

**Northwest Office of
Native American
Programs**

909 1st Avenue
Suite 300
Seattle, WA
98104

Ph: 206-220-5270
Fx: 206-220-5234

[www.hud.gov/
washington](http://www.hud.gov/washington)
Click on "Indian
Housing Office"

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NwONAP News



FY 2008 Quarter III

April 2, 2008

Pressure Testing and Sealing Homes for a Safer, Healthier, and More Cost Efficient Environment:

The Burns Paiute Tribe is the first tribe in 14 years to become a direct weatherization testing sub-recipients from the State of Oregon.

With equipment provided through a grant from the Bonneville Power Association, the housing department can test for carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide levels, and number of air exchanges per hour their homes. An infrared camera detects hot and cool spots throughout the home.

The housing department has a goal to pressure test all 51 homes in their inventory for leaks. By utilizing a various

tools, they are able to determine where unhealthy air (from crawl space, attic, garage, and basements) is entering the home. These spaces are sealed and the home re-tested for unhealthy leaks.

Burns, Oregon is fortunate in being a dry climate, which negates the need for mechanical ventilation in their homes. There is also a strong focus on resident education with an emphasis on keeping homes clean and naturally ventilated, reporting plumbing leaks, and eliminating un-vented combustible appliances.



Cory Johnson, Burns Paiute Housing staff, prepares to run a pressurized blower door test.

Combined these measures are creating healthier, more energy efficient homes for their families.

For more information on healthy homes and indoor air quality visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/iaq/>

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp>

[http://www.hud.gov/offices/
lead/](http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/)

[http://www.eere.energy.gov/
buildings/building_america/
rh_0804_ashrae.html](http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/building_america/rh_0804_ashrae.html)



Jody Hill, Housing Director at the Burns Paiute Tribe with Tom Carney, NwONAP GM Director on a recent on-site visit to demonstrate various weatherization techniques.

Northwest Regional Indian Housing Summit April 30th – May 1st, 2008

Interactive two-day Summit with roundtable discussions focused on regional housing issues, success stories, strategies, and action plans. Provides the opportunity to network, share information, and examine housing and economic development issues.

Honored Guests:

Joe Garcia, President, National Congress of American Indians

Rodger Boyd, HUD Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Native American Programs

TRACK TOPICS INCLUDE:

- ⇒ Assessing Individual Capacity of Families
- ⇒ Community Safety, Drug Abuse Prevention, and Safety Models
- ⇒ Sustainable Building and Energy Efficiency
- ⇒ Assessing and Documenting Needs
- ⇒ Leveraging and Financing

REGISTER NOW:

<http://www.hudonapsummits.com>, or (877) 323-5690. No registration fee to attend Summit.

Chehalis Tribe's Great Wolf Lodge, Grand Mound, WA. Reservations: (800) 640-9653



Coming Soon....HUD 2008 SuperNOFA Grant

- ✓ **Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG)** - Economic Development, homeownership assistance, housing rehabilitation, land acquisition, micro-enterprises, new housing, or public facilities and improvements.
- ✓ **Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency (ROSS)** - Funds for job training and supportive services to assist families and elderly/disabled grant to provide residents critical services to help them continue to live independently.
- ✓ **Rural Housing and Economic Development (RHED)** - Funds to support innovative housing and economic development activities in rural areas.



ICDBG Grantee CTUIR's Public Safety Building, Umatilla, OR

2008 Block Grant Funds Available Now

Submit your Indian Housing Plan now in order to expedite 2008 IHBG agreements and release funding. Questions on completing your housing plan? Contact your Grants Management Specialist for assistance.

Economic Stimulus Payments:

Beginning in May, the IRS will send one-time economic stimulus payments to more than 130 million households across America. Make sure your tribal members are aware of the economic stimulus payment and Earned Income Tax Credit and how to claim them.

Most people who are eligible for a stimulus payment will receive it automatically, provided they file a 2007 federal income tax return. The one-time cash payment is not taxable, and won't reduce your 2007 or 2008 refund nor increase the amount you owe when you file in 2008.

Social Security recipients and recipients of certain veterans' benefits and Railroad Retirement benefits can count those benefits towards the qualifying income requirement of \$3,000. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) does not count as qualifying income for the stimulus payment.

