### What do we mean by "Environment"?

The word "environment"
often brings to mind the
natural environment, like
forests, rivers and animals.
However, our environment
also means our homes,
workplaces, and communities.
So creating healthy conditions
in these places is also part of
environmental health.

## What do we mean by "Environmental Health"?

Nature has taught us that
"everything is connected to
everything else". For
example, our health is
connected to the health of the
environment through the food
we eat, the water we drink
and the air we breathe.
Environmental health also
includes creating conditions in
our environment that are good
for our health.



Ute Mountain Ute
Environmental
Programs
Department

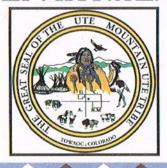
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# UTE MOUNTAIN UTE ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT







The Ute Mountain
Ute Environmental
Programs Department is
responsible for
administering public health
and environmental
protection programs on the
Ute Mountain Ute
Reservation.



The mission of this department is to protect and improve the quality of life for all Tribal members while working to preserve Ute culture and Tribal sovereignty.

The Environmental Programs
Department has developed
several programs to address
environmental health concerns
on the Reservation.

#### Some of these programs include:

- Solid Waste Management
- Drinking Water Treatment and Monitoring Technical Assistance
- Waste Water Treatment Technical Assistance
- · Air Quality Monitoring
- Surface and Ground Water Pollution Prevention
- Public Environmental Health Education
- Oil and Gas Environmental Compliance Assistance
- Hazardous Materials Technical Assistance
- · Emergency Response



#### **Spring Cleanup**

Every year, we hold "Spring Cleanup" in honor of Earth Day.
Volunteers from Tribal
Departments and the community come together to collect unwanted items and debris from Towaoc and White Mesa. Spring Cleanup offers Tribal members the opportunity and the manpower to cleanup and remove unwanted items to help keep the community safe and healthy.

#### **Environmental Education**

We provide Environmental Education on a number of issues affecting the Reservation. We work to instill pride and stewardship of the land in all generations of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe. Science and Environmental Education for Tribal children is conducted in cooperation with several Tribal education programs. These include; Headstart, After School Clubs, Bushwackers, and Summer Science Camps.



Do you and your family drink from a groundwater well? Are you concerned about envrionmental hazard exposure?
We are looking for people to participate in a biomonitoring study to help scientists learn more about metal and other chemical exposures in Utah.

#### What is biomonitoring?

Biomonitoring is the assessment of human exposure to environmental chemicals by measuring chemicals and their metabolites found in the body.

Urine samples are collected from each person for a specific chemical of concern including heavy metals (arsenic, cadmium, manganese mercury and uranium), phthalates (plasticizers), 2,4-D (herbicide), p-DCP (disinfectants, deodorants and pesticides) and pyrethroids (pesticides).

Anonymous data is used to make decisions at the local and state levels to improve health in our communities.

#### Why is this important?

Utah has a long history of mining and agriculture, increasing the liklihood of metals and other harmful chemical exposure.

Metals and other harmful chemical exposure in humans can lead to serious health issues.

This study will help us better understand what chemicals we are being exposed to in communities across Utah.



#### How can I get involved?

Our biomonitoring team will be in White Mesa on Monday October 17, 2016 to collect samples. Benefits of participation include:

- A free and confidential report of the levels of the chemicals of interest in your body
- Information about environmental chemicals that may impact your health
- Contribution to sceintists' understanding of individual exposure levels in Utah



Interested in participating?

Contact Scott Clow at sclow@utemountain.org or Carrie Butler at 801-347-6739 or cbutler@utah.gov.