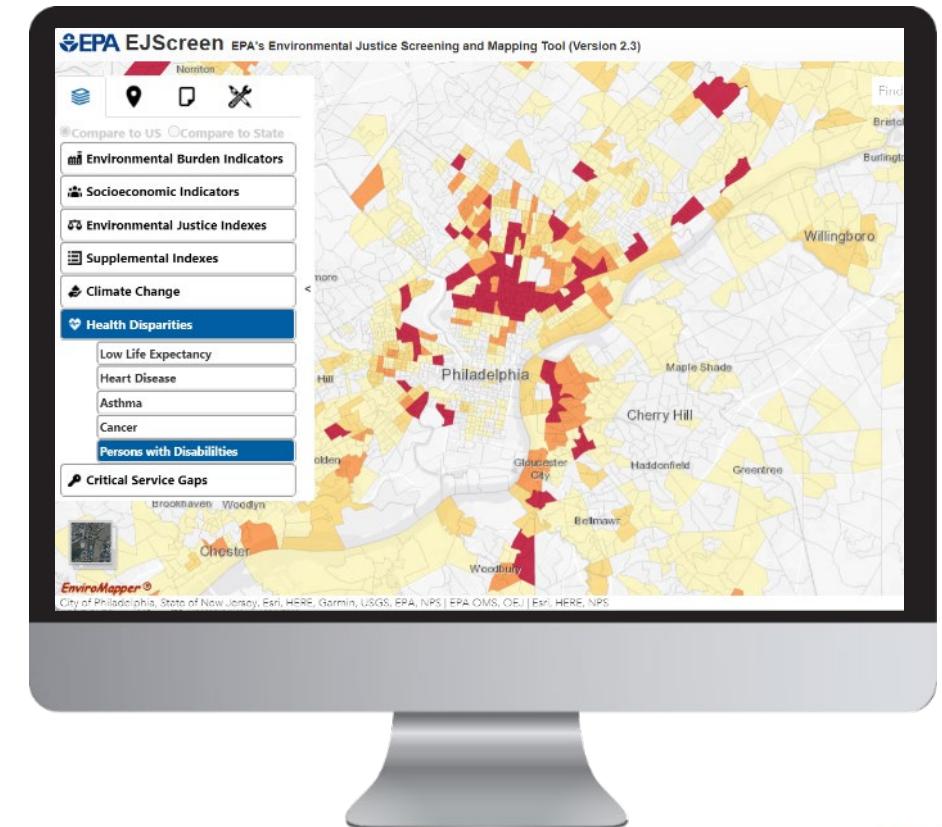
EJSCREEN 2.3 Updates

*Amanda Berry, EPA Region 7
EJ Grant Project Officer*



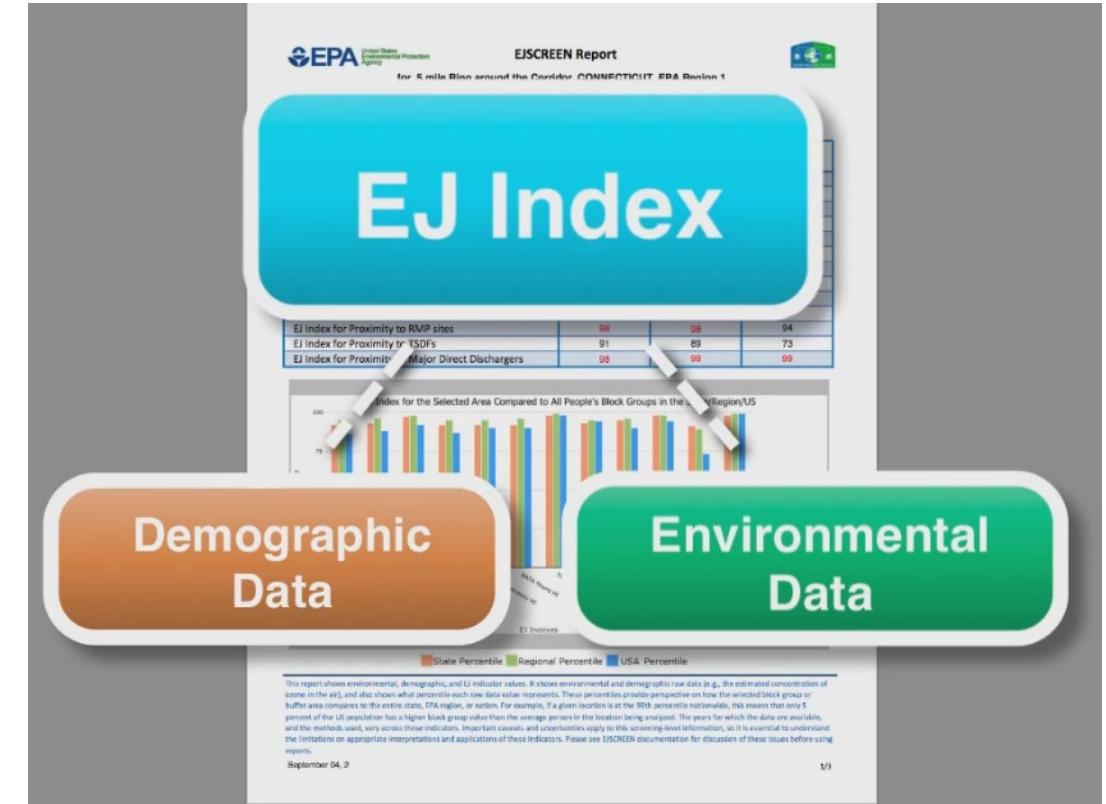
What is EJScreen?

