

U.S. EPA Region 7

Press Kit

Are you:

- *A reporter covering an environmental beat or working at an environmental outlet?*
- *Covering a breaking environmental response story?*
- *Looking for an environmental story with shelf life?*

EPA Region 7's public affairs team has pooled our decades of collective media experience to bring you our tips and advice for reporting accurate, timely, and meaningful environmental news in the Heartland.

Tips for Beat Reporters

1) **Subscribe** to EPA Region 7 news releases. In the drop-down menu, check the box for "Midwest Region (Region 7: IA, KS, MO, NE, 9 Tribal Nations)." While you're there, be sure to sign up for relevant news releases from EPA Headquarters.

2) **Bookmark** [EPA Region 7's webpage](#).

3) **Direct** policy questions to press@epa.gov.

4) **Follow** EPA Region 7 social media accounts.



Taking a deep dive into an environmental topic for a reporting series?

Our team can connect you to subject matter experts who can offer background information to help scope your story.

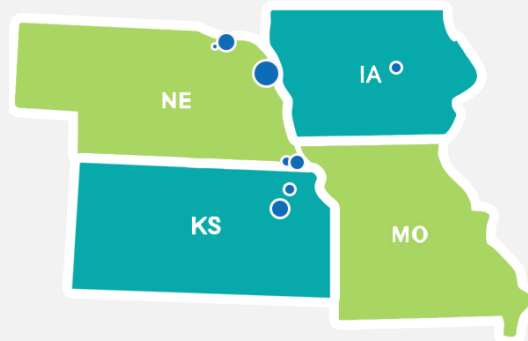
Reporting on an Environmental Emergency Response

Members of our team undergo public information office training through FEMA's [Emergency Management Institute](#). Here's what you need to know about our role in environmental emergency responses:

- 1) **Connection to on-the-ground work:** EPA's Emergency Response Program responds to oil spills; chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear incidents; and large-scale national emergencies. EPA on-scene coordinators organize all federal efforts with local, state, and regional response communities and provide them with support and information. Our public information officers work with the on-scene coordinators to provide timely and accurate information on response activities.
- 2) **Providing points of contact:** EPA is not always the lead agency on an emergency response. When applicable, our public information officer can often provide contact information for local, state, or regional responders.
- 3) **Information avenues:** EPA public information officers provide information through media inquiries, desk statements, and social media.
- 4) **FOIA requests:** When necessary, our public information officers may direct you to request documents through the [Freedom of Information Act](#). EPA has a [FOIA Reading Room](#) where you can access previously released documents.

Interested in working at EPA Region 7? Click [here](#) to see job postings.

Four States, Nine Tribal Nations



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is divided into 10 regional offices. EPA Region 7 (Midwest) serves the states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and nine tribal nations.



Subscribe to EPA Region 7 news releases to receive notifications and advisories of upcoming events.

Our Team

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Photo, Logo & Seal Usage

We often post event photos with online news releases. Not seeing a photo you can use? Just ask the contact on the news release if they can provide photos.



All photos are public domain.
Please credit to U.S. EPA.

Information on using the EPA logo and seal is available here: www.epa.gov/aboutepa/using-epa-seal-and-logo.



We want to connect you with the right people to complete your story. Reach out to EPA Region 7's public affairs team for in-depth information on local environmental topics.

Editorial Calendar

Our editorial calendar provides information on upcoming environmental emphasis campaigns and events. These annual occurrences provide important public health information to communities and ample opportunity for stories with a shelf life.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Radon Action Month..... | January |
| Pesticide Safety Education Month..... | February |
| Reducing Food Waste Month | April |
| Earth Day..... | April 22 |
| American Wetlands Month..... | May |
| Asthma Awareness Month | May |
| Air Quality Awareness Week | First week of May |
| Pollinator Week | Third week of June |
| Water Quality Month..... | August |
| SepticSmart Week..... | Second week of September |
| Pollution Prevention Week | Third week of September |
| Children's Health Month | October |
| Lead Poisoning Prevention Week | Last week of October |
| America Recycles Day | November 15 |

EPA Region 7 Social Media



Additional Resources

Examples of Our Work with Local Media

- EPA officials gather on floating classroom to highlight Mississippi River issues – *St. Louis Public Radio*, Aug. 21, 2024 (*related social media video*)
- Net-zero project in Lincoln highlights EPA's Solar for All program – *Lincoln Journal-Star*, July 23, 2024
- St. Louis' toxic sites need faster cleanup, lawmakers and residents say – *Fox News*, April 26, 2024
- The EPA is transforming communities throughout the Kansas City region. *Here's how* – *EPA Regional Administrator op-ed*, *Kansas City Star*, April 22, 2024
- Jefferson County dealing with elevated lead contamination in its water supply – *KMOX 98.7 (St. Louis)*, Aug. 1, 2023
- Two months after the Keystone's biggest oil spill, residents of a Kansas county wonder what's next – *Kansas Public Radio*, Feb. 2, 2023
- EPA says ozone levels in the St. Louis area remain too high – *St. Louis Public Radio*, Sept. 28, 2022

Laws and Regulations

EPA is a regulatory agency, meaning it is authorized to write regulations that explain the technical, operational, and legal details necessary to implement laws. See below for a list of laws, statutes, and executive orders regulated by EPA:

- CERCLA (Superfund)
- Clean Air Act
- Clean Water Act
- Endangered Species Act
- Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act
- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
- Toxic Substances Control Act

[View the complete list of regulations here](#)

Include Us in the Conversation!

EPA Region 7 strives to build lasting connections to our regional media outlets. We've been part of multiple engagements designed to increase understanding between our office and members of the media. Some recent examples include:

- Hosting an annual booth at the National Association of Farm Broadcasting Trade Talk.
- Touring KMBC 9 Studios in Kansas City.
- Joining a media training panel for the Mississippi River Basin Ag and Water Desk.
- Attending a panel on lead (Pb) hosted by the NPR Midwest Newsroom.
- Joining a media networking opportunity at the Society of Environmental Journalists Annual Conference in Houston.

