

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Division of Community Development Newsletter

August 2023

In this Issue

- DCD Meets with Navajo Water Access Team
- DCD Fiscal Recovery Fund, American Rescue Plan Act Update
- Tech Tips: What is phish (fish)?
- Administrative Service Centers Department Updates
- CDC Hot Weather Tips
- Bulletin Board
- Personnel News
- Navajo Nation Census Information Center News
- CLUPC Training
- Labor Day Safety Tips

Did You Know...

By its wondrous size, to say nothing of its majesty and mystery, Rainbow Bridge has inspired humans throughout time. From the time the bridge became known to the outside world in the early twentieth century, thousands of people from around the world have visited each year. From its base to the top of the arch, it is 290 feet-nearly the height of the Statue of Liberty-and spans 275 feet across the river; the top of the arch is 42 feet thick and 33 feet wide.

Events:-

August: Bini'anit'áąts'ósi - "Small Harvest"

August 9: International Day of the World's Indigenous People

August 14: Code Talkers Day

August 21: Senior Citizens Day

September: Bini'anit'áątsoh- "Big Harvest"

September 2-10: Navajo Nation Fair

September 4: Labor Day

September 15: National POW/MIA Recognition Day

September 19: National IT Professionals Day

September 22: Autumnal Equinox (Start of Fall)

September 23: National Public Lands Day

September 26: National Voter Registration Day

DCD Meets with Navajo Water Access Team



On August 8th and 9th, 2023, DCD hosted coordination meeting with IHS, water resource, NECA, DigDeep, Water Warriors, Dinetah Cultural Resource Management, Weston Solutions, Collective Medicine, and Community Development. The purpose of this gathering was to implement a potable water delivery program on the Navajo Nation for homes that do not have piped water and who do not have access to safe water supplies for domestic needs. It is intended to be an interim solution for many homes until piped community water systems are constructed to these homes. The project is presently funded by the Indian Health Service (IHS) for \$2.69 Million and other Federal and Tribal funding partners are being encouraged to participate to extend the program if successful.

The IHS was appropriated \$10 Million for the delivery of potable water under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The IHS headquarters evaluated cost proposals developed in collaboration with American Indian and Alaskan Natives tribes from the IHS areas to cover equipment needs and/or up to two years of operational costs to support the delivery of potable water to homes not connected to a piped water system.

From April 2020 to February 2021, the IHS worked with the Navajo Nation Division of Community Development (DCD), Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources (DWR), Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency (NNEPA), and Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) to increase access to safe water sources through the installation of 59 transitional water points (TWP).

DCD Fiscal Recovery Fund, American Rescue Plan Act Update

The Navajo Division of Community Development FRF/ARPA Team conducted a one-on-one in-depth presentation with chapter officials, chapter administration, grazing officials, and council delegates with the respective regions throughout the entire Navajo Nation at all 110 chapters, both Certified and Non-Certified. The presentations included the logistics to organize ARPA-funded projects, in preparation for eligibility, funding and legislative approval. The dates of presentations were: July 6, 7, 11, 12, 19, 25 and 28, 2023 for all agencies. Then, separate council delegate regional chapters were also scheduled to meet the demands of presentations in various aspects of projects.

Navajo Division of Community Development FRF/ARPA Team hosted a signing and orientation meeting at the Twin Arrows Hotel & Casino for the IDIQ (Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity) contract for which the awarded contractors will serve the Non-Certified Chapters as Project Managers to assist chapter administration to plan, design, proposals for publishing, prepare cost estimates, and other related project management for chapters. These project managers are contracted to work with Non-Certified Chapters, if Certified Chapters inquire to be assisted as such, a brief correspondence is necessary. Then, our Navajo DCD team will make contact with contractors to assist the Certified Chapters.

The Navajo Division of Community FRF/ARPA continues to value and provide customer services to all 110 Chapters to meet their needs of guidance, presentation, counseling, reviewing and supporting the community chapters on their project plans. This effort is produced with efficiency and effectiveness to ensure that projects are carried out to the fullest, within cost range, and timeframe, especially within the short span of the ARPA timeline, ending December 31, 2026. NDCD FRF ARPA Team have been providing the necessary counseling services with chapters here in Window Rock, Arizona and out within the respective chapter communities. A major challenges is producing proper wording for each "Scope of Work" once the eligibility is determined. This SOW is a critical and important part of completing the project since it provides the road map with assurance.

In conclusion, Navajo DCD FRF/ARPA personnel functions with two Planner/Estimators, one Project Specialist and one Administrative Service Officer (serves as supervisor). We hope to hire a Department Manager II within the next few weeks since the closing date was Friday, August 18th, 2023. These four employees under the Navajo DCD FRF/ARPA work with all 110 chapters with the assistance of the main Navajo Nation Fiscal Recovery Funds Office that manages the fiscal funding part of ARPA. Even with limited personnel, chapter projects will continue.

Submission by, Mr. Edwin J. Begay, ASO, NDCD FRF/ARPA, 08.21.23

Tech Tips

What is phish (fish)?



5 COMMON TYPES OF PHISHING



EMAIL PHISHING

Scammers create emails that impersonate legitimate companies and attempt to steal your information.



SPEAR PHISHING

Similar to email phishing, but the messages are more personalized. For example, they may appear to come from your boss.



CLONE PHISHING

Scammers replicate an email you have received, but include a dangerous attachment or link.



WHALING

Scammers target high-ranking executives to gain access to sensitive data or money.



POP-UP PHISHING

Fraudulent pop-ups trick users into installing malware.

READ MORE:
<https://nr.tn/3OU20sd>

August 2023

Administrative Service Centers

Department Updates:

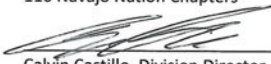
August 15, 2023 - Jaron M. Charley officially starts as the new ASC New Department Manager. View the Announcement Memorandum. [Click Here](#)



The Navajo Nation **DR. BUU NYGREN** *PRESIDENT*
Yideeskáadi Nitsáhákees **RICHELLE MONTOYA** *VICE PRESIDENT*

MEMORANDUM

TO : DCD Department and Program
110 Navajo Nation Chapters

FROM : 
Calvin Castillo, Division Director
Division of Community Development

DATE : August 15, 2023

SUBJECT : Introduction of New ASC Department Manager

It is a pleasure to announce the new Department Manager for the Administrative Services Centers Department, Mr. Jaron M. Charley. He comes aboard to the division Today, Tuesday, August 15, 2023.