- ▶ EPA's web-based GIS tool for nationally consistent EJ screening and mapping
- ▶ Combines environmental and socioeconomic data to highlight areas where vulnerable populations may be disproportionately impacted by pollution
- ▶ Starting point for agency considerations of environmental justice



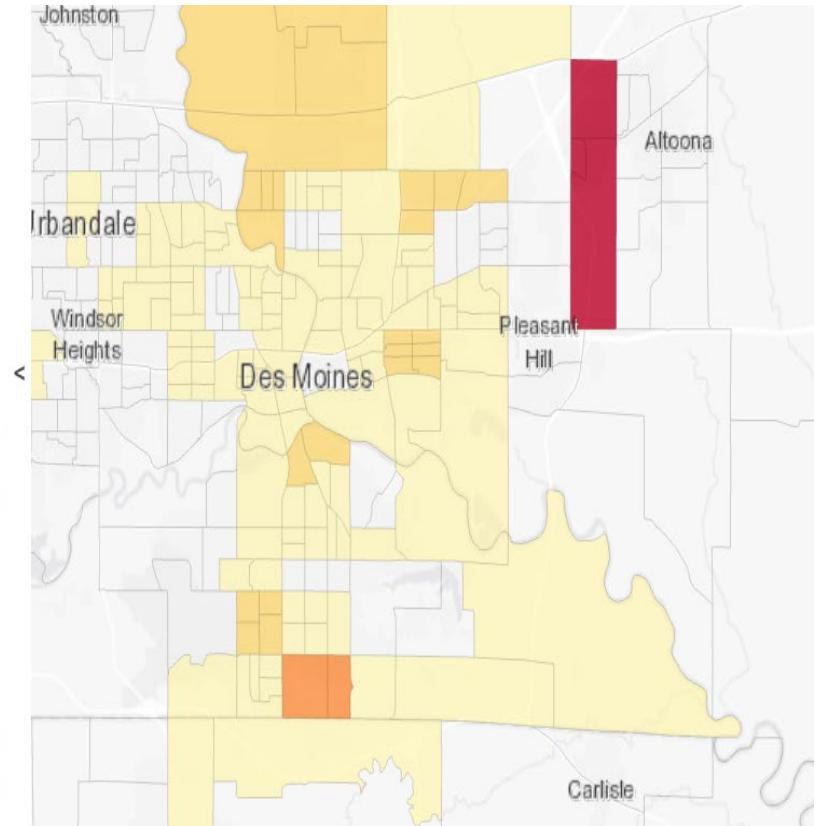
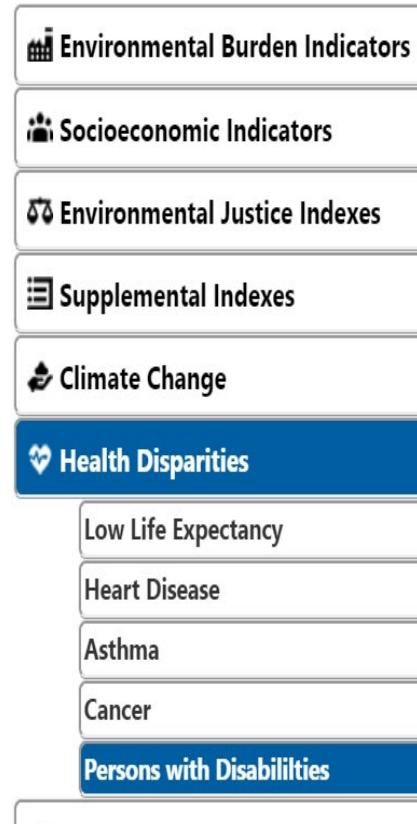
Primary EJScreen Datasets

