

If you have questions, we still have answers.

We hope you are staying safe and making the most of your summer. The Nevada Business Environmental Program (BEP) at the University of Nevada, Reno remains open and staffed with a statewide team to provide free and confidential business advisory services to Nevada businesses.

If you have any environmental or energy questions or concerns, do not hesitate to get in touch with us. While the COVID-19 emergency may have us primarily working remotely we are staffed as always from 8am - 5pm, Monday through Friday.

Our toll-free hotline is still taking calls and we are promptly answering all emails. We are also available to communicate via calls, photos, and online video meetings.

Hotline: (800) 882-3233 Email: help@unrbep.org

Visit our BEP website.

News & Updates

Rental Assistance Grant Program for Nevada Small Businesses

Accepting Applications August 24 - August 31, 2020

The <u>Nevada Commercial Rental Assistance Grant (CRAG) Program</u>, with \$19 million in Coronavirus Relief Funds, opens on August 24th for one week to provide commercial rental relief for Nevada small businesses including non-profits, sole proprietorships, independent contractors and self-employed persons. Applicants must show a revenue loss as a direct result of the pandemic, and must not have received more than \$5,000 in cumulative COVID-19 gift or grant funds that could be used to cover rental payments, amongst other rules.

<u>DOWNLOAD</u> the fact sheet or <u>CLICK HERE</u> to learn more about the criteria for eligibility and application process. The grant is capped at \$10,000 per organization. The link to apply will be live and available on Monday, August 24th at 8 am PST. The last day to submit an application is August 31 at 5 pm.

Reopening Requirements for Nevada Businesses

Staying current with evolving and fluctuating requirements can be a challenge

What are the current requirements?

The <u>COVID-19 Re-Opening Response Plan</u> (July 1, 2020) and the <u>Roadmap to Recovery for Nevada Industry & Activity Specific Guidance</u> (last updated 8/11/20) are still in effect. The mandatory face covering policy (Directive 024 established on June 24, 2020) is also still in effect. There may be additional requirements imposed by your county government depending on various criteria as explained in the August 3, 2020 Nevada Health Response document <u>Road to Recovery: Moving to a New Normal</u>.

Who is enforcing these requirements?

The <u>Nevada Occupational Safety and Health Administration</u> (OSHA) has been given enforcement authority for enforcing the COVID-19 mandatory requirements. Nevada OSHA makes unannounced visits to businesses to observe compliance with face coverings, social distancing and other requirements in the Governor's directives. They also respond to complaints. To learn more about their enforcement process CLICK HERE.

How do I keep up to date with new developments?

For the most current information on Nevada guidelines, check often:

- Nevada Health Response
- Nevada OSHA
- Your county government website for any additional requirements

Nevada SBDC & BEP Reopening Resources

The Nevada SBDC and BEP have developed tip sheets for businesses which are either getting ready to open or have already opened and are operating under Governor Sisolak's current reopening guidelines and any additional local guidelines.

Our tip sheets are updated as needed when new guidance is released. Check our <u>tip sheet homepage</u> often to view and download the latest tip sheets.

Nevada SBDC's <u>Business Resiliency Resources</u> provide helpful information. Counselors at the <u>Nevada Small Business Development Center</u> and <u>BEP</u> are available to assist you with analyzing your options for cleaning and disinfecting and to help keep you in business and profitable.

New EPA Research: COVID-19 Long-Lasting Disinfectants

Attend EPA's Free Webinar on August 27th to Learn More

At BEP we have been receiving numerous inquiries about the effectiveness of long-lasting antimicrobial cleaners and their effectiveness against COVID-19. At present, no long-lasting antimicrobial cleaners have been approved, but US EPA researchers are currently <u>studying</u> whether antimicrobials can provide long lasting disinfection on surfaces.

Here is an opportunity to follow the process and get updates. Plan to attend the <u>US EPA Homeland Security Research Webinar – COVID-19 Long-Lasting Disinfectants</u> on Thursday, August 27th at 9:00 am (PDT) to learn more on the EPA's methods and get an update on testing progress. <u>CLICK HERE</u> to learn more.

While no company has yet to prove long-lasting virus kill effectiveness, many seem to be in the test phase. The promise of not only eliminating viruses on high touch surfaces over time but avoiding the high frequency of cleaning is very attractive. Such products could reduce the health and environmental impacts of strong disinfectants and sanitizers.

1-Bromopropane (1-BP) Added to HAPs List

Do you use 1-BP? EPA is looking for your input on impacts.

The US EPA is moving forward with the petition to add 1-Bromopropane (1-BP) to the Clean Air Act list of Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs). 1-BP is being added to the HAPs list because it is considered carcinogenic and toxic and can cause adverse effects to human health if inhaled for short or long periods of time. It is commonly used as a solvent in vapor degreasing, dry cleaning, spot cleaners, stain removers, adhesives, sealants, and automobile care products.

The <u>final granting notice was published</u> June 18, 2020 and EPA is now looking for user input on the impacts of the 1-BP petition to stakeholders and the number of industries or businesses that are using 1-BP. The final notice does not have any impacts and no regulatory requirements will come into effect until the EPA adds 1-BP to the list of air toxics. If you use 1-BP, now is your opportunity to provide input to US EPA. Any user input would be helpful.

To help shape the final regulations please <u>CLICK HERE</u> to access the input form or email Rhonda Wright at <u>wright.rhonda@epa.gov</u>.

State Legislative Commission to Review Changes to Nevada's Hazardous Waste Program

Review required before final adoption of proposed updates

On August 25 at 1pm, the State Legislative Commission will be reviewing the <u>proposed updates</u> to Nevada's hazardous waste regulations. While the Nevada State Environmental Commission approved the updates on July 1, 2020, the State Legislative Commission must adopt the regulations for them to be effective in the state. <u>CLICK HERE</u> to review an agenda for the meeting. Once the Legislative Commission approves the updates, they will be in effect from that date forward.

Free & Confidential Environmental Assistance We look forward to hearing from you.

Stay Safe to Stay Open Nevada Wear a Mask!

The Nevada Business Environmental Program is a partnership program funded, in part, by the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection and the US Environmental Protection Agency.