Please join us in welcoming him to the Division of Community Development. He brings to the department an abundance of knowledge and experience with public services programs and community development.

We ask for your cooperation and assistance during his transition and we look forward to his contribution to the growth and success of the Division.

Cc: DCD/ASC File

Administrative Service Centers

ASC STAFF UPDATES

Jaron M. Charley takes up post as the Administrative Services Centers' new Department Manager.

August 15, 2023, Jaron Charley officially joined the Division of Community Development Team.

Jaron is from the Pinon, AZ community and attended Chinle High School. He obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in Parks & Recreation Management from Arizona State University. He is currently on track to finish his Masters Degree in Business Administration/Leadership at Grand Canyon University. Jaron also served in the Army National Guard in Phoenix, AZ.



Jaron has held many positions within the fields of public service and recreation, including as a Recreation Instructor, a Park Ranger, a Services Coordinator, and even as an Umpire for USSSA Slowpitch Softball. His most recent employment was with the Gila River Indian Community, within a similar organization to the Navajo Nation Division of Community Development. Jaron has had much experience in providing public services to Native communities.

Recently, Jaron and his family have made the move back to the Navajo Nation from the Arizona Valley, and he has expressed that he looks forward to reconnecting to his roots and contributing to the building of a better Nation for his children to enjoy.

The ASC Department looks forward this new chapter with Jaron.

WELCOME NEW EMPLOYEES!

August 2023 came with the following new additions at the Chapters.

Lucinda A. Yazzie
Mariano Lake Chapter
Accounts Maintenance Specialist

LaVerne R. Jim
Rough Rock Chapter
Community Services Coordinator

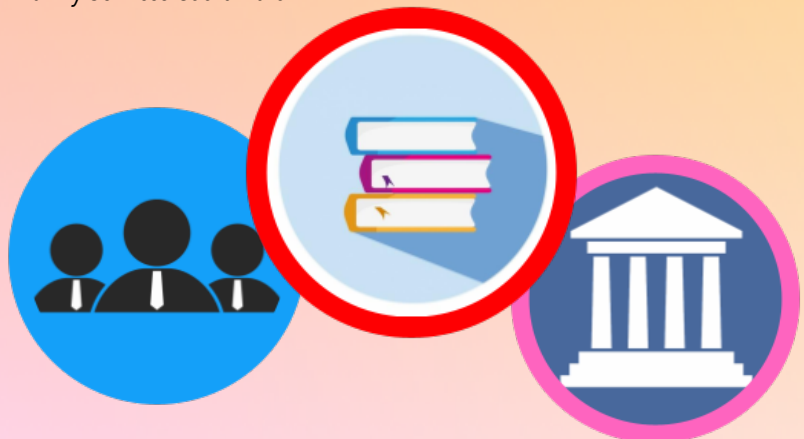
Velissa M. Morgan
Tsayatoh Chapter
Accounts Maintenance Specialist

Michael Halliwell
Wide Ruins Chapter
Community Services Coordinator

Joselene Towne-Jones
Rough Rock Chapter
Accounts Maintenance Specialist

Faleria R. Chavez
Tohajilee Chapter
Accounts Maintenance Specialist

Michelle Collins
Becenti Chapter
Accounts Maintenance Specialist



CDC Hot Weather Tips

Stay *Cool*



Wear Appropriate Clothing:

Choose lightweight, loose-fitting clothing.

Stay Cool Indoors:

Stay in an air-conditioned place as much as possible. If your home does not have air conditioning, go to the shopping mall or public library—even a few hours spent in air conditioning can help your body stay cooler when you go back into the heat. Call your local health department to see if there are any heat-relief shelters in your area.

Keep in mind:

Electric fans may provide comfort, but when the temperature is in the high 90s, they will not prevent heat-related illness. Taking a cool shower or bath or moving to an air-conditioned place is a much better way to cool off. Use your stove and oven less to maintain a cooler temperature in your home.

Wear Sunscreen:

Sunburn affects your body's ability to cool down and can make you dehydrated. If you must go outdoors, protect yourself from the sun by wearing a wide-brimmed hat, sunglasses, and by putting on sunscreen of SPF 15 or higher 30 minutes prior to going out. Continue to reapply it according to the package

Stay *Hydrated*



Drink Plenty of Fluids:

Drink more fluids, regardless of how active you are. Don't wait until you're thirsty to drink.

Warning: If your doctor limits the amount you drink or has you on water pills, ask how much you should drink while the weather is hot.

Stay away from very sugary or alcoholic drinks—these actually cause you to lose more body fluid. Also avoid very cold drinks, because they can cause stomach cramps.

Replace Salt and Minerals:

Heavy sweating removes salt and minerals from the body that need to be replaced. A sports drink can replace the salt and minerals you lose in sweat.

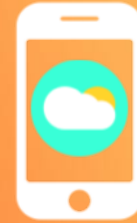
If you are on a low-salt diet, have diabetes, high blood pressure, or other chronic conditions, talk with your doctor before drinking a sports beverage or taking salt tablets.

Keep Your Pets Hydrated:

Provide plenty of fresh water for your pets, and leave the water in a shady area.



Stay *Informed*



Check for Updates:

Check your local news for extreme heat alerts and safety tips and to learn about any cooling shelters in your area.

Know the Signs:

Learn the signs and symptoms of heat-related illnesses and how to treat them.

[Click Here](#) for more info

Monitor Those at High Risk:

Although anyone at any time can suffer from heat-related illness, some people are at greater risk than others:

Infants and young children
People 65 years of age or older
People who are overweight
People who overexert during work or exercise
People who are physically ill, especially with heart disease or high blood pressure, or who take certain medications, such as for depression, insomnia, or poor circulation



Visit the CDC Website
for more Hot Weather
Tips: [Click Here](#)

Bulletin Board

Tribal leaders join President Biden for the designation of the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument



TUSAYAN, Ariz. — On Tuesday, 25th Navajo Nation Council Speaker Crystalyne Curley and Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren were among several tribal leaders who joined U.S. President Joe Biden in an area near the Grand Canyon known as Red Butte, as he signed a proclamation establishing the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni – Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument in Arizona.

