



### TRIBAL EMERGENCY SERVICES WINS COMMUNITY CLEANUP, DONATES TO CHILDCARE

This year's winners of the 2018 Annual Community Cleanup was the Tribal Emergency Services. The team members represented the Police Department, Fire Department and HR. In total, they collected 533 lbs of roadside garbage. They were awarded the 1st Place pizza party and chose to donate it to the Childcare classrooms who participated in the Community Cleanup.

“We are happy to have won the Community Clean-up. We had fun and it was a wonderful time out working together...It was nice to see the kids out and about helping cleanup but donating our 533 pounds to their 6 pounds so they win would be great. [We] can't think of a better capstone to a successful clean-up!”

Two childcare classrooms collected a total of 6 lbs of trash around the daycare and nearby buildings. Great job guys!! It is wonderful to see these little ones so happy to be taking care of the Earth.



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## INDOOR AIR QUALITY HOME ASSESSMENTS

The Air Program's Indoor Air Quality Home Assessment's Quality Assurance Project Plan and Standard Operating Procedures has received EPA approval. The Air Program has partnered with the Housing Department to conduct IAQ Assessments in Tribal homes to increase awareness, outreach and healthy homes in our community. The Air Pro-

gram is also accepting volunteer renters and homeowners within the reservation boundaries who would like an assessment, too. The Air Program has five (5) investigation tools to assist with identifying potential areas of concern that may affect human health. Call 785-966-8032 for more info! (All information is kept confidential)

*“Last August a strike of lightning hit the tower and destroyed all sensors connected and the data logger that stores data.” - Billie Toledo, Env. Tech*

### Ambient Monitoring Updates

The meteorological replacement sensors have been received from Met One Instruments and will be installed when the electrical conductor is replaced.

Last August a strike of lightning hit the tower and destroyed all sensors connected and the data logger that stores data.

The BAM-1020 continues to collect particulate matter 2.5 (PM2.5). A full year of data collecting will be completed in September; pending no unforeseen issues arise.

Once a full year is completed, the Environmental Technician will determine percentage of completeness. EPA standards require 75-100% completeness to be considered entry into data bases. In addition, completeness includes document management, record keeping, and quality assurance through project implementation and standard operating procedures.

### AIR QUALITY FLAG PROGRAM COMES TO PBPB

PBPB's Planning & Environmental Protection's Air Program is partnering with the Boys & Girls Club of PBPB to bring the Air Quality Flag Program to the PBPB reservation.

The Air Quality Flag Program is an initiative to provide current air quality so individuals with respiratory sensitivity (elders and children with asthma), community members, and local departments who cater services to the elder and youth can plan activities accordingly to decrease pollutant exposure during high concentration levels.

The flag pole is located in front of the Boys & Girls Club and will fly a colored pendant representing the quality of air.



Each colored flag represents Air Quality Index categories: Green – Good, Yellow – Moderate, Orange – Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups, Red – Unhealthy for Everyone, Purple – Very Unhealthy.



*Back, left to right: Marcus Oliveira, Thomas Jim, Bill Wilbur, Kyle Miller, Chris Sims  
Front, Left to right: Billie Toledo, Virginia LeClere, Ma'Ko'Quah Abigail Jones, Verna Potts*

## SOLID WASTE PROGRAM UPDATES

- Please bag up kitty litter and other animal waste material for disposal to **eliminate airborne fecal matter and pathogens** that can potentially harm human health.
- All **bins need to be in designated area** on service days by 8:00 am.
- Solid Waste and Waste Water staff will **no longer take service requests or** complaints while out **in the field**. Call 785-966-2946 for all inquiries, complaints or to report issues.
- Curbside disposal customers **removing curbside or recycle bins** from vacant units or from PBPB property without authorization is **considered theft**. Any extra bins will be removed immediately without notice.
- Like all utilities, it is the responsibility of the curbside disposal account holder to notify the office to **discontinue services** or if someone else be responsible of monthly payment. **P.E.P is not responsible** of accrued charges due to failure to notify of such account changes.
- Announcement of Service Cancellation Procedure: Account holders in the “scattered” route will receive a **notification of proceedings to cancel services due to non-payment**. The account holder will be given an appropriate timeframe to make payment(s) to avoid service cancellation. If payment is not received by the deadline, all bins will be picked up and **collection proceedings will be submitted to the courts**.

## CONGRATULATIONS

### BILL WILBUR

The Planning and Environmental Protection Department would like to congratulate our fellow team member, Bill Wilbur on his recent retirement. Bill has worked for the Planning and Environmental Protection Department for 14 years. He was instrumental in the development and maintenance of the Tribal orchard. Bill utilized the principles of integrated pest management to maintain the orchard with ZERO chemical or fertilizer application. In addition, Bill was a member of the 2006-2013 solid waste division team that won 5 national Tribal solid and hazardous waste grant awards. The PEP staff will miss Bill greatly, but please join us in wishing him a happy relaxing and fun retirement!

