

GEO-ENABLING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS PRACTICES

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S (EPA'S) MYENVIRONMENT



Background: Access to a comprehensive suite of environmental information is critical for keeping the public informed about the environmental conditions in their regions.

Value Statement: MyEnvironment provides the public with access to environmental information that they need to understand their area of interest. It provides this information in a simple, map-based format that enables users to understand the conditions in their region across multiple media (e.g. air, land, water). MyEnvironment saves users time and resources, allowing them to view, understand, and download information from a single access point.

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Challenges:

- Finding all the environmental data needed to evaluate an area of interest can be time-consuming and challenging and may often require that individuals search across numerous distributed websites and sources of information.
- Individuals needing information may have differing backgrounds and interests, making the process of effectively presenting and delivering information from a single access point challenging.

How Has MyEnvironment Addressed These Challenges?

• The MyEnvironment team has developed a streamlined user interface that presents information from numerous sources in an easy to understand design. The application links directly to data sources and related web pages, and presents the information to consumers in different formats, maintaining high quality data and ensuring system compatibility across multiple types of users.

What Functions Does My Environment Provide?

- User access to information on facilities in regions of interest that report to EPA as well as information on region's air quality, health, water quality, superfund, brownfields, hazardous waste and ecological conditions
- Map-based format allows users to view multiple types of data for a particular region simultaneously
- High data quality, timely information, cost-effective, and tailored to customer needs
- Multiple data gueries and export formats for user search and download
- Not only helps public citizens, but also helps EPA personnel save time by reducing the burden of responding to Freedom of Information (FOIA) requests

How Can You Leverage MyEnvironment's Model?

- Access the information using different methods including:
 - Subscribing to a GeoRSS feed
 - Incorporating a MyEnvironment widget into your existing web applications
- Reduce duplication of effort, lower costs, and enhance data quality using common services

For Additional Information, Please Contact:

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