The designation aims to protect nearly one million acres of public lands surrounding the Grand Canyon National Park. Baaj nwaavjo (BAAHJ – NUH-WAAHV-JÖH) means “where Indigenous peoples roam” in the Havasupai language, and i'tah kukveni (EE-TAH – KOOK-VENNY) means “our ancestral footprints” in the Hopi language. The name reflects the significance of the Grand Canyon area to surrounding tribes.

“As tribal leaders, it’s important that the Navajo Nation has a seat at the table when it comes to the management of this new national monument. The federal government should always be inclusive of tribal nations in the designation of our homelands. Today marks another step forward in building and strengthening the nation-to-nation relationship with the Biden-Harris Administration,” said Speaker Curley.

Prior to the signing of the proclamation, Miss Navajo Nation Valentina Clitso had the honor of singing the National Anthem in the Navajo language at the start of the

ceremony.

Arizona Congressman Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ), who played a vital role in securing the designation, provided opening remarks and commended the strength of tribal nations for fighting and overcoming obstacles to help secure the national monument designation.

U.S. Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland, U.S. Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, and Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs also spoke during the ceremony and thanked President Biden for working together with tribal nations and for recognizing tribes as the first stewards of the lands.

The designation marks the fifth new national monument established by President Biden. According to the White House, the designation will protect sacred ancestral places and their historically and scientifically important features, while conserving public lands, protecting wildlife habitat and clean water, and supporting local economies.

In addition, the new monument protects cultural and sacred sites that are special to the Havasupai Tribe, Hopi Tribe, Hualapai Tribe, Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, Moapa Band of Paiutes, Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, Navajo Nation, San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, Yavapai-Apache Nation, Pueblo of Zuni, and the Colorado River Indian Tribes.

READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/3Ekj6KT>

Bulletin Board

UNITED STATES NAVAL SHIP NAVAJO (T-ATS-6)



HOUMA, LA – The Navajo Nation Washington Office joyfully announces the christening of the USNS Navajo, an emblem of the Navajo Nation's spirit and resilience, marking an extraordinary moment in our Nation's timeline.

- The USNS Navajo, the new class's lead ship for the Navy's towing, salvage, and rescue vessels, replaces the retired T-ATF 166 and T-ARS 50 class ships. This open ocean towing vessel, championing Navajo values of assistance, cooperation, and mutual aid, will play a pivotal role in salvage operations, submarine rescue missions, and supply transport.

- USNS Navajo sponsor and enrolled member of the Navajo Nation, Jocelyn Billy-Upshaw, christened the USNS Navajo Class on Saturday, August 28th. Jocelyn's lineage includes the Bit'ahnii (Within His Cover People Clan) and the Tódich'ii'nii (Bitter Water People Clan), with her grandparents from the Áshijihí (Salt People Clan) and the Dziłit'aadi (Near the Mountain/Towering House People Clan). The Secretary of the Navy selects a sponsor, and they play an essential role that will guide the ship in all or some of the milestones in its life. Her participation cements the enduring bonds between the Navajo Nation and the United States Navy.

- "The christening of the USNS Navajo transcends ceremony, capturing the spirit of the Navajo people and recognizing our significant contributions to this country," said Justin Ahasteen, Executive Director of the Navajo Nation Washington Office, speaking on behalf of President Nygren. He emphasized the contributions that all Navajo people have provided in the interest of national defense.

- The contributions of the Navajo Nation to the U.S. military are monumental, particularly noteworthy being the Navajo Code Talkers' service during World War II. Their unbreakable code, built on the Navajo language, played a critical role in the Pacific theater operations, saving innumerable lives and underscoring the importance of our Navajo language and culture.

- Beyond the Code Talkers, Navajo warriors have displayed bravery and service commitment in every major U.S. military conflict since

the 19th century, fulfilling the Navajo people's core values. Executive Director Ahasteen honored the significance of Navajo cultural philosophy, stating, "We must also recognize the culture that shaped these warriors. The Navajo believe in Hózhóogí—a philosophy that encourages the pursuit of balance and harmony. This philosophy is reflected in the stories of Changing Woman, who embodies resilience and transformation, and Monster Slayer, who symbolizes protection and bravery. These are the values that the Navajo people carry with them into every arena, including their service to our Nation." With Navajo traditions as a center point, the Navajo people have shown an unparalleled commitment to service that will successfully guide the USNS Navajo on its missions.

The USNS Navajo will be an essential asset for the United States Navy and a beacon of inspiration for the Navajo people and all Indigenous nations. The Navajo Nation delegation included Council Delegate Shawna Ann Claw and Dr. Andy Nez; Navajo Nation Washington Office Executive Director Justin Ahasteen; Navajo Nation Veterans Administration Executive Director Bobbie Ann Baldwin; and the Navajo Nation Veterans Advisory Council received a warm welcome by the United Houma Nation Principal Chief Lora Ann Chaisson. The USNS Navajo has indeed begun a mission to build tribe-to-tribe relationships.

Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren stated, "The USNS Navajo is a tribute to these warriors and all members of the Navajo Nation, representing our people's strength, courage, resilience, and service commitment." This milestone represents the integral role that the Navajo Nation and its members continue to play in the defense and prosperity of this country.

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Bulletin Board

Nevada winner in Doodle for Google contest highlights Diné heritage



Las Vegas Review-Journal

12-year-old student named state winner in 15th annual Doodle for Google contest

Twelve-year-old Shanea Anna Chee, is proud. Proud of her heritage, proud of her artwork, and most important, proud of herself.

On May 18, Chee, who attends Brown Junior High School in Henderson, was selected as one of the winners in the 15th annual Doodle for Google contest.

"It was really exciting to win," Chee said. "My friends and parents were proud of me, and I was also just proud of myself and my art for being selected."

The contest opened in January and encouraged K-12 students from all over the country to submit artwork illustrating what they were grateful for.

Chee's winning doodle, titled "The Mittens," was an homage to her Diné

– the Navajo people – heritage. Each element in her artwork is a special part of Chee's heritage, including the background of the buttes of Monument Valley in Utah.

Chee's artwork was selected among hundreds of thousands of entries across 55 states and territories.

