

For help, contact the TOSC/TAB group in your area or visit the TOSC/TAB national website at:

<http://www.toscprogram.org>

Northeast Center

EPA Regions 1, 2, & 3

Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia

Hedy Alavi

Johns Hopkins University

1-410-516-7091

hedy.alavi@jhu.edu

<http://www.jhu.edu/~dogee/centers/hsrc/>

South & Southwest Center

EPA Regions 4 & 6

Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas

Bob Schmitter

Georgia Institute of Technology

1-888-683-5963

bob.schmitter@gtri.gatech.edu

<http://www.hsrb-ssw.org>

Midwest Center

EPA Regions 5 & 7

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin

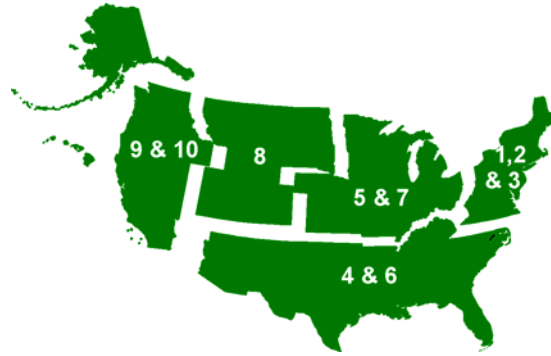
Blase Leven

Kansas State University

1-785-532-0780

baleven@ksu.edu

<http://bridge.ecn.purdue.edu/~mhsrc/>



Map of EPA Regions covered by each center.

Rocky Mountain Center

EPA Region 8

Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming

Sandra Woods

Colorado State University

1-970-491-5049

hsrb@engr.colostate.edu

<http://www.engr.colostate.edu/hsrb/>

Western Center

EPA Regions 9 & 10

Alaska, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Micronesia, Marianas Islands, Nevada, Oregon, Samoa, and Washington

Stephanie Sanford

Oregon State University

1-800-653-6110

Stephanie.Sanford@orst.edu

<http://tosc.orst.edu>

Technical Outreach Services to Native American Communities

Brenda Brandon

Haskell Indian Nations University

1-785-749-8498

bbrandon@ross1.cc.haskell.edu

Other Common Questions about TOSC and TAB

Who pays for the programs?

TOSC and TAB are both outreach programs of the university-based **Hazardous Substance Research Centers** (HSRCs). The HSRCs are funded by grants from the Environmental Protection Agency with additional funding from academia, industry, and other state and federal government agencies.

Are TOSC and TAB advocacy groups?

No. TOSC and TAB are educational programs, they help communities understand complex issues but do not lobby or advocate for specific solutions.

What is the difference between TOSC and TAB?

TOSC assists communities affected by hazardous waste sites or other types of environmental contamination.

TAB assists communities hoping to cleanup and redevelop brownfields — properties that have been damaged or undervalued by real or perceived environmental contamination.

Dr. Mitch Lasat, Program Manager
Hazardous Substances Research Centers

8722R
USEPA Headquarters
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Washington, DC 20460
Telephone: 202-564-6826
Email: lasat.mitch@epa.gov

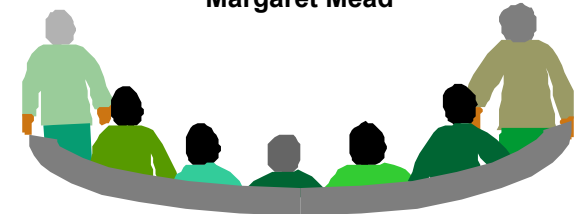
<http://www.toscprogram.org>

Technical **O**utreach **S**ervices for **C**ommunities

Technical **A**ssistance to **B**rownfields Communities

“Never doubt that a small, thoughtful group of committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead



<http://www.toscprogram.org>

Outreach programs of the Hazardous Substance Research Centers.

Is there a hazardous waste site or abandoned property in your community? Do you have questions about health, risks, and the cleanup process? Have you looked for answers only to find complex technical data you didn't understand? *Technical Outreach Services for Communities (TOSC)* and *Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities (TAB)* are two free programs that can help.

How can TOSC and TAB help your community?

◇ *By linking your community with universities.*

The TOSC and TAB programs link community groups with professors and technical assistance specialists from the **Hazardous Substance Research Centers (HSRCs)**, a group of university centers focused on hazardous substance management. These specialists have experience with cleanup and redevelopment of contaminated sites. They can serve communities as a free, independent source of information and assistance.

◇ *By serving the needs of environmental justice communities.*

TOSC and TAB strive to serve the needs of minority and low-income communities. For example, Technical Outreach Services for Native American Communities (TOSNAC) works directly with TOSC/TAB to develop training material and provide outreach that is culturally harmonious with the needs and values of a variety of Native American communities. Past TOSNAC projects have focused on mining and sustainability issues, brownfields development, federal facilities cleanup, and groundwater protection.



◇ *By empowering community groups and their leaders.*

TOSC and TAB can provide leadership training that will help community members become active participants in the cleanup or redevelopment process. For example, staff can provide training in conflict resolution and mentor community leaders as they work with regulators and other stakeholders.

In Guayanilla, Puerto Rico, TOSC worked with the *Comite Pro-Costal Ventana* citizen's group and a local university to empower the *Barrio Boca* community to address environmental issues in their neighborhood. The community had been negatively affected by pesticide spraying on a nearby farm. TOSC also provided technical review and comments on sampling methods used in the community.

◇ *By reviewing and explaining technical reports.*

TOSC and TAB can help your community understand and respond to technical reports. For example, TOSC and TAB staff can review cleanup proposals or site assessments and help communities prepare for public meetings. Staff can also ask faculty from any of the 21 affiliated universities to provide their expertise on technical issues.



In Davie, Florida, TOSC assisted a community affected by contamination from a former waste oil reprocessing facility. TOSC reviewed sampling results and presented a workshop on the cleanup process. TOSC staff have also attended meetings with community members and regulators and reviewed reports on proposed cleanup measures.



◇ *By providing information and training.*

TOSC and TAB can provide information about the cleanup or redevelopment process. TOSC and TAB staff have experience in environmental engineering, public health, and community development. They can answer questions and hold community workshops about topics such as:

- ◇ health concerns,
- ◇ environmental risks and risk assessment,
- ◇ the regulatory process, and
- ◇ potential cleanup technologies.

In Oregon, TAB helped organize "Bright Ideas for Redevelopment" a conference for local government officials and others interested in reclaiming abandoned properties in their communities. Participants discussed many aspects of the brownfields redevelopment process including:

- ◇ public and private sector financing,
- ◇ insurance,
- ◇ environmental assessment and cleanup, and
- ◇ community involvement in the redevelopment process.