# Meet Our 2018 Summer Youth Workers!



The Planning and Environmental Protection staff was pleased to welcome 5 summer youth workers throughout the summer; 3 in June and 2 in July. During the month of June, Dominique 'Noteno' Wabaunsee, Clint 'Patch' Potts, and Alberto 'Mando' Tinajero assisted with recycling, waste and wastewater duties, as well as a special records management & storage project. All three youth were very motivated and congenial even while laboring through dirty, stink, hot and generally unfavorable conditions. We are very proud of their work and wish them the best of luck!

Noteno's favorite part of the job was working at the wastewater plant and looking at the micro-organisms through the microscope. Her least favorite part was sorting recyclables at the Integrated Waste Management facility. One of the things she was surprised to learn was that the Tribe managed and treated their own wastewater. Noteno will be a junior in high school and hopes to go into a nursing.

Alberto's favorite part of the job was working also working at the wastewater plant. His least favorite part was sorting recyclables at the Integrated Waste Management facility. He was surprised to learn that all of the recyclables collected were sorted by hand. Mando is going to be a sophomore and hopes to go into the military.

Patch will be a sophomore but was unavailable for an interview.



During the month of July Ben Foster and Xavier Stanley worked in the PEP Department. Ben's favorite part of the job was baling cardboard and completing wastewater activities. His least favorite part was running the scattered trash route. Ben has family members that work in the wastewater industry and he is interested in pursuing a job as an operator in the future.

Xavier's favorite part of the job was baling cardboard and collecting food waste for compost. His least favorite part was mixing the food waste. Xavier hopes to join the Tribal Planning and Environmental Protection Department team in the future. We will welcome him.



TIRES DUMPED OVER BIG SOLDIER BRIDGE AT 118 & I ROAD



OIL BARRELS ILLEGALLY DUMPED AT MILLER CREEK AT N ROAD BETWEEN 142 AND 134TH

## ILLEGAL DUMPING & how it effects the ENTIRE COMMUNITY

Why would someone consider dumping trash off a bridge or tossing it out of vehicle when there are so many options available that one can use to keep our community a clean and healthy one?

When you randomly dump trash you contribute to the disruption of nature's processes on land and water. Animals such as birds and fish die after ingesting or becoming entangled in trash. When you dump trash off a bridge, **you are contaminating your own water source that eventually makes its way to your faucet.** Public water supply districts rely heavily upon surface water as their main water source. Even if that stream may be dry at one time of the year, it will eventually have water that flows through it and moves downstream to a larger body of water.

Improper waste disposal also affects tourism and economic growth of our community as places where the unsightly appearance of trash is evident, there is little to no tourism because of the ugliness.

Proper waste management begins with the choice that you make in regards to waste disposal. Jackson County recycling center (600 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Holton, KS, 785-364-3459) will accept oil, household chemicals and agricultural chemicals.

The PEP dept. will pick up and dispose of tires for a small fee. You must simply fill out a tire request form and pay the fee. This form can be found on-line or call the PEP dept. (785-966-2946). If you catch someone illegally dumping, report immediately to PBPN police dept. (785-966-3024) and PEP dept. (785-966-2946).



## Courtesy Request from Your Curbside Waste & Recycling Provider

The PEP operators request all customers in concentrated housing developments/clusters (especially Buffalo Drive) store trash and recycling containers against the apartment and duplex units until the day of service. We've encountered the following issues when containers are left at the curbside for prolonged periods of time:

- Containers are tipped by the wind and trash/materials are blown throughout the surrounding area
- Confusion regarding ownership of containers; neighbors using wrong container
- Unsightly neighborhood appearance. No one wants to see a row of trash containers when driving through their lovely neighborhood every single day

In addition, the PEP requests that residents avoid placing furniture and trash at the end of the driveway or any other public space without completing and paying for a work order request. **This action is considered illegal dumping and the Nation will enforce accordingly.**

## Never EVER Dump Grease, Oil, or Fat Down the Drain. EVER.

Grease in sewer pipes is a big problem. Not only does it create mechanical problems at pump stations and treatment plants, but it can build up in your pipes and cause raw sewage to back up into your home. Cleaning up a sewage backup is expensive and must be done by professionals to avoid the dangerous and unhealthy bacterial exposure.

### Average cost of sewage backup clean up:

**Plumber to clear line- \$100**

**Septic tank cleaning - \$80-\$160**

**Disposal of carpet, flooring, drywall, insulation - \$80-240**

**Water damage restoration specialists- \$1000-5000**

**Disposal of personal/family mementos - priceless**

### What can you do?

**Minimize or eliminate the use of garbage disposals**

**Always scrape hardened grease and fatty food scraps into the trash**

**Contact your nearest recycling center to recycle used cooking oil**

PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI NATION DIVI-  
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