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Access to EPA's Information: An Update

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"Increasing the flow of information to cities, communities, and private citizens--giving you the tools to improve your quality of life as you see fit--is a very important part of our administrations's commitment to make environmental and public health protection for everyone."--Carol Browner

WWW.EPA.GOV

- Contains over 100,000 html pages
- Receives over 27,000,000 hits per month
- Organized to provide various access points

User Categories
Topics
Search
Browse

Current Projects and Initiatives to Improve EPA's Web site

- Cataloging the Web by creating metadata records and conducting a Web inventory
- Developing an environmental thesaurus
- Developing reading rooms on various topics
- Redesign of the home page
- Migrate current Online Library System (OLS) to a Web-based system

Agency Initiatives to Improve Public Access

- Reinventing Environmental Information

- Environmental Monitoring for Public Access and Community Tracking (EMPACT)
- Center for Environmental Information and Statistics (CEIS)
- Enhanced data quality and integration, and development of data standards
- Establishment of an Agency-wide Task Force to review the content of existing EPA Internet information products and make recommendations for their revision as needed
- Task Force ensures that information on EPA's Web site meets the customer needs
- Information is current, appropriate, and approved
- Design standards and Internet guidelines are followed
- Good Web practices are followed

Access to Publications

- On the Web
- National Center for Environmental Publications and Information (NCEPI)
- National Environmental Publications Information System (NEPIS)
- Publications by Program Office

Traditional Access Mechanisms

- National Center for Environmental Publications and Information (NCEPI)
- EPA Libraries
- Federal Depository Library Program
- FOIA
- NTIS

In Conclusion

We have been emphasizing electronic access to information, BUT we are not abandoning our traditional methods. In fact, if we do a good job electronically it will help us to do a better job in providing information through traditional mechanisms.