



Business Environmental Program NEVADA

If you have questions, we still have answers.

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

Updated Guidance For Nevada Safe Gatherings

Governor Steve Sisolak signed [Emergency Directive 033](#), effective on October 1, 2020, to facilitate larger gatherings and events while still diminishing personal contact and increasing the level of disinfection in high use areas. Starting on October 1st, gatherings of 250 people or 50 percent of fire code capacity, whichever is less, will be permitted in any indoor or outdoor area. Gatherings at private residences are limited to a 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors. Gatherings at large venues will be permitted to host events larger than 250 people provided they meet the requirements laid out in the Governor's latest directive.

For more details, visit nvhealthresponse.nv.gov and the review the [Nevada Guidance for Safe Gatherings](#) which includes [screening](#) guidelines for employees and visitors and [signage templates](#).

Comments Welcome on Draft City of Las Vegas Master Plan

Comments are due October 22, 2020

The City of Las Vegas released a [public draft of the City of Las Vegas 2050 Master Plan](#) and welcomes comments from the general public and community stakeholders. After extensive public outreach, the City and its consultant team, SmithGroup, have drafted a vision, goals, outcomes and actions to guide future city growth and development, capital improvement projects, and City programming for the next thirty years. As a comprehensive master plan, the plan addresses:

- Land Use, infill, and transit-oriented development for 16 areas of the city
- The Mojave Desert environment, urban forestry, parks and open space, food and urban agriculture, and environmental justice
- Education, economic and workforce development, housing, and homelessness
- Transportation, natural resources, water conservation, greenhouse gas emissions, public health and safety, public facilities and services, and hazard mitigation

More information about the plan and its process can be found at the website www.masterplan.vegas. General comments of any type can be submitted to masterplan@lasvegasnevada.gov by October 22, 2020.

Upcoming Webinars and Trainings

Nevada Schools Environmental Roundtable: October 14, 2020

Our next virtual round table for Nevada school environmental, operations, and facilities staff will be held on October 14th at 9 am. We are excited to bring in Washoe County School District Transportation staff to discuss the challenges they have faced during this unprecedented time and how they have overcome the hurdles in cleaning buses, managing routes, and keeping everyone safe. We will also discuss the challenge Nevada schools have faced when confronted with new cleaning products and new cleaning processes. BEP will provide a “checklist” for school personnel to help schools decide if the sales pitch for a new product or process should be considered more closely.

If your school would like to attend this round table, please email Liz Futch at efutch@unr.edu.

Start Smart with Nevada Small Business Development Center (SBDC): October 21, 2020

On October 21st at 1:30pm, the Nevada SBDC will be offering its signature 90 minute webinar for those who are looking to start a business or who have recently opened one. Many potential entrepreneurs are considering starting new businesses to address opportunities created by the pandemic but it's vital to evaluate the potential of your idea before jumping into business.

Start your business off on the right foot. Attendees will learn about the critical first steps in starting a business and gain the knowledge they need to be successful business owners.

To [register](#), visit the [Nevada SBDC website](#).

Environmental News

SBA Roundtable for Cyclic Aliphatic Bromide Cluster (HBCD)

Input sought from small businesses on potential regulations for HBCD

The U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy is holding a roundtable meeting Friday, October 16, 2020 from 10:00am - 11:00m where EPA will be providing an overview of the [final risk evaluation](#) for Cyclic Aliphatic Bromide Cluster ([HBCD](#)). EPA found the import, processing, recycling, commercial use, consumer use, and disposal of HBCD present unreasonable risks to the environment and the use of HBCD in building and construction materials and exposure through demolition present an unreasonable risk to workers and occupational non-users.

Although the risk evaluation is final, no regulations have been proposed yet. There will be time after EPA's presentation to provide input on the impacts of possible regulations for HBCD.

If you wish to attend this meeting, which is open to all interested persons, send your RSVP to david.rostker@sba.gov. A meeting link will be provided to you when you RSVP. If you are not able to attend the meeting you can still provide input before or after the meeting to david.rostker@sba.gov.

Dental Office Category Rule

Deadline to report mercury used in amalgams discharged to POTWs is October 12, 2020

The US Environmental Protection Agency promulgated pretreatment standards in 2017 to reduce discharges of mercury from dental offices into [publicly owned treatment works](#) (POTWs). The Dental Office Category regulation, [40 CFR Part 441](#), applies to offices, including large institutions such as dental schools and clinics, where dentistry is practiced that discharge to POTWs.

The deadline for the one-time reporting requirement for dental offices that discharge mercury used in amalgams to publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) is October 12, 2020. In addition to the reporting requirement, dental offices that place or remove amalgam must operate and maintain an amalgam separator and must not discharge scrap amalgam or use certain kinds of line cleaners.

For more information, review the [Frequently Asked Questions on the Dental Office Category Rule](#).

EPA Safer Choice Partner Awards

On September 24, 2020, the EPA announced the [Safer Choice Partner of the Year Awards](#). The awards recognize partners and stakeholders who advance the goal of chemical safety by achieving outstanding or innovative source reduction whether through design, manufacture, selection, and use of products with safer chemicals.

[Safer Choice](#) is a program that reviews all ingredients in a product including fragrances and additives. A company's product ingredients are compared against safer ingredient criteria and thresholds ensuring they contain only the safest ingredients. The product will only carry the Safer Choice label once it meets these rigorous standards.

When purchasing new products – especially various cleaning products, detergents, and care/maintenance products – look for products with the [Safer Choice label](#) or contact BEP to help review your product choices.

To learn more about Safer Choice and if your company can become a partner, contact BEP.

Funding Opportunities

\$400 Wood Stove Rebates Still Available for Homeowners in Nevada's Tahoe Basin

If you live in the Tahoe Basin portion of Douglas County or Washoe County, you may be eligible to receive a rebate of \$400 to change-out your old pre-1992 wood stove for a new wood stove, pellet stove, or gas stove. New stoves are cleaner burning, which helps our local air quality. New stoves are also more efficient and use less wood so you can save money each winter on heating your house.

Act quickly! Only a few rebates remain and they are available on a first come, first served basis until funds run out.

To learn more about the program and participating wood stove retailers, [CLICK HERE](#).

New Nevada PETS Grant Program Makes its Debut

Small businesses are eligible

Beginning October 19th at 8am, the new Pandemic Emergency Technical Support (PETS) Grant Program will open. This new operational support grant program makes \$19 million available to Nevada small businesses, non-profits, arts and culture organizations, and local Chambers of Commerce statewide to cover different expenses related to working capital (rent, inventory, payroll, utilities, etc.), personal protective equipment (PPE), supplies for cleaning and disinfection, and retrofits necessary to meet social distancing and other health guidelines due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eligible small businesses can apply for grants up to \$10,000. Applications will be accepted October 19th through November 2nd. For eligibility requirements and to learn more, visit the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development [website](#).

If you have questions about products used for cleaning and disinfecting, contact BEP.

City of Henderson Recovery Grant Program

Round Two is Now Open!

For businesses operating within the City of Henderson, with a current business license, the City of Henderson has developed a [business support grant](#) using federal CARES Act Relief Funds. The grant funds can be used for working capital expenses such as rent, utilities, inventory, payroll, and license fees. Depending on a business' number of full-time equivalent employees, grants can range from \$2,500 to \$40,000.

Applications are being accepted until October 15, 2020 or until funds run out. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more.

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.