- 13 EJ Indexes
- 13 Supplemental Indexes
- Environmental (13 indicators)
- Socioeconomic (7 indicators)
- Health (5 indicators)
- Climate (5 indicators)
- Critical Service Gaps (5 indicators)



EJScreen Key Features

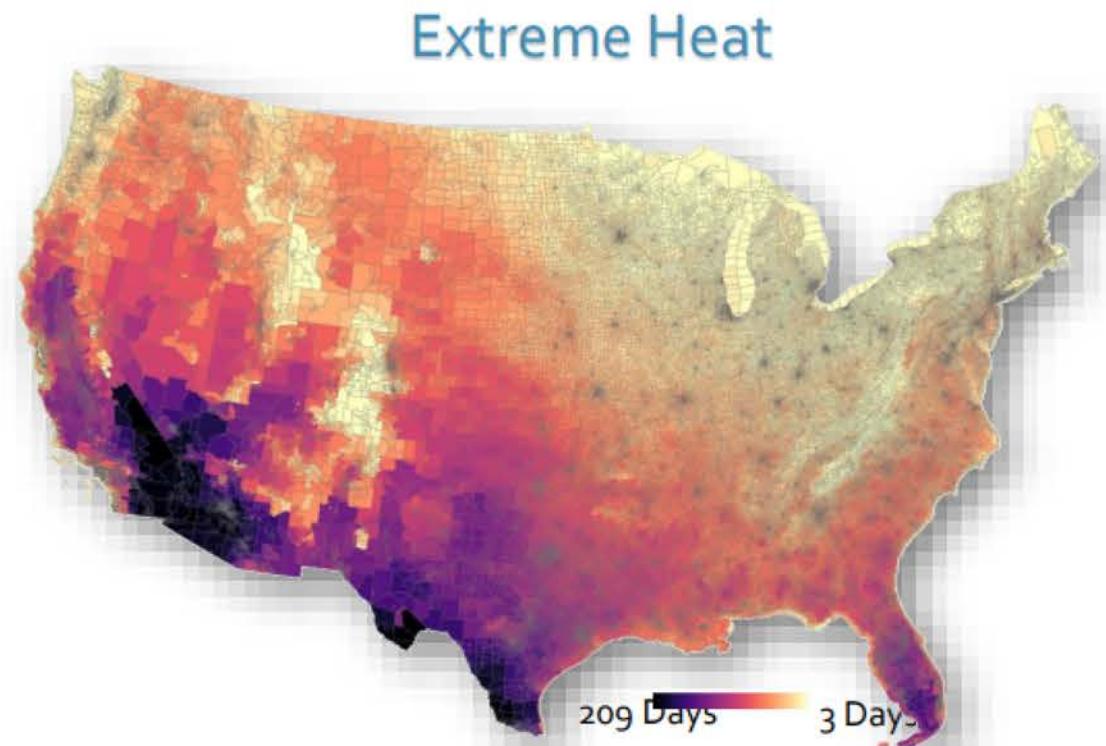
- ▶ Annually updated environmental data
- ▶ Annually updated demographics - from most recent U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS)
- ▶ Highest resolution data available
- ▶ Locations of community interest can be overlaid via the “Places” tab
- ▶ Produces maps, graphs & reports
- ▶ Ability to download data
- ▶ Accessibility / ease of use