Chee was the winner for Nevada, meaning her artwork will now be voted on along with the 54 other pieces that were selected as winners. The winner will ultimately win a \$30,000 college scholarship, a \$50,000 technology package for their school or nonprofit organization and have their artwork featured on Google for one day.

Voting for the contest opened May 18. Google has posted a gallery to showcase the winning works from across the country.

After voting, the 55 artworks will be narrowed down to five, where one will go on to be the national winner.

'I carry who I am'

Chee originally got her love for drawing from her father, who also draws. Chee would have creative ideas and immediately want to get them down on paper, as she did with her Google doodle.

The first 'G' and the 'E' in Chee's Google illustration are represented by Navajo woven blanket patterns. The first 'O' is drawn as a hogan, known in Diné culture as a dwelling or ceremonial place. The second 'O' is represented by the Sun God, the part of the drawing that Chee said was the most complicated to draw, while the second 'G' is drawn in the fashion of a Navajo squash blossom necklace.

Chee responded to Google's prompt saying, "I'm proud to be Diné, it's a part of me, where I carry who I am."

Being able to display her culture through Google is deeply important to Chee, because it will be shown to a broader audience where her culture can be exposed to more people.

"What inspired me to make this drawing was to show my Navajo culture to other people," Chee said. "To show who I am and where I come from."

READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/3YYWmJJ>

DCD Administration extends heartfelt wishes for Ms. Delilah Bill

BY: SJordan

Window Rock - August 25th, 2023: Local DCD staff and administration gathered to bid a fond farewell to Delilah Bill, the esteemed front desk Office Specialist and the friendly face of reception for all public and DCD walk-up services. Ms. Bill's tenure began amid the

challenges of the pandemic, where her dedication shone as she stood with the DCD

Administrative team during demanding times.

Her unwavering commitment sustained the

organization through months of staff

shortages, and her collaborative efforts with

the Heavy Equipment team led to unmatched

successes. As Ms. Bill sets off to explore

new opportunities in local government

aligned with her family's needs, the DCD

Administration extends heartfelt wishes for

her future endeavors, full of prosperity and

success.



Bulletin Board

Delivering Addresses (and Access) to the Navajo Nation



BY PETER YEUNG • AUG 25, 2023

About five miles north of the Arizona border, drive straight along a sand-swept road as it snakes through brush-covered foothills, keep going beyond a row of barns with rusting reddish roofs, make a left after a gray boulder, and the road will eventually lead to a cul-de-sac lined by two dozen homes. This is Navajo Mountain, Utah.

The tiny Native American settlement is named after the sacred, 10,000-foot-high sandstone peak that dominates the craggy skyline. It has been inhabited for centuries. It is in one of the most remote parts of the Beehive State, and in turn, the entire continental United States.

"Everything on Navajo Mountain is scattered and isolated," says Dalene Redhorse, who was born in the town of Mexican Waters, around 60 miles to the east. "There are many off-roads with just one house. It's not like a city here. Everything takes time."

Redhorse is one of two "addressing specialists" at the nonprofit Rural Utah Project who, since 2019, have been going door-to-door visiting every home in the western half of Utah's San Juan County, which includes Navajo Mountain. Her goal: to connect off-the-grid residents with essential services that they have often been denied.

Across Navajo Nation—the largest and most populous Native American reservation in the country, spanning 27,000 square miles and three states—formal street addresses are a rarity. Out of the more than 60,000 structures, fewer than 500 are on roads with names and house numbers, according to the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission.

The culture of the Navajo, who are also known as Diné, is ancient, but modern American governments have imposed a systematized, Western concept of territory onto these communities. This has effectively erased their holistic relationship with ancestral lands and created staggering inequality. More than 40% of the Diné live in poverty, 48.5% are unemployed, 60% lack broadband, and 40% don't have running water at home. Those structural issues played a role when Navajo Nation at one point reached the highest COVID infection rate in the U.S. (though thanks to community mobilization it also achieved a far higher vaccination rate than the national average).

The Diné say they have suffered because fundamental services and amenities such as emergency healthcare, mail delivery, broadband internet, government-issued IDs, and the right to vote often require having a formally recognized address.

"I had to describe landmarks to direct the ambulance," says Gordon Folgheraiter, 66, recalling an incident when his brother once cut his head after falling off a truck in Navajo Mountain. "I said: 'Go to the end of the highway,

continue for two miles, pass a house on the left with a red roof, and then turn right,'" adds Folgheraiter, who was then told by the dispatcher to stand outside wearing bright clothing to flag down the vehicle.

But steps have tentatively been made in the right direction. Last year Folgheraiter had a bright blue plaque mounted on his front door after Redhorse visited. All of the 800 or so residents of Navajo Mountain now have one.

Each sign is embossed with a plus code (e.g., 859F365C+W2) in bold white lettering. This acts as a physical confirmation of the home's location for deliverers, emergency services, and visitors. These fixed, simplified, 10-digit versions of traditional geocoordinates pinpoint a location to within three square meters.

The open-source Plus Code tool, developed by Google, allows codes to be generated anywhere on the globe and instantly located on Google Maps. "It helps everyone get on the same page," says Patricia Blackhorn, chapter president of Navajo Mountain. "People can just look it up."

The technology is simple, but the ability to easily communicate a location without a street address could have a transformative impact on the world's most marginalized populations. Beyond the sparsely populated expanses of remote Utah, creating addresses for informal spaces could bring change to densely packed urban areas that also lack addresses, such as in Lagos, Delhi, and Rio de Janeiro. One billion people lived in informal settlements in 2018, according to the UN, and by 2030 that number will triple.

The Rural Utah Project is focusing on Navajo Nation, where it worked to obtain buy-in from local officials. The project is also deploying plus codes in other San Juan County communities such as Bluff, Mexican Hat, and the White Mesa Ute Mountain Ute Reservation. Separately, plus code projects are at various stages of deployment by other organizations in dozens of other countries, including India, Egypt, and Brazil.

For Folgheraiter, it means he no longer has to drive 50 miles to the post office to pick up packages from certain delivery companies. In San Juan County, there are countless uses—to buy vehicles, to locate ceremonies in remote areas, and, as one young student needed: to prove her residency for in-state tuition rates. The Utah Navajo Health System uses plus codes for patient home visits, and during the pandemic they proved invaluable for delivering supplies to those in need.

