

PEER Center Services

- ♦ Sector-specific EMS guidance for the Wastewater and Drinking Water, Ports, Solid Waste, Transportation, and Colleges & Universities sectors.
- ♦ A national database of key contacts, service and course providers, EMS mentors, and more.
- ♦ A website dedicated to providing EMS information, such as best practices and problem-solving strategies, field-tested tools, and materials for public sector organizations.
- ♦ An outreach and communication program to identify supportive organizations and associations and to then supply them with current information on the value of an EMS.

LRC Services

- ♦ Access to EMS trainers and high quality EMS assistance.
- ♦ Local EMS support and information from around the nation.
- ♦ Local networking opportunities.

Who does the Center Serve?

- ♦ Local, County, and State Governments.
- ♦ Associations that represent public entities.
- ♦ All public entities.

**For greener,
cheaper,
faster, better
management of your
environmental issues, visit
www.peercenter.net**

About PEER and LRC Services

The majority of information, tools and materials that the PEER clearinghouse provides are at no cost to public entities. The cost of on-site technical assistance, training, and other customized services for those seeking an EMS is dependent upon the individual LRC. PEER mentors and technical experts include public entities that have adopted an EMS in their organization, and can be found on the PEER Center website.

Contact Us

Please visit us! We're interested in your information, experience and favorite EMS links.

Visit the National PEER Center and contact its Local Resource Centers through its website at

www.peercenter.net

or through

www.getf.org



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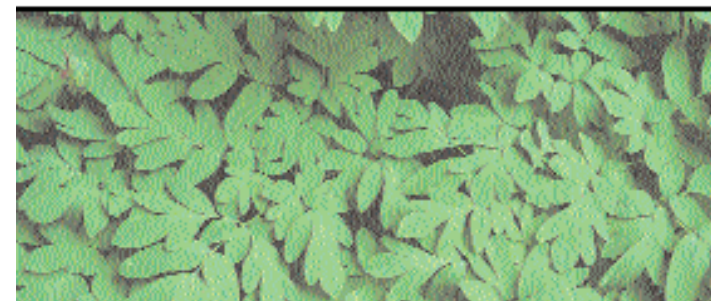
The National Public Entity Environmental Management System Resource Center



PEER
center

*Fostering Environmental
Leadership in the
Public Sector*

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National PEER Center

The **P**ublic **E**ntity **E**nvironmental Management System (EMS) **R**esource Center serves as a one-stop shop for EMS information and resources for public organizations. Local, county and state governments that are developing and implementing an EMS will find the PEER Center useful and can share their knowledge and field experience with others.

The PEER Center is composed of one virtual information clearinghouse managed by the Global Environment and Technology Foundation (www.getf.org) and eleven nationwide Local Resource Centers.

www.peercenter.net

The PEER Center clearinghouse provides local, county and state governments with key resources, tools and materials for EMS development and implementation. In addition to service providers, organizational contacts, EMS mentors, and sample documentation, the PEER Center also offers state EMS information.

Eleven Local Resource Centers (LRCs) have been designated to provide local communities with EMS guidance training and technical assistance.

Local Resource Centers



The National PEER Center leverages the success of four U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) programs in which 43 municipal, county and state entities developed EMSs, as well as many other EMS success stories in the public sector. The technical expertise and practical lessons learned from these experiences helped lay the foundation for the PEER Center today. For additional information visit www.peercenter.net.

Local Resource Centers

PEER Local Resource Centers (LRCs) promote EMS competence through the provision of regional EMS education and training. Each LRC services communities in their local areas or region with technical expertise, field-tested tools, support for EMS implementation, local contacts, and resources. The cost of LRC services is dependent upon the individual LRC.

- ♦ **Georgia Institute of Technology**
Economic Development Institute, Atlanta, GA
www.edi.gatech.edu/environment
- ♦ **Kansas State University**
Pollution Prevention Institute, Olathe, KS
www.sbeap.org
- ♦ **Purdue University**
Indiana Clean Manufacturing Technology and Safe Materials Institute, West Lafayette, IN
www.ecn.purdue.edu/CMTI/EMS/EMS
- ♦ **Sustainable Earth Initiative**
Oakland, CA
www.sustainableearthinitiative.org
- ♦ **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**
Austin, TX
www.abouttexasems.org
- ♦ **University of Colorado**
Connected Organizations for a Responsible Economy, Denver, CO
www.corecolorado.org
- ♦ **University of Florida**
TREEO Center, Gainesville, FL
www.treeo.ufl.edu/ems
- ♦ **University of Massachusetts at Lowell**
EMS Service Center, Lowell, MA
www.uml.edu/ems
- ♦ **University of Missouri-Rolla**
Institute for Environmental Excellence, Rolla, MO
www.campus.umar.edu/iee/
- ♦ **Virginia Tech**
Center for Organizational and Technological Advancement, Roanoke, VA
www.cota.vt.edu/vtems
- ♦ **Zero Waste Alliance**
Portland, OR
www.zerowaste.org/lrc

For more information on the LRCs, visit
www.peercenter.net

Environmental Management Systems

Environmental Management Systems (EMS) provide organizations of all types with a structured approach for managing environmental and regulatory responsibilities. An EMS enhances the ability to improve environmental performance, prevent pollution, and conserve energy and natural resources.

EMS Benefits

Through a process change with our EMS, we found we could save 90,000 gallons of diesel when fueling our heavy equipment. By shutting off this equipment during breaks and lunch periods, we eliminated nine tons of CO₂ and saved over \$700,000 in operating costs.

- Mark zu Hone, San Diego, CA

Through our EMS focus on reducing electric load, Kent County expects to cut annual electric costs by \$200-300K and air pollution by 5 million pounds of CO₂ per year through renewable energy sources and bio-fuel alternatives.

- Jim Newton, Kent County, DE

Metro Waste Authority's EMS set an air emissions objective, with an initial reduction target of 2.5 billion pounds annually. From enthusiasm generated by the EMS within the organization we were able to exceed the initial goal by 44%, six months before our original target date, with additional improvements still expected.

- Beth Shonts, Metro Waste Authority, Des Moines, IA

State and Local EMS

Momentum is building among local and state governments to develop an EMS. The PEER Center is evolving from state and local programs that have validated the environmental and economic benefits of an EMS in public sector organizations.

One of the greatest strengths of the PEER Initiative is its ability to publicize the growing number of EMS success stories from public agencies around the country. These agencies are finding out on their own that EMSs not only make good environmental sense, but good management sense as well. Perhaps even more importantly, EMSs are making a significant difference in the communities that have benefited from embracing this tool.

- Jim Horne, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency