Mission Statement:
We, the members of the Tribal Solid Waste Advisory Network, gather together to combine our voices to pursue natural resources, cultural and environmental protection for our Communities through waste management.

Vision Statement:
We envision the restoration of our traditional, natural and cultural ways.
Organized in 1997 as an ad hoc committee to discuss tribal waste issues.

Increased constituency from an initial 5 tribes to currently 32 members throughout WA, OR, ID, and AK

Focus on programs where all members benefit: Document Development, Training

Program Development, Education Opportunities, Policy Forums, Resource Sharing
TSWAN is a tribal response to the developments in waste management over the last several years, and it is specifically an attempt to make the solutions fit in Indian Country and all tribal lands.

Whether it be named cooperation, collective efforts, collaboration, or peer-matching, TSWAN is a robust and proven effort wherein tribes work together to address these environmental issues of mutual concern and interest.

TSWAN, working by and through a holistic, programmatic level, and by specializing in waste concerns of Northwestern Indian Tribes and Alaskan Native Villages, performs a valuable function by providing services and being a conduit of information and technical support from one tribe to another and for the entire organization.
“One-Stop-Shopping”
Solid Waste Management Information
Educational Materials
Training Opportunities
Technical Support
Funding Opportunities
Government Program Information
Tribal Program Information
Policy Forums
Building Partnerships
TSWAN meetings occur on a rotational basis with member tribes as hosts. In this manner they have seen firsthand the situations surrounding each of the member tribes.

This has resulted in information sharing, ordinance development, and other tools that are commonly used by and between the member tribes.
The members continually share:

- Ordinances and Resolutions
- Policies
- Educational Materials
- Environmental Regulations & Enforcement Codes
- RFP and RFQP Samples.
Confederated Tribes of Umatilla
TERF… Tribal Environmental
Recovery Facility

Makah Nation Transfer Station
The TSWAN IWMP Template

The template contains a number of options and recommendations, or a menu, for each chapter of the Plan from which the tribe may choose those alternatives most befitting their independent situations. These chosen alternatives will become the basic structure, which the tribes will then customize depending upon their individual situations. The template includes descriptions and instructions on how to complete each section. The template is complete enough so tribes wishing to use the template can customize a plan with a minimum of effort and technical expertise.
Strategic Plan for Environmental Sustainability Template

Methodology for long term strength of projects and programs

Sustainability

Step by Step Process in Determining Readiness for Implementation of Plans

Result: A Plan of Action with Stakeholders on Board
Hazardous Waste Economic Feasibility

The Hazardous Waste Economic Feasibility Study considered alternative scenarios for member tribes to manage hazardous waste on the reservation and in Native communities, from independent programs to consideration of regionalization of efforts amongst tribes.

- Determine potential membership base and volume of waste for consideration in determining appropriate program(s).
- Determination of participation levels, i.e., establish a baseline of member tribes within a region who are physically and programmatically ready to participate.
- Comparative tasks relating to hazardous waste management from the perspective of using regional and/or geographical locations for, i.e., circuit or “milk-run” contracts as compared to individual tribal efforts.
- Consideration of a regional or staging center for storage of hazardous waste awaiting further handling or disposal.

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The Largest Common Denominator

Training

Grant Writing and Administration
24-Hour Hazmat
Solid Waste & Recycling Operation Efficiencies
Bloodborne Pathogens
NIEHS Site Supervisor Basics
Asbestos Awareness

10-Hour Worker Safety
Solid Waste Planning and Marketing Strategies
Meth Lab Awareness
By providing appropriate, and necessary, training to tribal departments charged with waste management, investigations, inspections, and emergency personnel, we are further enabling tribes to take charge, in a timely manner, on their own lands, while protecting their communities. With the development of trained teams we are building tribal capacity to manage health and environmental dangers in the most expeditious and culturally sensitive manner when an emergency occurs.
Identified Means of Environmental Education for Youth
This is Why We Come Together……

Our… Their… Future Depends Upon It
We Gather
We Train
We Protect
We Plan
We Share and Learn
And Yes... We Laugh... A Lot
For More Information

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