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If you have questions, we still have answers.

The Nevada Business Environmental Program (<u>BEP</u>) 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

Wood Stove Change-Out Rebates Available Again for A Limited Time in Carson City and Douglas County

Are you home more during the pandemic? Do you have an older wood stove or zero clearance wood fireplace insert that isn't getting the job done anymore or is using too much wood?

Improve the heat and comfort of your home, use less wood each winter, and save some money by replacing your old pre-1992 wood stove with a new US EPA-certified wood stove, pellet stove, or natural gas stove. You will also be helping your local community keep the air we breathe cleaner by emitting less particulate matter and soot into the atmosphere – a particular problem when there is a wintertime air inversion.

Rebates between \$600-\$1,200 are available, with a \$400 bonus rebate available for residents of the Tahoe Basin! Call BEP today for more information.

Mitigation Measures for COVID-19 in Nevada

Current <u>mitigation measures</u> for COVID-19 are posted on the Nevada Health Response <u>website</u>. Businesses including restaurants & bars, gyms, fitness and dance studios and others may continue to operate under strict social distancing requirements at 25% capacity.

CLICK HERE for the full list of impacted businesses and requirements.

Funding Opportunities

Energy Efficiency Incentives for 2021

The first month of 2021 is almost over. Now is the time to consider applying for rebates and incentives to help your company fund its energy initiatives. Whether the plan is to install a renewable energy system, upgrade heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment to high efficiency systems or replace older lighting with LEDs, there are incentives that can help your company save money and contribute to your sustainability and energy goals.

For rural small businesses and agricultural producers, the <u>Rural Energy for America Program</u> (REAP) provides loan guarantees and grant funding. Funds from loans can be used for renewable energy systems such as anaerobic digesters and geothermal projects. They also can be used to purchase and install energy efficiency equipment such as high efficiency HVAC systems or insulation. Grants are available for both energy efficiency initiatives and renewable energy systems. The minimum grant level for energy efficiency is \$1,500 with a maximum amount of \$250,000.

For those businesses in the NV Energy service area, incentives exist for everything from LED light bulb purchases to equipment in new construction projects that exceed energy code requirements. NV Energy's kickoff events for 2021 have begun but more information on the types of <u>incentives</u> offered can be found <u>here</u>. You can find <u>case studies</u> of past incentive award winners along with examples of projects funded <u>here</u>.

Not sure what types of projects to consider? Give us a call. We can help you think through what type of projects make sense for your company in 2021.

New SBA Shuttered Venue Operators (SVO) Grant

The Shuttered Venue Operators (SVO) <u>Grant</u> program was established by the Economic Aid to Hard-Hit Small Businesses, Nonprofits, and Venues Act, signed into law on December 27, 2020. The program includes \$15 billion in grants to shuttered venues, to be administered by the SBA's Office of Disaster Assistance. Eligible applicants may qualify for SVO Grants equal to 45% of their gross earned revenue, with the maximum amount available for a single grant award of \$10 million. \$2 billion is reserved for eligible applicants with up to 50 full-time employees.

Eligible entities include live venue operators or promoters, theatrical producers, live performing arts organization operators, museum operators, zoos and aquariums that meet specific criteria, motion picture theater operators and talent representatives.

The grant program is not yet accepting applications. <u>CLICK HERE</u> to review the latest information. A listing of all federal resources for small businesses can be found at <u>covid-sb.org</u>.

Counselors at the <u>Nevada Small Business Development Center</u> are available to assist you. Call (800) 240-7094 for more information.

Upcoming Webinars and Trainings

TODAY: Tax Implications of CARES Funding for Businesses Nevada SBDC webinar January 27th, 2021

Date: January 27, 2021 Time: 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (PST) Fee: No Fee Format: Webinar (Zoom) Registration: <u>REGISTER</u>

Tax season is upon us! Have you received PPP, EIDL, PETS, CRAG, NACO rural grants, and/or other grants that you are unsure how to report? Join the Nevada SBDC for a webinar led by Tim Nelson, CPA, CVA, CFE, President of Evans, Nelson, & Company, CPAs on how to identify and report grants and loans on your tax documents correctly and how to know when you may need a CPAs assistance.

An Intellectual Property Guide for Small Businesses

Nevada SBDC webinar February 25th, 2021

Date: February 25, 2021 Time: 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (PST) Fee: No Fee Format: Webinar Registration: <u>REGISTER</u>

The area of IP is as complex as it is important, especially for small business owners and entrepreneurs. There are cost-conscious, reasonable steps that can and should be taken by independent companies to add value to their business and to protect their creations, particularly in this era of online counterfeits and scams. This webinar will provide an introduction to protections available through patents, copyright, trademark, and trade dress as well as the benefits of intellectual property registrations and enforcement resources.

This webinar will be presented by Caleb L. Green, Esq. Caleb Green is an attorney in the Dickinson Wright Las Vegas office. His practice revolves around all aspects of intellectual property law. He assists clients with brand development and identifying protectable aspects of the clients' products, services, and concepts.

Environmental News

New Option in Nevada: Waiver with Written Approval on 50 feet Boundary for Ignitable and Reactive Waste Accumulations Part of Nevada's Updated Hazardous Waste Regulations With the adoption of <u>updated regulations</u>, the State of Nevada is now allowing Large Quantity Generators (LQGs) to store hazardous waste containers in their 90-day accumulation area <u>within 50 feet</u> <u>of the property line</u> IF a written approval is obtained from the local fire code authority. You must retain this approval for the entire time the waste is stored closer to 50 feet from the property line.

<u>CLICK HERE</u> to review the details of the new option. Have questions on how this could apply at your facility? Give BEP a call at (800) 882-3233 or email us at <u>help@unrbep.org</u>.

EPA Releases Interim Guidance on Destroying and Disposing of PFAS-Containing Materials That Are Not Consumer Products Comments are due February 22, 2021

The EPA has released for public comment <u>interim guidance</u> on destroying and disposing of certain <u>PFAS</u> and PFAS-containing materials from non-consumer products. Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals that includes PFOA, PFOS, and GenX chemicals that can be harmful to human health.

The guidance outlines the current state of the science on techniques and treatments that may be used to destroy or dispose of PFAS and PFAS-containing materials from non-consumer products including:

- Aqueous film-forming foam (for firefighting)
- Soil and biosolids
- Textiles, other than consumer goods, treated with PFAS
- Spent filters, membranes, resins, granular carbon, and other waste from water treatment
- Landfill leachate containing PFAS
- Solid, liquid, or gas waste streams containing PFAS from facilities manufacturing or using PFAS.

EPA will accept comments on the interim guidance until February 22, 2021. For more information, visit <u>www.epa.gov/pfas</u>. EPA will consider and incorporate comments, as appropriate, into a revised document and review and revise the interim guidance, as appropriate, or at least once every 3 years.

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.