In addition to the technology, another crucial ingredient has been painstaking human labor: Initially, Redhorse and her colleague spent months scouring satellite imagery on Google Maps, zooming in over the arid landscape to locate homes. They identified 5,600 potential structures across San Juan County, but when they went to confirm each one in person, which involved long days of driving (the county has fewer than two people per square mile on average), many turned out to be rocks or abandoned houses—only half were occupied homes.

During her visits, Redhorse explains to residents how to use plus codes with emergency services, and also updates household voter registration and provides nonpartisan information about elections. The Rural Utah Project identified voting as a key target because flawed registration of rural, remote households has had a significant impact on democratic rights of the Diné: Research by the nonprofit found 87.7% of Diné residents were registered by San Juan County at the wrong location and a quarter in the wrong precinct.

READ MORE: <https://bit.ly/3Efk8YF>

Bulletin Board

Brightening up Fort Defiance with local art



Window Rock High School art teacher Cody Begay along with several alumni and community members have been working on murals in Fort Defiance. (Photos courtesy WRUSD)
READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/44wWe5q>



Barbie gets a Navajo makeover by master Diné weaver Barbara Teller Ornelas

- GREY HILLS, Ariz. – When Navajo Grey Hills weaver Barbara Teller Ornelas saw the original Barbie dolls – all blonde hair, blue eyes and 1950s clothes – she certainly didn't see herself.
- That version of Barbie stood alone for many years until the first edition Native American Barbie was released in 1997 as part of the company's "Dolls of the World" collection.
- Teller Ornelas bought one of the 1997 Navajo Barbies for herself and another for her daughter, Sierra Ornelas, but she wasn't happy with the outfit. She told her daughter she would weave an outfit for them one day, and she did.
- Now, Teller Ornelas' efforts to authenticate the Navajo Barbie are drawing renewed attention with the opening of the "Barbie" movie, which is prompting Indigenous women to give the character a Native flair that is missing in the popular movie.
- Redhorse is one of two "addressing specialists" at the nonprofit Rural Utah Project who, since 2019, have been going door-to-door visiting every home in the western half of Utah's San Juan County, which includes Navajo Mountain. Her goal: to connect off-the-grid residents with essential services that they have often been denied.



READ MORE: <https://bit.ly/47Y7Sjt>

Bulletin Board

A Remarkable Milestone in St. Michaels, AZ

St. Michaels, AZ - Local Chapter St. Michaels's witnessed a heartwarming day of celebration as local officials and dedicated staff commemorated years of hard work. In a significant step forward, esteemed Council delegates and officials from previous terms came together for the groundbreaking ceremony of the new St. Michaels community chapter house. The event radiated inclusivity, extending an invitation to all to join in the jubilation.



The current Council Delegate, alongside local chapter officials, extended a warm welcome to both esteemed dignitaries and community members. Their presence added to the joy of this remarkable achievement. Amidst the applause, expressions of resilience and unwavering determination resonated, acknowledging the relentless efforts of those who dedicated themselves to the restoration of this vital communal space.

Congratulations



Navajo Nation Fair 2023: Concert Line up

Navajo Nation Fair Office has released the concert line up for Navajo Nation fair:



Bulletin Board

Diné entrepreneurs keep the caffeine flowing with Stay Grounded coffee truck

TUBA CITY, Ariz. – Ask anyone where the best cup of joe on the western Navajo Nation can be found and they'll point you in the direction of Stay Grounded coffee truck.

Last month, the mobile coffee truck celebrated four years of serving the western Navajo Nation. Located primarily in Page and the Tuba City area, Stay Grounded is known for their coffees, teas and house-blended energy drinks.

Diné sisters Calista and Selina Tsinnijinnie, along with their long-time friend, Shannon Black own and operate the truck. According to them, these last four years have been filled with all the highs and lows of thinking outside the box and starting a new business.

"Going into business like this was all new to us," Calista said. "It was a journey that we decided to try together. We just kind of went for it."

With backgrounds in engineering, accounting and medicine, the women had little experience in the restaurant and customer service industry.

"And of course, we knew if we were to do this, we wanted to do it right," Calista said. "So, we did a lot of research. We signed ourselves up for a class in Seattle, got familiar with the science behind coffee, got familiar with the espresso machine, how to, you know, dial it in, and know the difference between beans. (We) kind of (got) an idea of what we're looking for ... just a lot of research and schooling on the back end, before we got rolling."

Their first day serving customers was July 4, 2019 – Independence Day. There were, of course, a few obstacles along the way that had to be worked out before the business picked up steam.

"Hiccups in terms of, you know, power, water, all that stuff," Calista laughed. "Those are just kind of the things that you learn... you're just trying to figure out everything in a very fast-paced environment."

"When you're first starting out nothing's easy," Shannon added. "It takes a lot of hard work, a lot of dedication, time and that continuous push and drive to keep going."

As they went along, they got to know customers and people and slowly issues popped up that had to be addressed.

"We learned about sales tax and a lot of financial stuff that we had no idea about – supplies and payroll," Shannon said.

Shipping of inventory proved to be a big challenge.

"The Navajo Nation doesn't really have addressing yet, they're working on the rural addressing project – that's for 911 services, but we wait almost two weeks to get our shipment and then sometimes it gets sent back because the UPS or FedEx driver doesn't know the location of our residence," Calista said. "So, we're always chasing down the trucks."

"We definitely have a great relationship with our UPS and FedEx drivers," Selina added.

Navigating regulations for business owners on the Navajo Nation was another challenge.

"We've had to jump through so many hoops for the Navajo Nation, it's ridiculous," Shannon said. "We just get so many different answers from so many different departments... it seems like a wild goose chase and then you find this one person who knows about all the information you need and they're gold. That's the biggest growing pain that we've had and still have – we're still trying to establish a structure, but there's so many bureaucratic hoops that you have to jump through to in order to do something as simple as a business site lease."

And then the pandemic happened, which shut down the coffee shop six months after opening. After the initial shutdown, the women decided to continue operations by following guidelines.

"We made the collective decision to follow the Navajo Nation rules," Shannon said. "We are female, Indigenous, Navajo Nation business owners and we wanted to make the statement that we were taking the pandemic very seriously. So, we wanted to go with their rules rather than the city of Page or anybody outside the Navajo Nation."

Shannon said they wanted to make it clear that they were following Navajo guidelines out of respect for future generations and the health of their own families and grandparents.



As the nation moved through the COVID-19 pandemic, precautions were taken to maintain a healthy staff, including wearing masks, distancing, and taking employee temperatures daily.

"Then we found out that our customers liked the drive-thru," Calista said.

Since then, Stay Grounded has operated mostly as such.

"There are quite a few tourists who like to walk up and look at the menu," Shannon said. "We're not shy, we're not afraid to talk to you, we won't ignore you. We're more personable, I'd say."

Through these growing pains and the global pandemic, the women have each found a part of the business they enjoy, one of these is mentoring staff.

"My favorite part is also my biggest headache," Shannon laughed. "Yes, my favorite part is mentoring the team. They're mostly college students that we're working with. We've had a chance to help them grow (and) add job skills to their resume."

Being a barista at Stay Grounded is much more than just making beverages for customers.

"We're also training them on all the other stuff, electrician (work), how to hook up trailers, how to backup trailers, how to change a tire and all that," Shannon said.

Being able to mentor youth has proved to be a big part of their business, which ties in to their original reason for wanting to open a business on the reservation.

"The reason, or one of our driving forces behind this (endeavor) is because we wanted to create job opportunities within the reservation. And we also wanted to let the younger kids know that it's possible to do," Calista said. "You hear a lot of impossible, or you can't do it, or you just have to go elsewhere, you have to move to a city and do it there, you hear a lot of that growing up. So, that's definitely one of my driving forces for me ... pretty much proving that everything is not impossible, that it is possible."

According to the savvy business women, Stay Grounded has a bright future and getting a permanent structure is one of their main goals.

"So that's something that we're definitely working towards right now," Calista said.

In the meantime, Stay Grounded continues to deliver a daily dose of caffeine to their customers.

Those wanting to sample their menu can find them through social media and on Google.

"Instagram is definitely our biggest drive, next is Facebook. And surprisingly, coming on up is definitely Google," Salina said.

READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/3steWxs>

PERSONNEL NEWS -- DCD OPEN POSITIONS

POSITION TITLE	LOCATION	PAY RATE	CLOSING DATE
Administrative Service Centers			
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Forest Lake, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Rough Rock, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Alamo, NM	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Teecnospos, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Kaibeto, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Coalmine Mesa, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Navajo Mountain, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Tolani Lake, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Community Service Coordinator (S)	Navajo Mountain, AZ	40,778.64	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Wide Ruins, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Oak Springs, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Crystal, NM	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Coyote Canyon, NM	28,897.92	OUF
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Wide Ruins, AZ	40,778.64	OUF
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Tsayatoh, NM	40,778.64	OUF
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Sawmill, AZ	40,778.64	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Jeddito, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Indian Wells, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Indian Wells, AZ	37,333.44	9/1/2023
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Tsaile, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Hardrock, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Lukachukai, AZ	40,778.64	OUF
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Low Mountain, AZ	40,778.64	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Tohajiilee, NM	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Thoreau, NM	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Nageezi, NM	28,897.92	OUF
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Red Rock, NM	40,778.64	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Huerfano, NM	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Lake Valley, NM	28,897.92	OUF
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Red Mesa, AZ	37,333.44	OUF
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Red Valley, AZ	40,778.64	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Red Valley, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Coalmine Mesa, AZ	40,778.64	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Cameron, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Coppermine, AZ	28,897.92	OUF
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Coppermine, AZ	37,333.44	OUF
Office Specialist (S)	Dilkon, AZ	28,897.92	9/4/2023
Capital Projects Management Department			
Registered Architect (S)	Window Rock, AZ	72,683.28	OUF
Project Manager	Crownpoint, NM	47,481.12	9/1/2023
Community Housing and Infrastructure Development			
Eligibility Technician	Crownpoint, NM	28,897.92	9/1/2023
DCD Administration			
Office Assistant	Window Rock, AZ	24,304.32	9/13/2023
Deputy Division Director (S)	Window Rock, AZ	79,239.60	9/20/2023
(OUF)	Open Until Filled		
(S)	Sensitive Position (subject to background check) Closing Dates may change		

For the most up-to-date personnel info, please visit DPM's website at
<http://www.dpm.navajo-nsn.gov/jobs.html>

Comic of the Month



Quote of the Month



National Preparedness Month: September 2023

September 2023

Press Release Number CB23-SFS.124

When major disasters strike, visit the U.S. Census Bureau's Emergency Management / Disasters webpage for demographic, economic and resilience information on areas impacted in the United States and its territories. Users can access key Census Bureau emergency management-related resources and data tools, including My Community Explorer, OnTheMap for Emergency Management, Census Business Builder, Community Resilience Estimates.

From [Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov), National Preparedness Month, 2023 Theme: Preparing for Older Adults

"The Ready Campaign's 2023 National Preparedness Month campaign will focus on preparing older adults for disaster, specifically older adults from communities that are disproportionately impacted by the all-hazard events, which continue to threaten the nation.

"We know older adults can face greater risks when it comes to the multitude of extreme weather events and emergencies we now face, especially if they are living alone, are low-income, have a disability or live in rural areas.

"Emergency managers and all those who work with and support older adult communities [can] access the new webpage available in English and Spanish languages at [Ready.gov/older-adults](https://www.ready.gov/older-adults) and [Ready.gov/es/adultos-mayores](https://www.ready.gov/es/adultos-mayores) for initial messaging, graphics and resources."

Key Stats

From My Community Explorer:

Source: Data Shown on Site.

American Community Survey (ACS) - The site includes selected demographic and socioeconomic statistics from the 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates at the state, county and census tract levels. These include data on poverty, educational attainment and language spoken at home.

County Business Patterns (CBP) - The site includes selected business statistics from the 2021 CBP at the state and county levels by 2-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code. These include data on number of establishments, employment and average annual payroll per employee.

Nonemployer Statistics (NES) - Selected statistics on self-employed persons from the 2019 NES at the state and county levels by 2-digit NAICS code. These include data on the number of firms and average annual revenue per firm.