“More than 130 million households across America will receive Economic Stimulus Payments”

The Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 provides one-time cash payments:

- ✓ up to \$600 for individual taxpayers with Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of \$75,000 or less, and
- ✓ up to \$1,200 for joint filers with AGI of \$150,000 or less, and
- ✓ \$300 for each qualifying child under 17 (child must be eligible under the Child Tax Credit and have a valid Social Security number), and
- ✓ \$300 for workers who earned at least \$3,000 in 2007 and have little to no tax liability, and to Social Security recipients, disabled veterans, veterans' widows and railroad retirement recipients.

To ensure that money is received, you must: File an IRS return for Tax Year 2007, and have a Social Security number, and verify at least \$3,000 in income from either work, Social Security benefits, Veterans' benefits, Railroad Retirement benefits or any combination. Visit <http://www.irs.gov> for details, or call the IRS at (800) 829-1040.

Squaxin Island Free Tax Preparation Site:

How did the idea for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program VITA site come into being?

I (Lisa Peters, Housing Counselor) attended a Building Native Communities-Financial Skills for Families workshop and there was a session done on EITC and free tax prep sites. I felt that this was something important that our community should address.

How did you go about becoming a certified site?

Our site has been in the works for about 3 years now. I have been working with Tanya Hill (IRS) on submitting required paperwork to receive the tax software. Volunteers must take online training, pass tests and receive certification to prepare returns through our site.

How many volunteers do you have?

Last year -3, this year up to 5

How many families do you expect to serve this coming tax season?

We expect to have 25-30 use our site.

What can families expect coming to a VITA site?

Free taxes prepared by well trained supportive volunteers.

How do you promote your services?

Successful outreach: word of mouth, newsletters, flyers, referrals from others who have used the sight.

Hours of Operation and location?

Squaxin Island Tribe – Tu Ha Buts Learning Center
70 SE Squaxin Lane Shelton, WA 98584
February 5- April 15, 2008
4:30 – 7:30 Tuesday and Thursday evening
By appointment only

Contact information for other tribes who may want to start a similar service?

Lisa Peters 360-432-3871
Housing Counselor
Squaxin Island Tribe – Office of Housing
10 SE Squaxin Lane Shelton, WA 98584
Also visit: <http://www.irs.gov/individuals/>



Funding AvailableComplete listing found on NwONAP [Calendar of Events](#)

Grant	Funder	Deadline	More Information
Clean and Efficient Energy in Indian Country	U.S. Department of Energy	May 8, 2008	pamela.brodie@go.doe.gov
Washington CTED Housing Trust Fund	WA State Community Trade and Economic Development	August 4 th , 2008	http://www.cted.wa.gov/site/498/default.aspx

Training AvailableComplete listing found on NwONAP [Calendar of Events](#)

Title, Location	Sponsor	Date	More Information
Workshop: Tribal Taxation & Economic Development, Yakima, WA	WA State Governor's Office of Indian Affairs and Department of Revenue	April 22, 2008	http://dor.wa.gov/content/workshopsandeducation/AttendAWorkshop/Default.aspx
Workshop: Tribal Taxation & Economic Development, Spokane, WA	WA State Governor's Office of Indian Affairs and Department of Revenue	April 23, 2008	http://dor.wa.gov/content/workshopsandeducation/AttendAWorkshop/Default.aspx
Home Buying Class, Olympia, WA	Nisqually Tribe	April 24, 2008	Nemah Choubaquak, 360-456-5221 Ext. 1280
Northwest Regional Indian Housing Summit, Grand Mound, WA	HUD ONAP and Chehalis Tribe	April 30– May 1, 2008	http://www.hudonapsummits.com

Useful Websites– Energy Efficiency

<http://www.northwestenergystar.com> (Information on appliances, lighting, home, rebates, and incentives)

<http://www.epa.gov/tribalcompliance> (Comprehensive environmental standards, technical assistance, and training)

<http://www.earth911.org> (Safe disposal and recycling of household and automotive waste)

<http://www.nwseed.org> (Grants, tech assistance, homeowner kits, refrigerator replacement program, energy plans, and education on sustainable energy for economic development)

<http://www.eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/> (Energy efficiency and renewable energy resources, grants, training, and publications)

<http://www.dsireusa.org> (Database of State Incentives for Renewables & Efficiency Rebates)

<http://www.epa.gov/watersense> (Partnership promote water-efficient products and practices)

<http://www.efficientwindows.org> (Benefits of energy-efficient windows, descriptions of how they work, and recommendations for their selection and use)

<http://www.ibacos.com> (High performance lighting guide)