

## *Environmental Monitoring*

*Compiled by Arden Rice, September 2009*

[www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lrb/pubs/tapthepower.htm](http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lrb/pubs/tapthepower.htm)

Much of the data collected by federal and state agencies related to monitoring air, water, and land for pollutants is publicly available online. Health data tracking the incidence of cancer, birth defects, and other pollution-related diseases is also online. The sources listed below identify these sites and background information to help understand this data.

### Advisories

**Air Quality Watches and Advisories:** <http://dnr.wi.gov/air/aq/health/status.asp> Citizens can receive notifications via mobile device or e-mail when there is an air quality advisory.

**Fish Consumption Advisories (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources):** <http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/consumption> Recommended limits for consuming fish based on species and body of water.

**Health and Safety Information on Household Products (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services):** <http://householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov/index.htm>

### Environmental Monitoring

**DNR Drinking Water System, Public Water Supply Systems:** [http://prodoasext.dnr.wi.gov/inter1/pws2\\$.startup](http://prodoasext.dnr.wi.gov/inter1/pws2$.startup) A database listing the federally mandated annual Consumer Confidence Reports on public water systems. For more background on the Consumer Confidence Report, see [http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/ccr/ccr\\_instructions.htm](http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/ccr/ccr_instructions.htm)

**Environmental Monitoring of Nuclear Power Plants for Radiological Emissions / Wisconsin Division of Public Health. 2007.** Reports for previous years are available in the State Documents collection (HSS/H/e-1 to e-5) (library use only) [http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/dph\\_beh/EnvMonitoring/EnvironmentalMonitoringNuclear.htm](http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/dph_beh/EnvMonitoring/EnvironmentalMonitoringNuclear.htm)

**EPA's MyEnvironment Portal:** [www.epa.gov/myenvironment](http://www.epa.gov/myenvironment) Search by location to generate local reports on air and water quality, local health data, and land cleanup projects.

**Public Health Assessments and Health Consultations (Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)):** [www.atsdr.cdc.gov/hac/pha/index.asp](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/hac/pha/index.asp) "Since 1986, ATSDR has been required by law to conduct a public health assessment at each of the sites on the EPA National Priorities List."—Foreword.

**Real Time Air Quality Monitoring (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources):** <http://dnrmaps.wisconsin.gov/imf/imf.jsp?site=wisards> Monitors ozone and particle pollution.

**Right-to-Know Network:** [www.rtknet.org](http://www.rtknet.org) An alternate search tool for querying environmental monitoring databases.

**Scorecard – The Pollution Information Site:** [www.scorecard.org/index.tcl](http://www.scorecard.org/index.tcl) Shows how counties compare nationwide in terms of air and water quality, release of toxic substances, and environmental justice.

**Solid and Hazardous Waste Information System (SHWIMS) (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources):** <http://sotw.dnr.state.wi.us/sotw/Welcome.do> Monitors landfill operations, waste transportation, hazardous waste generation, wood burning, waste processing, and sharps collection.

**Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Program (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency):** <http://epa.gov/tri> A federal registry monitoring chemical releases. The registry was created as a result of the Emergency Planning and Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) of 1986. See also:

- **TRI for States:** [www.epa.gov/tri/stakeholders/state/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/tri/stakeholders/state/index.html) How states can consolidate the state and federal reporting demands for environmental monitoring.

### Contaminated Sites

**Contaminated Lands Environmental Action Network (CLEAN) (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources):** [www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/clean.htm](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/clean.htm)

- **BRRTS – Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment Tracking System:** <http://botw.dnr.state.wi.us/botw/SetUpBasicSearchForm.do> Lists contaminated soil and groundwater sites and the activities conducted to investigate and clean up the contamination and to fund cleanup activities.
- **RR Sites Map:** <http://dnrmaps.wisconsin.gov/imf/imf.jsp?site=brrts2> An interactive mapping tool to view remediation and redevelopment sites throughout Wisconsin based on data in the BRRTS database.

**Superfund Sites in Wisconsin (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources):** <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/cleanup/superfund.htm>



### **Legislative Reference Bureau**

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Madison, WI 53703



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## *Environmental Monitoring* Continued

**Tracker on the Web (Wisconsin Department of Commerce):** [http://commerce.wi.gov/php/ERS\\_Tracker\\_on\\_web/ers\\_tracker\\_on\\_web.php](http://commerce.wi.gov/php/ERS_Tracker_on_web/ers_tracker_on_web.php) Database of petroleum-contaminated sites and landowners who have applied for PECFA funds to help pay for the costs of remediation.

### Reporting Incidents, Filing Notification Requests

**DNR Spills Program – 1-800-943-0003:**

<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/spills/index.htm>

**DNR Violation Hotline – 1-800-TIP-WDNR:**

<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/es/enforcement/hotline.htm>

Call to report a possible environmental protection violation.