Community Resilience Estimates (CRE) - The CRE tracks how at-risk every single neighborhood in the United States is to the impacts of COVID-19 and other local disasters, by measuring the capacity of individuals and households at absorbing, enduring and recovering from the external stresses of the impacts of a disaster.

READ MORE AT: <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/stories/preparedness-month.html>

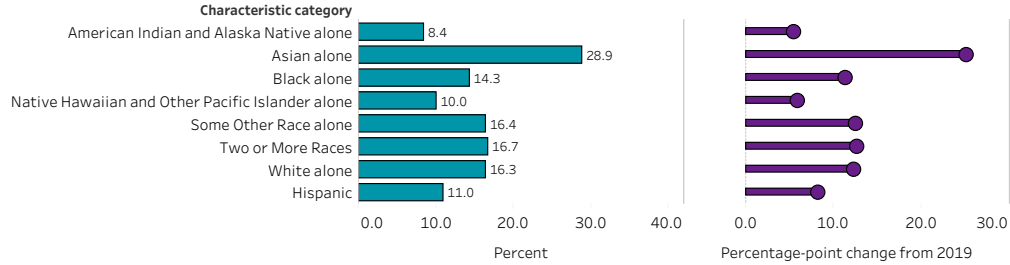
Working From Home Among Young Adults

In 2021, 15.7 percent of young adults aged 18–34 worked from home. This represented an increase of 12.0 percentage points from 2019 when only 3.7 percent of young adults worked from home. Use the drop down menus to observe how working from home varied by different social and demographic characteristics.

Age Group
18–34 years old

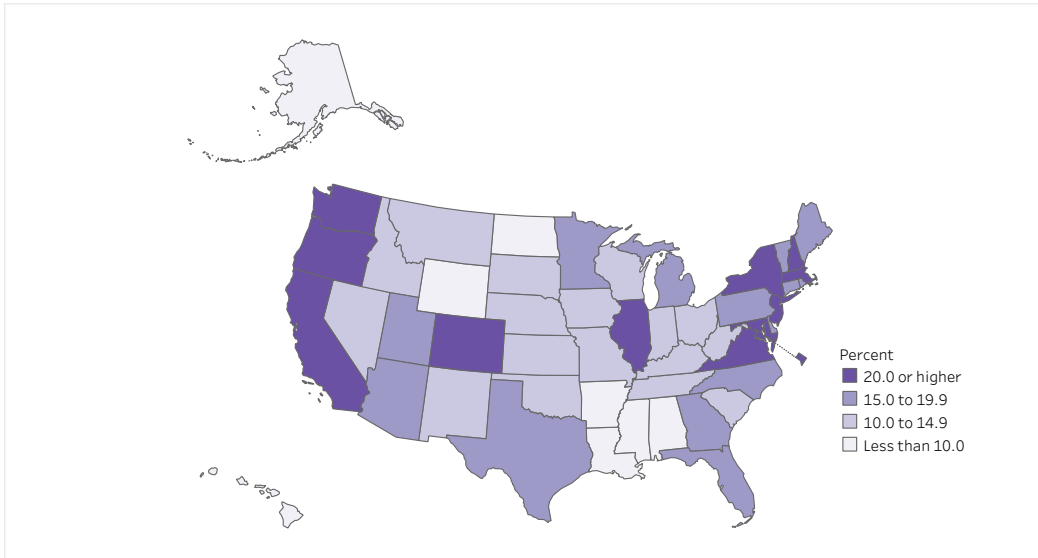
Characteristic
Race and Hispanic origin

Working From Home Among Young Adults Aged 18–34 by Race and Hispanic Origin: 2021



Percentage of Young Adults Aged 18 to 34 Working From Home by State: 2021

Hover over each state to observe its percent in 2019 and 2021.



Percentage of Young Adults Aged 18 to 34 Working From Home Among the 15 Largest Metropolitan Areas: 2021

Metropolitan areas	Total population	Percent in 2019	Percent in 2021	Change
New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA	19,768,458	4.1	22.9	18.9
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA	12,997,353	5.6	20.1	14.5
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI	9,510,390	5.3	22.5	17.3
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX	7,759,615	5.2	19.9	14.7
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX	7,206,841	4.6	15.8	11.2
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV	6,358,652	5.0	31.5	26.5
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD	6,228,601	4.6	24.5	20.0
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Alpharetta, GA	6,144,970	7.5	24.2	16.7
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL	6,091,747	5.6	14.3	8.7
Phoenix-Mesa-Chandler, AZ	4,946,145	6.7	21.6	14.9
Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH	4,899,932	4.8	27.7	22.8
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA	4,653,105	4.1	13.0	8.9
San Francisco-Oakland-Berkeley, CA	4,623,264	5.7	35.4	29.6
Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI	4,365,205	3.7	19.3	15.6
Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA	4,011,553	5.8	31.8	26.1

