

Timbisha Shoshone Tribe

Environmental Department



An Explanation of the Environmental Grants

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Environmental Grants

The Timbisha Shoshone Tribe Environmental Department currently has three environmental grants; a General Assistance Program (GAP) grant, and two Clean Water Act (CWA) grants.

These grants currently fund the Environmental Director and Water Quality Specialist positions. Temporary Laborer positions are also funded through these grants, as needed.

Before receiving each of these grants, the Environmental Department needed to state exactly what the money would be used for; any changes or additions to those tasks would need to be approved.

Each Environmental Department grant also has guidelines for what can be done with the funds, and what needs to be in place before a task can be started. This article will give a brief overview of these grants, and what can be done with those funds.

Timbisha Community Garden

The Environmental Department is also working on a plan for a garden in the Timbisha Village.

There are multiple things that need to be in place before we can just "build" a garden, and we are working diligently on getting those things together.



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General Assistance Program

Overview

The GAP grant allows the Environmental Department to establish various environmental protection programs. Some of these programs include: Air Quality; Emergency Management; and Solid Waste.

Activities

Using GAP funds, the Environmental Department plans to establish each of these programs (air, emergency management, and solid waste).

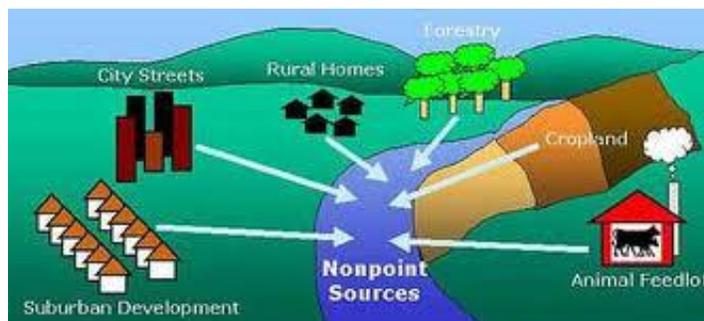
However, before we can put these programs into place, we need to create plans of what these programs will entail, how we will manage these programs, and how we will pay to keep these programs running; GAP funds can only be used to build up the ability to put the programs into place, **not** pay for the maintenance and everyday operations once the program is in place.

Currently, the Environmental Department is creating these plans to establish different programs.

Clean Water Act Section 319

Overview

Basically, CWA S-319 helps us address Nonpoint Source Pollution problems. Nonpoint Source Pollution, or polluted runoff, occurs when any water (rainfall, snowmelt, irrigation) runs over land, picks up pollutants (or contaminants), and transports those pollutants into ground and surface water.



Activities

Using CWA S-319 funds, the Timbisha Environmental Departments can: prepare a map of the watershed (all of the sources of pollution that drain into one body of water); investigate nonpoint source pollution contributors; remove non-native species from the streambank (just north of the Timbisha Village); clear out the streambank; purchase and plant new native vegetation for the streambank; and many more! CWA S-319 funds help us control water pollution!

Clean Water Act Section 106

Overview

CWA S-106 funds allow us to put into place prevention and control measures of ground and surface water pollution.

Activities

The Environmental Department uses CWA S-106 funds to: test the water in the 7 wells on Timbisha Tribal land; monitor and assess water; attend trainings and conferences; increase our understanding of the watershed (all of the sources of pollution); coordinate with other agencies in the watershed (National Park Service, for example); planning and development; and many more.

If, while sampling the water in the wells we find something odd, we can then use CWA S-319 funds to (hopefully) correct the problem.