

**CEHN Protects Children**  
[www.cehn.org](http://www.cehn.org)

The Children's Environmental Health Network (CEHN) mission is to protect children from environmental health hazards and to promote a healthy environment. CEHN's Web site provides information about children's environmental health issues and links to information and resources in the field.

You may contact CEHN by writing 110 Maryland Avenue NE, Suite 511, Washington, DC 20002, or by calling (202) 543-4033.



**NEETF Advances Environmental Education**  
[www.neetf.org](http://www.neetf.org)

The National Environmental Education and Training Foundation (NEETF). NEETF relates environmental education to better health, improved teaching, environmentally sound and profitable business, and volunteerism in local communities.

NEETF researches public and professional environmental literacy. Its signature programs include *GreenBiz.Com*, The EnvironMentors Project, National Public Lands Day, the NEETF/Roper Report Card, and other initiatives.

Contact NEETF by writing 1707 Street, NW, Ste. 900, Washington, DC 20006, or call them at (202) 833-2933.

[www.ndwc.wvu.edu](http://www.ndwc.wvu.edu)

# On the Web

**CDC Pays Attention to Water Quality**  
[www.cdc.gov/node.do/id/0900f3ec8000e59b](http://www.cdc.gov/node.do/id/0900f3ec8000e59b)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) maintain an environmental health section on their Web site that includes information about water quality and public health.

According to this site, despite the U.S. having a typically safe water supply, diseases that spread through water are still a very real problem.

For more information about how water quality affects public health, contact the CDC by calling (800) 311-3435, or visit their Web site at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).



**Health Guide USA Links to Health Departments**  
[www.healthguideusa.com](http://www.healthguideusa.com)

Health Guide USA's Web site includes links to the public health departments of almost 1,000 U.S. cities and counties. It also includes links to schools of public health, state environmental health associations, and numerous other public health sites.

For more information about Health Guide USA, e-mail them at [info@healthguideusa.org](mailto:info@healthguideusa.org).

**CAEPH Applies Public Health Principles**  
[www.caeph.tulane.edu/](http://www.caeph.tulane.edu/)

The Center for Applied Environmental Public Health (CAEPH) uses public health principles and tactics to solve environmental health problems. CAEPH incorporates epidemiology, communication, management, and behavioral science with traditional laboratory science and engineering approaches. The center focuses on translating and publicizing research that fosters communication between university faculty and environmental health and safety professionals.

The center's research includes:

- community-based prevention and intervention;
- studies about childhood lead poisoning;
- trends in Mississippi River water quality;
- surveillance methodology and data analysis for environmental health issues;
- risk communication and translating research into practice; and
- technology-mediated education methods for environmental health education.



For more information, contact the CAEPH by writing 1440 Canal Street, Suite 800, New Orleans, LA, or call (800) 862-2122.

## Updated Environmental Management Software Available

[www.dnr.mo.gov/oac/lgov.htm](http://www.dnr.mo.gov/oac/lgov.htm)

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Environmental Management Suite, a collection of more than 70 software applications and documents used by local governments, water and sewer systems, and assistance providers, is available through the National Drinking Water Clearinghouse (NDWC).

"These programs and documents, developed or assembled by the department, have gained national recognition as models for communities," said Department of Natural Resources Director Steve Mahfood. "We are, understandably, proud of that."

The suite includes a wide variety of documents and applications. Among them, the *Show-me Ratemaker* user charge analysis programs help communities examine and adjust their water and sewer user charge rates so they will fund the systems adequately and be equitable for ratepayers.

The suite also contains more than 20 slide shows from workshops and presentations conducted by department staff. Other tools help communities develop stormwater management programs, assess their capacity to operate infrastructure systems, write sound ordinances, and more. The suite is available for free download from the Internet at [www.dnr.mo.gov/oac/lgov.htm](http://www.dnr.mo.gov/oac/lgov.htm).

The department recently gave permission to NDWC to reproduce, promote and distribute the suite nationally. The clearinghouse, accessible online at [www.nesc.wvu.edu/ndwc](http://www.nesc.wvu.edu/ndwc), is a Rural Utility Service-funded organization. It promotes, produces and distributes significant environmental information and resources so communities, water and sewer systems, and assistance providers all over the country can acquire them.

"Word of mouth from *Show-me Ratemaker* workshops conducted around the country has made the *Ratemaker* programs popular tools for systems and assistance providers," said Carl Brown, chief of the department's government assistance unit and the primary developer of the *Ratemaker* program. "More than 450 people have attended these national workshops. We estimate more than 2,000 analyses have been or are now being done using the *Ratemaker* programs. With approximately 70,000 public water and sewer systems in the nation, 2,000 analyses is a big number.

"Surprisingly, seven years ago when we first looked for a program to do what *Ratemaker* does, we couldn't find one, so we developed our own," Brown said. "Even more surprising, there still is no other program that does everything that *Ratemaker* does." And *Ratemaker* is just one of the 70 tools included in the suite.

"Environmental Management Suite distribution through our own Web site is already about 2,000 copies each year," said Mahfood. "NDWC distribution will accelerate its use even more."

## "Tackling Poverty Through Multiple Water Services"

[www.irc.nl/prod/wat](http://www.irc.nl/prod/wat)

An electronic conference hosted by the International Water and Sanitation Center in the Netherlands will run from May 17 through June 25, 2004, to discuss the small-scale, household level, productive uses of water in people's livelihoods.

These frequently informal activities that need water in and around the home have generally been neglected both by domestic water supply sectors, whose focus is on health improvement, and by irrigation sector that focuses on field-scale production.

*The discussion will examine the implications (both positive and negative) for the design and provision of water supply services around the world. For more information visit [www.irc.nl/content/view/full/8899](http://www.irc.nl/content/view/full/8899).*



## EPA Announces 500-Day Plan

[www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)

Citing short-term actions that lead to long-term goals, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Mike Leavitt announced his 500-Day Plan in early April 2004.

"My goal is to increase the velocity of environmental progress by implementing a 'better way,'" Leavitt says. Principles of this better way include: national standards, neighborhood solutions; reward results, not programs; and collaboration, not polarization.

Leavitt's plan to clean and protect water features "creating improved water-monitoring networks to keep water clean, safe, and secure; ensuring no net loss of wetlands; and restoring watersheds and coastal waters." Also mentioned is a goal to "protect the culture of rural America with innovative approaches to environmental protection."

The plan is scheduled to be reviewed and updated every 200 days.

*To learn more about Leavitt's 500-day plan, visit EPA's Web site at [www.epa.gov/admin-web/leavitt/500dayplan.htm](http://www.epa.gov/admin-web/leavitt/500dayplan.htm). The entire plan is also available on the site in PDF format.*



[www.ndwc.wvu.edu](http://www.ndwc.wvu.edu)