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Hazardous Waste, Biohazardous Medical Waste Workshop Scheduled for Navajo Nation Community of Chinle on June 6

PHOENIX (May 29, 2013) -- Arizona Department of Environmental Quality officials announced today that a free managing hazardous waste and biohazardous medical waste workshop for hospitals and health clinics will be held in the Navajo Nation community of Chinle on Thursday, June 6.

The workshop will be held in the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority Chinle Conference Room, near the northeast corner of U.S. Highway 191 and Navajo Route 7, from 9 a.m. until noon, Mountain Daylight Time. The workshop is co-sponsored by ADEQ's Waste Programs Division Inspection and Compliance Section and the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency.

Hazardous waste topics to be discussed during the workshop include defining hazardous waste, whether a party is generating it, what to do with it if generated and common violations. The workshop also will address pharmaceutical waste and reporting and EPA identification numbers. Biohazardous medical waste topics include an Arizona rules overview for off-site transportation and blood-borne pathogens.

"The material from these workshops is important for health-care providers in understanding how to protect the human health and environment of our state," said ADEQ Director Henry Darwin.

"Health care professionals, medical facility staff and all other generators of hazardous waste on or near the Navajo Nation should attend this important training opportunity," said Stephen B. Etsitty, Executive Director of Navajo Nation EPA. "Open dumps and landfills in our region are impacted by medical waste, so we all need to know the proper management of medical and biohazardous wastes."

The three-hour workshop is open to all interested parties. For more information, contact Byron James of ADEQ at (928) 337-3565 or bfj@azdeq.gov

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