Main EJScreen v2.3 Updates

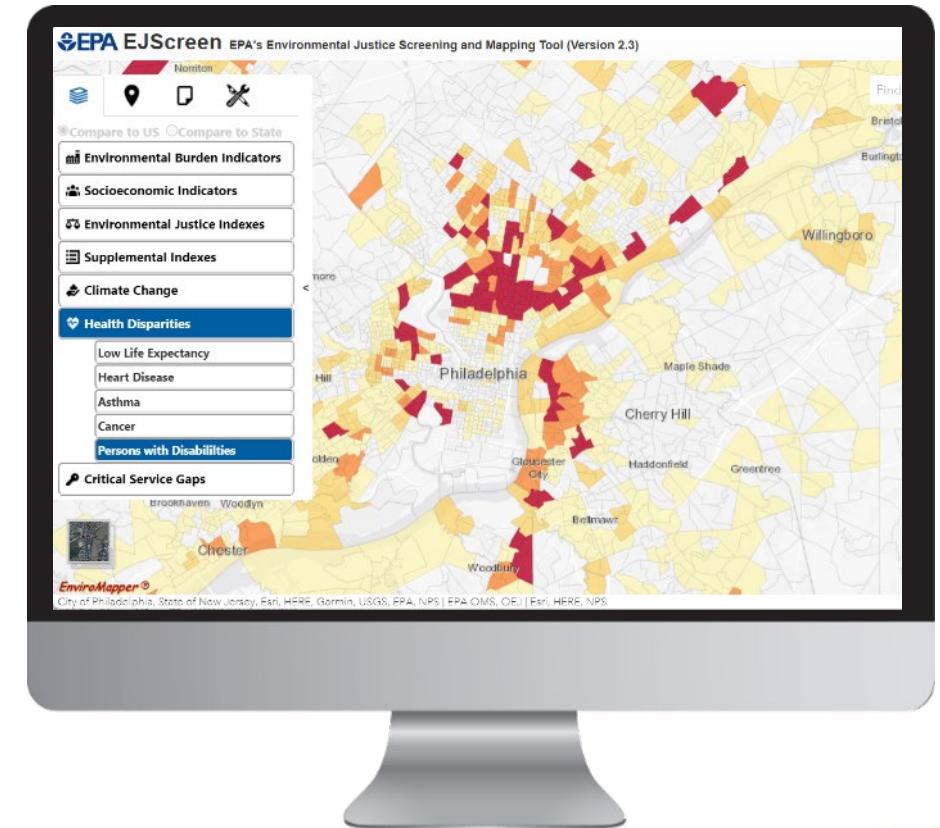
- **New Indexes & Indicators**
 - Drinking water health-based non-compliance
 - Satellite NO₂ data
- **New Map Layers**
 - Superfund Boundaries
 - Extreme heat
 - Private domestic wells
 - DW service area boundaries
 - EJ Grants
- **Calculation Changes**
 - Disabilities included in the Supplemental Index

- **Interface Enhancements & Other Changes**
 - Revamped Website & Enhanced Popups



EJScreen Resources

- ▶ [EJScreen website](#)
- ▶ [Trainings and Office Hours](#)
- ▶ [EJScreen Updates](#)
- ▶ [EJScreen Videos](#)
- ▶ [EJScreen Technical Document](#)
- ▶ [Download EJScreen Data](#)



[Click to access EJScreen Tool](#)

Questions?

EJSCREEN EPA Contact Information:

- EPA Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights:
Matthew T. Lee (Lee.Matthew@epa.gov)
- EPA Region 7: Monica Shirley-Drew (ShirleyDrew.Monica@epa.gov)



EPA Region 7 Green Vista Corps Program

*Cassandra Krul, EPA Program
Director/Coordinator*

EPA Region 7 Green VISTA Corps

Program & Application Information



Presented By:

Cassandra Krul

Program Director / Coordinator



AmeriCorps

The logo for EPA Region 7, featuring the 'EPA' monogram and the text 'Region 7' below it.

What is AmeriCorps?



- ▶ Federal agency derived from Domestic Volunteer Service Act (DVSA) of 1973
- ▶ Network of national service programs that improve lives and foster civic engagement
- ▶ **Volunteers In Service To America**



VISTA Focus Areas



Environmental Stewardship



Healthy Futures



Education



Economic Opportunity



Veterans & Military Families

Environmental Stewardship

Supporting communities impoverished by environmental degradation

Examples Include:

- Climate Change
- Environmental Justice
- Water Quality & Infrastructure



Healthy Futures

Meeting health needs for impoverished individuals and communities

Examples Include:

- Food Waste Reduction
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Food Sovereignty
- Energy Efficiency

Who Are VISTA Members?