**File a Pesticide, Fertilizer or Feed Complaint:**

[www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/pest-fert/pesticides/complaint.jsp](http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/pest-fert/pesticides/complaint.jsp) Report improper pesticide use or suspicions about contaminants in fertilizer or animal feed to the Wisconsin Agrichemical Management Bureau.

**Landscape Pesticide Advanced Notice Registry:**

[www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/pest-fert/pesticides/indscp\\_reg.jsp](http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/pest-fert/pesticides/indscp_reg.jsp) Apply to be notified when pesticides will be applied to your neighbor's property by commercial firms. This site also contains a list of residents who are currently on the registry.

**National Response Center:** [www.nrc.uscg.mil/nrchp.html](http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/nrchp.html) The center is the federal agency for reporting oil and chemical spills. The center also maintains a searchable database of incident reports from 1991 to the present.

### Background Information

**Air Pollution Control Permit Basics / Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. 2004. (NatR/a) (library use only)** <http://dnr.wi.gov/air/pdf/permits.pdf>

**Environmental Health Legislation Database (National Conference of State Legislatures):**

[www.ncsl.org/Default.aspx?TabId=13230](http://www.ncsl.org/Default.aspx?TabId=13230)

**Environmental Health and Toxicology – Specialized Information Sources (U.S. National Library of Medicine):** <http://sis.nlm.nih.gov/enviro.html> Environmental health portal containing sources for the public, emergency responders as well as health professionals.

**Environmental Health Series / National Conference of State Legislatures. 1999-2004. (623/N211a)**

[www.ncsl.org/default.aspx?tabid=13176#series](http://www.ncsl.org/default.aspx?tabid=13176#series)

**Hazardous Substance Spills Reporting Requirements / Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. 2008. (623.5/W7p2/2008)** [www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/archives/pubs/RR558.pdf](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/archives/pubs/RR558.pdf)

**National Environmental Public Health Tracking Program (U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention):** [www.cdc.gov/nceh/tracking/default.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/tracking/default.htm)

**TOXNET: Toxicology Data Network:**

<http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/index.html> A search engine for over a dozen toxicology and environmental health databases.

**Understanding Wisconsin's Hazardous Air Pollutant Rules and Requirements / Wisconsin Bureau of Air Management. 2000.** <http://dnr.wi.gov/air/pdf/understandingHAPs.pdf>

**U.S. Government Accountability Office reports:**

- *Environmental Right-To-Know: EPA's Recent Rule Could Reduce Availability of Toxic Chemical Information Used to Assess Environmental Justice.* 2008. [www.gao.gov/products/GAO-08-115T](http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-08-115T)
- *Leaking Underground Storage Tanks: EPA Should Take Steps to Better Ensure the Effective Use of Public Funding for Cleanups.* 2007. [www.gao.gov/products/GAO-07-152](http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-07-152)
- *Superfund: Litigation Has Decreased and EPA Needs Better Information on Site Cleanup and Cost Issues to Estimate Future Program Funding Requirements.* 2009. [www.gao.gov/products/GAO-09-656](http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-09-656)
- *Toxic Chemical Releases: EPA Actions Could Reduce Environmental Information Available to Many Communities.* 2007. [www.gao.gov/products/GAO-08-128](http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-08-128)

**Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bureau Biennial Informational Papers, 2009.**

[www.legis.state.wi.us/lfb/Informationalpapers/info.html](http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lfb/Informationalpapers/info.html)

- *Air Management Programs* (#61) (623.11/W7/2009)
- *Petroleum Environmental Cleanup Fund Award (PECFA) Program* (#62) (389.23/W7a/2009)
- *Contaminated Land and Brownfields Cleanup Programs* (#63) (623.5/W7L1/2009)
- *Environmental Improvement Fund* (#64) (623.3/W7m3/2009)
- *Nonpoint Source Water Pollution Abatement and Soil Conservation Programs* (#66) (623.3/W7m5/2009)
- *Agricultural Chemical Fees and Programs* (#68) (632/W7i/2009)

### Stakeholder and Advocacy Group Position Statements

**American Chemistry Council – Policy Issues Page:**

[www.americanchemistry.com/s\\_acc/sec\\_policy](http://www.americanchemistry.com/s_acc/sec_policy)

**issues.asp?CID=234&DID=589** Includes background information on product stewardship policy, public health policy, and environmental health policy, among other issues.

**Biomonitoring Info:** [www.biomonitoringinfo.org/index.html](http://www.biomonitoringinfo.org/index.html)

Analyzes the validity of biomonitoring techniques for assessing the safety of various chemical substances.

**Environmental Research Foundation (ERF):** [www.rachel.org](http://www.rachel.org)

A nonprofit news group for environmental advocates working on toxic waste and social justice issues.

**Sierra Club:** [www.sierraclub.org/programs](http://www.sierraclub.org/programs) Issues page covering air, water, environmental justice, toxic chemicals, and more.