



# FROM THE AIR PROGRAM

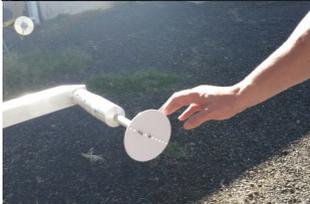
## Some Facts About the Tribal Weather Station



Along with 3 air quality monitors that measure particulate matter and ozone, the Tribe's Air Program operates a professional, federally approved weather station, located at the Environmental Management Office. This is a 33 ft ground-base mounted, winch-operated tower, fitted with sensors that measure ambient weather: a barometer for pressure, a pyranometer for solar radiation, a relative humidity sensor, a temperature sensor, and a wind cross arm assembly fitted with a wind speed sensor and a wind direction sensor. A rain gauge with heating capabilities is mounted to the roof platform with the monitors. The station is a central part of the air quality program and undergoes checks and audits to make sure that the sensors are delivering good data, which is regularly sub-



mitted to federal data systems. The sensors communicate via a hard-wired data logger set up in the EMO-A office. The sensors deliver current to the data logger, which is programmed to convert this analog signal into a value- like millibars, miles per hour or degrees- and then into digital/computerized data. The Air Program performs and coordinates regular checks on the sensors. This is done by using corresponding handheld calibration instruments, where the data delivered from the sensor via the data logger are checked against them. For example, the temperature sensor is checked against a calibrated thermometer. The wind cross arm sensors are checked with devices with adjustable resistance to rotation, motors with known rotations, and a scientific compass or GPS for direction. The barometer is checked against another barometer, etc.



The data is available in real-time at [http://www.bishoptribeemo.com/index\\_air.htm](http://www.bishoptribeemo.com/index_air.htm)



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*Pictures, clockwise: The station from the north, behind the permanently constructed monitor platform; former Air District technician and analyst Scott verifies a handheld thermometer's function; the motor used to verify wind speed; a weighted "torque wheel" used to verify the threshold at which the vane on the crossarm will turn, situated where the vane mounts.*

## BURN INFO - STATEWIDE BAN STILL IN EFFECT

If you want to have a burn as soon as the ban is lifted, please remember to get or renew your burn permit at the EMO office and review the rules before burning. Permits expire every Dec 31st. Any time you are not sure if yours needs renewing, please call or come in. A list of rules and phone numbers are on the permit. In general:

You must have a burn permit

It must be a **"yes" burn day CALL 760 873 2555 to find out**

You can burn only from **5:00AM to noon**

You can burn

- ◆ yard waste in 4-foot by 4-foot piles
- ◆ small plots of grass or strips of grass along fence lines
- ◆ cardboard and non-glossy paper in burn barrels

**You must CALL DISPATCH 760 873 5866 before burning.**