Eligibility

- ▶ 18+ years of age
- ▶ U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents
- ▶ Must pass a criminal history review
- ▶ Local or national recruits
- ▶ May have specific knowledge, skills, or abilities required by the host site and/or sponsor

Benefits

- ▶ Biweekly living allowance
- ▶ End of Service award
- ▶ Health benefits
- ▶ Professional development
- ▶ Non-competitive eligibility



What VISTA Members Do

Each VISTA member works full-time for one year at a host site and can...

Create Partnerships

- Community outreach
- Event planning
- Improving communications

Build Volunteer Management Systems

- Engage and coordinate
- Recruitment
- Design databases

Expand Current Programs

- Marketing
- Evaluation and continuous improvement
- Create maps

Leverage Cash & In-Kind Resources

- Grant writing
- Fundraising

While individual VISTA members only serve one year, the projects they work on can last up to three years

What VISTA Members *Don't* Do

- ▶ International work
- ▶ Religious activity
- ▶ Certain political activities:
 - ▶ Hatch Act
 - ▶ Voter registration
 - ▶ Union organizing
- ▶ Supplanting staff or existing volunteers
- ▶ *Direct service activities*



Direct Service vs Indirect Service



Capacity Building (Indirect Service)

Interpret and instruct on environmental

Tasks and activities to expand the
scale, reach, efficiency, or
effectiveness of specific
antipoverty projects

Conduct outreach and secure resources in support of environmental

Develop, expand, and assess program effectiveness, strategic planning,
process improvement

Develop database that tracks buildings and resources needed to revitalize
buildings

Direct Service

and evaluate projects to mitigate solid waste
relationships with other organizations working to

Providing services to the identified
project recipient or clients of a
project (i.e. working directly with
the beneficiary)

Green VISTA Corps

Focus Areas

Underserved Communities with Environmental & Public Health Challenges

BIL & IRA*
Funding
Opportunities

**Healthy
Homes and
Energy
Efficiency**

**Sustainable
Development**

**Water
Infrastructure**

*BIL - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

*IRA - Inflation Reduction Act

Important Notes



★ **VISTA members will not represent EPA**

- ▶ VISTA members are not federal employees, interns, or free labor—they are AmeriCorps Members.

★ **Projects are not limited to EPA delegated authorities**

- ▶ Projects do not have to be solely focused on activities that EPA has authorization to do under its environmental programs.

★ **Projects are identified and managed by host sites**

- ▶ Host sites submit project ideas to EPA.
- ▶ EPA and AmeriCorps select projects.
- ▶ EPA supports projects by taking on administrative burden, providing training and technical guidance.

Criteria for Being a Green VISTA Corps Host Site

- ✓ Be a public, private, or faith-based nonprofit organization or a local government agency.
- ✓ Serve significant low-income and/or historically underserved communities in the EPA Region 7 geographic area (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska).
- ✓ Serve communities recognized as overburdened and that have been significantly impacted by at least one EPA Environmental Justice index.
- ✓ Have resources available for members to perform their tasks (i.e., workspace, consumable supplies, computer access, telephone, on-the-job transportation reimbursement, etc.).
- ✓ Have the capacity and commitment to train, supervise, and otherwise support recruited VISTA members in appropriate capacity-building roles.
- ✓ Be experienced in the issues related to the beneficiaries of service and those being addressed by the proposed project.

Example Green VISTA Corps Project Activities



Assist local nonprofit watershed groups in planning, developing, implementing, and evaluating projects to mitigate nonpoint source pollution in low-income communities.



Conduct educational outreach and provide resources on healthy homes, asbestos management, lead-based paint, and pesticides to populations experiencing racial inequity.



Build capacity for and provide short-term resources to land revitalization groups looking to clean up dilapidated buildings, with the long-term goal of building low-income or senior housing.



Expand air pollution monitoring capabilities, provide education to, and research opportunities to bridge the gap between geographic boundaries in vulnerable communities.

