



# 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 from home, 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](mailto:help@unrbep.org)**

[Visit our BEP website.](#)

## News & Updates

### **EPA's SBIR Phase 1 Solicitation to Open June 2020**

**Attend EPA's June 17th Informational Webinar to Learn More**

Are you an entrepreneur with an idea for green technology? EPA's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program may be an opportunity to help advance your innovation.

Join EPA's Informational Webinar on June 17th to learn about [EPA's SBIR program](#) , this year's [solicitation topics](#) , and how to apply for an SBIR contract. EPA SBIR program experts will be available to answer questions following the presentation.

Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2020  
Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. EDT  
Cost: Free  
Registration: [CLICK HERE](#) to register

EPA's 2020-2021 SBIR Phase I solicitation, to support eligible small businesses in the development and commercialization of innovative environmental technologies, is expected to open in late June 2020. EPA

is one of 11 federal agencies that participate in the SBIR Program. Phase I awards are for up to \$100,000 to demonstrate proof of concept in one of the [SBIR solicitation topic areas](#) . Successful Phase I awardees are eligible to receive Phase II funding, up to \$400,000 for two years.

[LEARN MORE](#) about [EPA's SBIR program](#) and funding opportunities.

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## Nevada SBDC and BEP in the News!

The work of the Nevada SBDC and BEP to help businesses prepare for reopening their businesses was recently featured in the Reno Gazette Journal article [Reaction, recovery and resiliency: Reopening your small business in Nevada](#) . The article highlights our [Business Resiliency Resources](#) and [Getting Back to Work in Nevada Tip Sheets](#) .

## New Reopening Tip Sheets for Small Businesses Barber Shops, Florists, In-Home Repair Businesses and Small Hotels

The Nevada SBDC and BEP have prepared new tip sheets for [Barber Shops](#) , [Florists](#) , [In-Home Repair Businesses](#) and [Small Hotels](#) . The tip sheets are for businesses which are either getting ready to open or have already opened and are operating under Governor Sisolak's continued Phase 1 and new Phase 2 guidelines. This is part of our [series of tip sheets](#) which lay out minimum requirements, tips for reopening and additional resources.

Download the new tip sheets:

[Getting Back to Work in Nevada: Barber Shops](#)  
[Getting Back to Work in Nevada: Florists](#)  
[Getting Back to Work in Nevada: In-Home Repair Businesses](#)  
[Getting Back to Work in Nevada: Small Hotels](#)

Check our [tip sheet homepage](#) often to view and download the latest tip sheets. Nevada SBDC's [Business Resiliency Resources](#) provide helpful information. Counselors at the [Nevada Small Business Development Center](#) and [BEP](#) are available to assist you with analyzing your options to help keep you in business and profitable.

## Waste Reduction for the Hospitality Industry Tips to decrease your waste volume and lower your disposal costs

Businesses are reopening and summer is starting. This is good for the hospitality industry but in the face of COVID-19, many challenges remain. One such challenge is the amount of trash generated. You may realize the waste stream at your business, whether it is a large hotel or a single Airbnb, is increasing. New items such as single use gloves and masks will increase the waste generated not only from your own operations but from guests as well.

Now is the time to embrace the waste reduction initiatives you may have started or think about beginning a waste reduction initiative. Here are some tips to incorporate in your operations to minimize certain types of waste, thereby decreasing overall waste volume and lowering waste costs.

- **Paper** – Limit the use of printed items by sending folios, receipts, and terms of service via email, text or digital apps. Not only will you save money on paper purchases and decrease your waste, you can stay in touch with guests throughout their stay.

- **Single Use Items** – Consider installing amenity dispensers in guest rooms. This eliminates the waste of single visit items such as shampoo and allows the property to save money on buying bulk refillable products.
- **Single Use Linen Bags** – Instead of packaging clean linens in plastic bags, consider investing in cloth washable bags that stay with guest room linens. The clean linens can be transported in clean bags reducing exposure. Once the linens are gathered after a guest leaves, the dirty linens can be put into that same bag and transported to the laundry where both bag and linens are washed.
- **Recyclables** – Don't stop recycling! Your cardboard boxes and other recyclables are another company's raw materials for shipping and packaging. Ensuring that only clean and empty materials go in recycle bins can reduce your waste hauling costs and help recover valuable materials. If you don't already provide them, consider adding containers for guests to recycle in their rooms or designated areas.

**COVID-19 Resources for the Hospitality Industry:**

[Getting Back to Work in Nevada: Small Hotels Tip Sheet](#)  
[Waste Reduction, Reuse and Recycling During COVID-19: Hospitality Guide](#)

**Additional Waste Reduction Guides :**

[Waste Reduction, Reuse and Recycling During COVID-19: Restaurant Guide](#)  
[Waste Reduction, Reuse and Recycling During COVID-19: Household Guide](#)

Your sustainability initiatives are more important than ever in this challenging time. If you need help or would like more ideas on how to move your sustainability initiatives forward [contact us](#).

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**Save the (NEW) Date! Schools Roundtable June 18th at 11am**  
**Topic: Buses and COVID-19**

Our next online roundtable for Nevada schools operations, custodial and transit teams will be held on June 18th at 11:00am. Please save the new date and time! The subject this month is Buses and COVID-19. The roundtable will feature Dr. Brian Labus, an infectious disease epidemiologist and Assistant Professor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Public Health. Dr. Labus was appointed to Governor Sisolak's COVID-19 Medical Advisory Team in March 2020. Don't miss your opportunity to ask questions.

More details including online format and additional expert speakers will be available soon.

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

***Stay Safe to Stay Open Nevada***

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