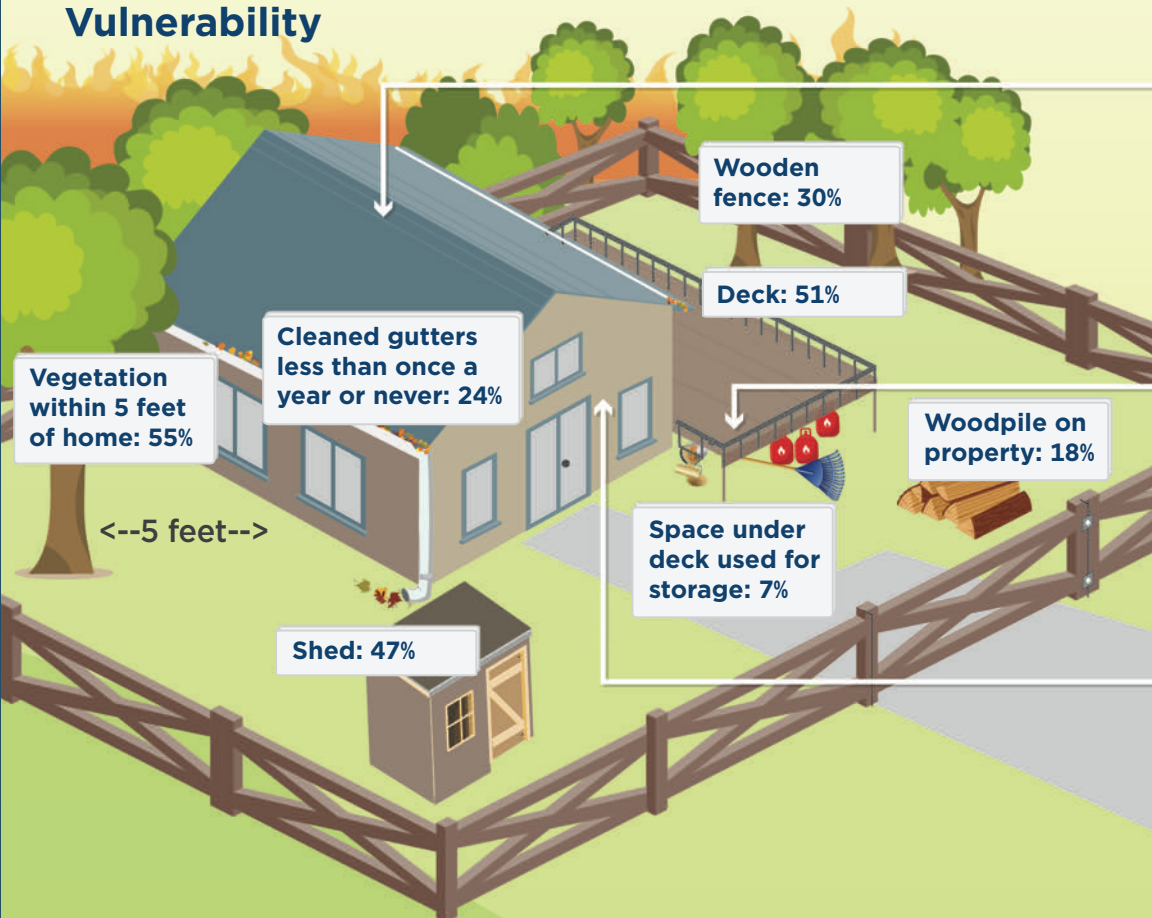
Note: All racial categories are non-Hispanic. Comparative statements in this visualization have been tested for statistical significance. However, unstated differences between groups and time points are not tested for statistical significance.

Wildfires and Home Vulnerability

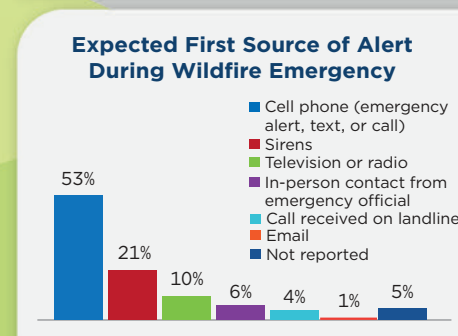
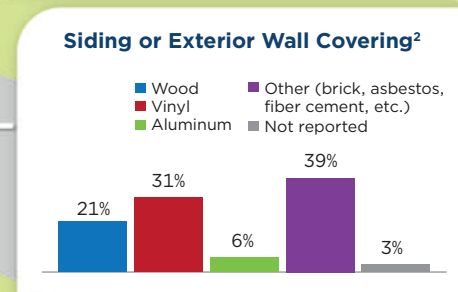
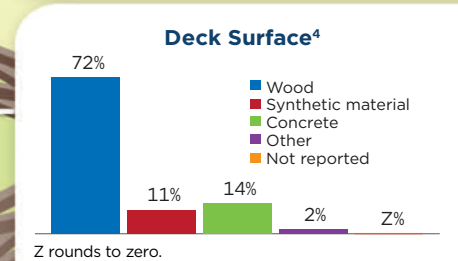
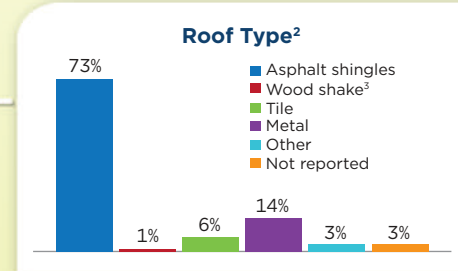
The Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) is comprised of small noncontiguous geographic areas located all across the nation. WUIs are defined by the U.S. Forest Service as areas where homes and other structures are in or adjacent to undeveloped wildland vegetation prone to a large scale wildfire, thereby posing a significant threat to human life or property. About 37 million 1-unit structures (38%) in the United States are located inside the WUI.

The 2021 American Housing Survey (AHS), sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), collected data on the external characteristics of 1-unit structures in the WUI. These data are intended to improve our understanding of the vulnerability of the American housing stock to wildfires and other spreading fires. HUD worked with the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) on the development of the wildfire risk questions and in determining the geographic areas in the United States that received the questions.

Percentage of 1-Unit Structures¹ Located in the WUI With Wildfire Risk Factors Impacting Home Vulnerability



Combustible materials, such as wood, can increase a home's vulnerability.



¹ Commonly known as single-family homes, 1-unit structures can house individuals, single families, or multiple families.

² For more information about fire resistive construction materials, refer to <www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Firewise/Fact-sheets/FirewiseHowToPrepareYourHomeForWildfires.pdf>.

³ Wood shake refers to a material of wood roofing.

⁴ Includes only 1-unit structures in the WUI with a deck.

Note: Percentages include not reported values. Information on confidentiality protection, methodology, sampling and nonsampling error, and definitions is available at <www.census.gov/ahs>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2021 American Housing Survey.



NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Schedule Now!

Community Land Use Planning Orientations & Trainings

Topics

- Review the *Title 26 LGA - Zoning & Community Based Land Use Plans*
- Provide overview of Land-Use Planning for Navajo Chapters
- Review the CLUPC certification process
- Strategic Planning assistance
- Community assessment collection tools & methods
- Introduction of land use planning topics
- Technical Assistance

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Labor Day Safety Tips

Outdoor Activities

Keep an eye on children around any open flames, and give your pit the once-over before starting the fire! (A leaky propane hose could ruin your entire weekend!)



Travel

Fill up your gas tank before leaving home. Check your oil, and tire pressure to avoid hazards down the road!



Weather and Beverages

Grab a few extra water bottles if you're spending time in the hot sun, and make a plan to get home safe if toasting your hard work with friends!



August 2023



The DCD Newsletter, "Community Info", is produced monthly by the Division of Community Development and is a resource for division staff and chapters.

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