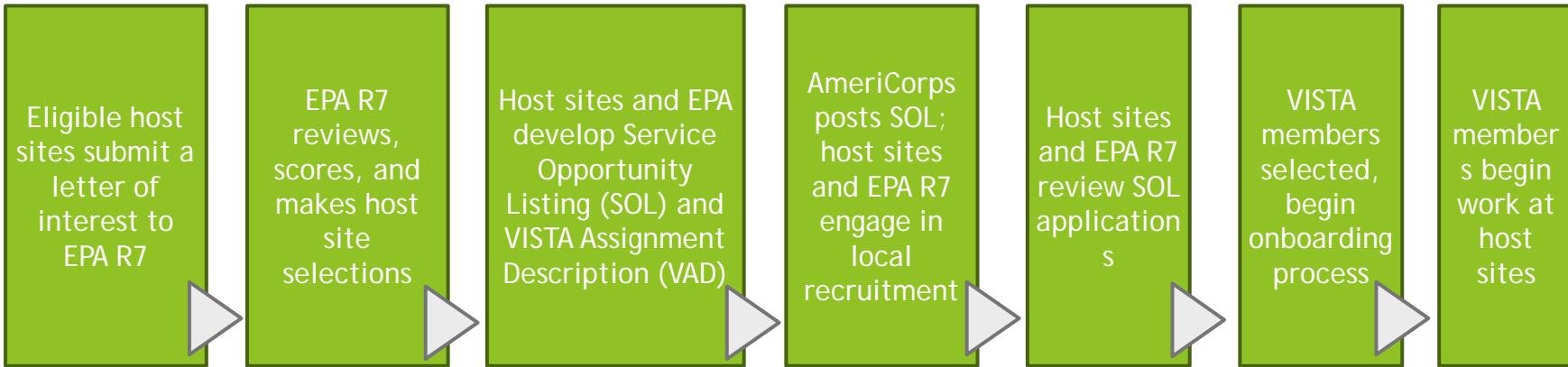


Assist non-profit and tribal organizations in grant writing to support environmental programs.

Why Be A Green VISTA Corps Host Site?

- Hands-on support to your organization from a VISTA member in building programs that benefit your community.
- Reduced administrative burden compared to hosting a VISTA on your own.
- Project development and technical assistance from federal partners.
- Training and teambuilding opportunities for your VISTA member.

How to Apply? Important Dates & Timeline



Goal to have host sites onboarded by end of 2024 and VISTA members placed as early as February 2025



- ★ Projects don't have to be completely developed
- ★ *This program is noncompetitive*
- ★ *Send your letter of interest to Cassandra Krul at krul.cassandra@epa.gov*

EPA Grantee Spotlight – Iowa Environmental Council

Cody Smith, Director of Climate Initiatives





Iowa
Environmental
Council

EPA GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

CODY SMITH, IEC DIRECTOR OF CLIMATE
INITIATIVES

IOWA ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL (IEC)

- IEC is a statewide nonprofit organization and is the largest environmental coalition in Iowa.
- Our values:
 - Our work is informed by science, data, and stories
 - Sometimes we educate and lead; other times, we learn and follow
 - We are inclusive, non-partisan, and we listen to others
- Our mission is a just, healthy environment and a sustainable future for all Iowans.



IEC'S APPROACH TO ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- We are committed and we play a role.
- Our role is to elevate local solutions to implement change.
- Our work is data driven and strategically planned to benefit the Iowans with the greatest need.
- Disadvantaged communities facing environmental justice burdens are also diverse and/or low-income.



IEC's CLIMATE INITIATIVES PROGRAM

The Climate Initiatives Program advances a future where Iowans and the communities they call home are resilient to the impacts of climate change.

Four pillars:

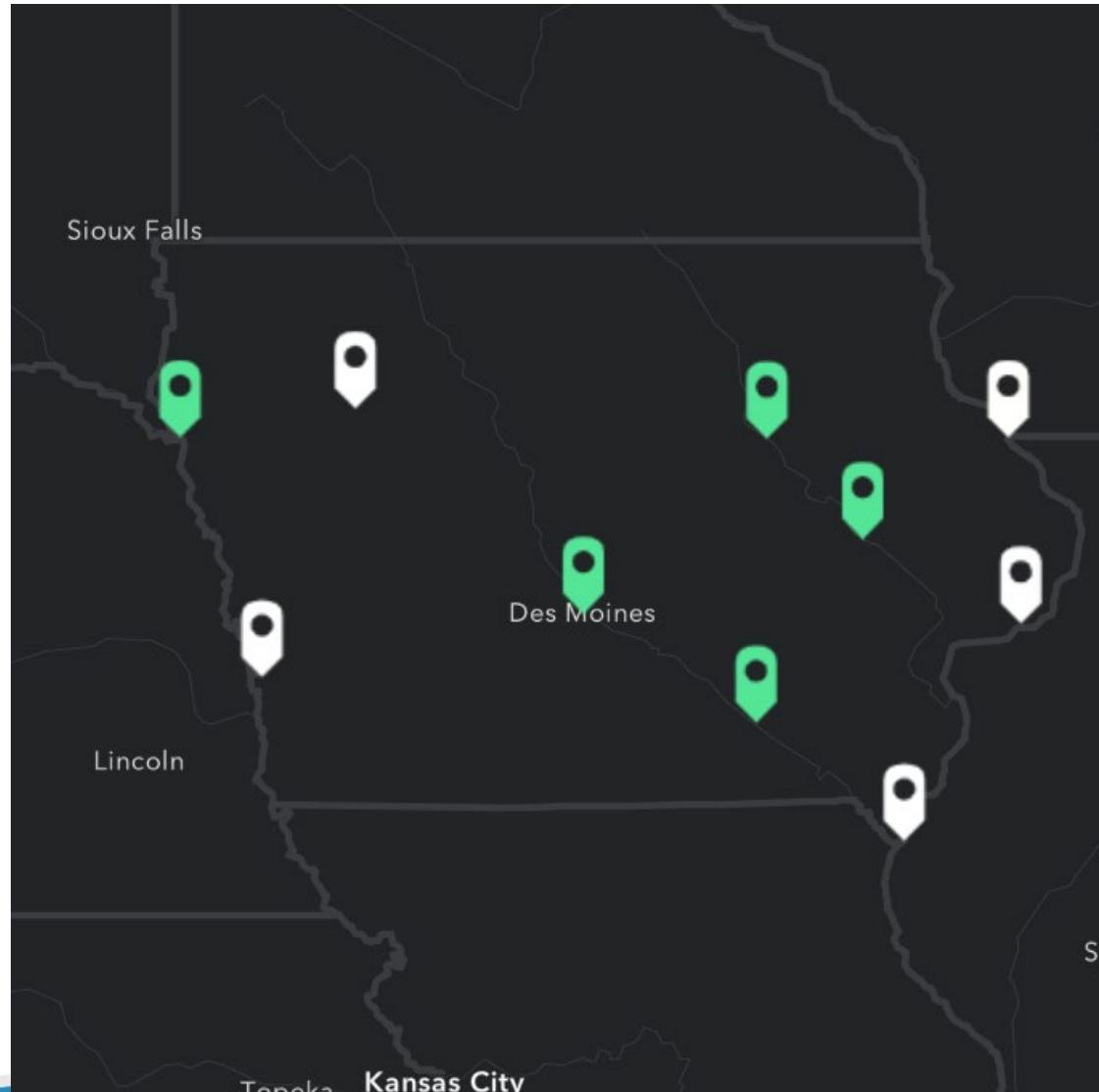
- ◀ **Environmental Justice**
- ◀ Community Infrastructure
- ◀ Disaster Preparedness
- ◀ Quality of Life



TARGET COMMUNITIES With EJ CONCERNs IN IOWA

IEC identified five communities (out of those defined as disadvantaged) where we will focus our environmental advocacy. These include **Sioux City, Des Moines, Ottumwa, Cedar Rapids, and Waterloo**.

Other communities, such as **Storm Lake, Council Bluffs, Keokuk, Dubuque, and Davenport** also showed high indicators of environmental burden.



IEC'S EPA AWARDED GRANTS



EPA EJ GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT GRANT

Goals:

- ↳ Increase EJ engagement and capacity in Iowa
- ↳ Highlight EJ hazards inside and outside the home

Milestones:

- ↳ Environmental Justice Health Equity Program with trained local navigators
- ↳ Reach & connect underserved populations

Key Partners:

- ↳ Iowa Department of Health and Human Services
- ↳ Refugee and Immigrants Association
- ↳ Broadlawns Medical Center
- ↳ Baptist Convention of Iowa



INCREASING HEALTH EQUITY AND AWARENESS

- ▶ Focus on environmental health hazards such as:
 - lead services lines
 - lead paint
 - poor air quality
- ▶ Learn about community-specific health equity challenges.
- ▶ Work with community-based partners to train their selected EJ navigators to address challenges.



EPA EJ COLLABORATIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING GRANT

- ▶ **Goal:**
 - Build leadership and capacity for EJ in Iowa
- ▶ **Milestones:**
 - Build & train EJ Cohorts in 4 communities
 - Share funding resources
 - Equip communities with project plans
- ▶ **Key Partners:**
 - Drake University
 - Great Plains Action Society
 - Polk County
 - Iowa Department of Health and Human Services



BUILDING LEADERSHIP FOR JUSTICE

- ▶ Local CBO partners select cohort participants, IEC helps train them and learn from their lived experiences to identify EJ issues in their community.
- ▶ IEC trains EJ cohorts to build understanding and capacity to address identified challenges.
- ▶ Each community leaves with a project plan to address EJ issues and IEC helps them engage a coalition of stakeholders to solve EJ challenges

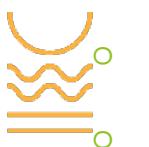


EPA THRIVING COMMUNITIES TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTERS (TCTAC)

- ▶ **Goal:**
 - Connect disadvantaged communities with federal funding and provide technical assistance
- ▶ **Milestones:**
 - Develop target communities
 - Establish federal funding resources
 - Assist communities in Iowa to be competitive for federal funding
- ▶ **Key Partners:**
 - [Heartland Environmental Justice Center at Wichita State University](#)
 - Iowa Energy Fund
 - Iowa Council of Foundations
 - Iowa Public Health Association



Heartland Environmental Justice Center



EPA TCTAC PROCESS

- ▶ **Step One:** Disadvantaged communities experience EJ burden and shares experiences with IEC/partners
- ▶ **Step Two:** IEC works with community leaders to identify potential solutions/funding
- ▶ **Step Three:** IEC connects communities with HEJC for technical assistance & application assistance.
- ▶ **Step Four:** Community submits funding application(s)
- ▶ **Step Five:** Communities receive federal funds to alleviate the challenges they face, IEC supports



Communities

IECTCTAC

Heartland EJ
Center

Federal Funding



Meaningful Engagement in IEC's EPA Projects

Collaborative Problem Solving:

- ◀ Locally-selected EJ leadership cohorts
- ◀ Issue-directed stakeholder coalitions

Government to Government:

- ◀ Local project advisory councils in target communities.
- ◀ Statewide EJ project advisory team

Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers:

- ◀ Using data to inform partnerships in priority EJ communities.
- ◀ Focus on influential leaders and organizations in priority communities to help identify need and drive program applications.





THANK YOU!



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Brief Questions and Answers

- ▶ Any questions for previous speakers?



Please put your questions in the Q & A box or raise your hand.

Break Out Rooms

- ▶ **1. Meaningful Engagement Policy Update** – Shereen Kandil, EPA
- ▶ **2. Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program** - Toni Jones, RTI
- ▶ **3. EJScreen 2.3 Update** – Amanda Berry, EPA
- ▶ **4. Vista AmeriCorps** – Cassandra Krul, EPA
- ▶ **5. EJ Grantee Spotlight** – Cody Smith, Iowa Environmental Council
- ▶ **6. One open room – for general comments about other environmental justice related topics**

Break Out Room Instructions

- ▶ Once we open the Breakout Rooms, a prompt will appear on your screen notifying you of the 5 different Breakout Rooms.
- ▶ Please choose the room you would like to join, by clicking 'Join' and you will automatically be moved there.
- ▶ Once you are in a room you will be able to communicate with participants in that room.
- ▶ If you would like to leave that room, simply click 'Leave Room', then select 'Return to Main Room' or select a different room to join.
- ▶ If a prompt does not appear for you to join a room, please stay in the main room and raise your hand and I will manually move you to the room of your choice.

Breakout Room Logistics

- ▶ Purpose: To ask questions & have a discussion about the main topic, and network and share perspectives.
- ▶ Questions to think about: How does this topic pertain to my work and my community?
- ▶ What other detail would you like more information about?
- ▶ Where can I go for more information?
- ▶ What if I have other questions for any of the presenters?

Send questions or suggested discussion topics to :

R7-EJ-Stakeholders@epa.gov

Thank you and Stay in touch!

- ▶ **Email questions or concerns or ideas to:** R7-EJ-Stakeholders@epa.gov
- ▶ **Call Region 7's customer service line at 1-800-223-0425, and ask for Kimberly Burr or Monica Espinosa**
- ▶ **Join the national EJ Listserv:** Join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov
- ▶ **Join the R7 Communities distribution list:**
R7_Communities_Digest@epa.gov
- ▶ **Visit EPA's Community Info Guide:**
<https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/region-7-community-information-guide>