

## PEER Center Services

- ♦ 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
- ♦ Organizations that Support Public Entities
- ♦ All public entities

**For greener, cheaper,  
faster, better  
management of your  
environmental issues.**

## About PEER and LRC Services

The majority of information, tools and materials that the PEER Center 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.

## 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](http://www.peercenter.net).



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**PEER**   
**center**

*Fostering Environmental  
Leadership in the  
Public Sector*

[www.peercenter.net](http://www.peercenter.net)



## National PEER Center

The Public Entity Environmental Management System (EMS) Resource 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 and seven Local Resource Centers.

[www.peercenter.net](http://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.

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



The PEER Center initiative leverages the success of three U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) projects in which 32 municipal, county and state entities developed EMSs. The technical expertise, practical experience and lessons learned from these projects helped lay the foundation for the PEER Center today. For additional information visit [www.peercenter.net](http://www.peercenter.net).

## Local Resource Centers

PEER Local Resource Centers (LRCs) promote EMS competence and encourage government-to-government sharing and mentoring. Each LRC services communities in their local area or region with technical expertise, field-tested tools, support for EMS implementation, local contacts and resources.



- ♦ **Georgia Institute of Technology**  
Center for International Standards and Quality  
Atlanta, GA
- ♦ **Purdue University**  
Clean Manufacturing Technology and Safe  
Materials Institute  
West Lafayette, IN
- ♦ **Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission**  
Austin, TX
- ♦ **University of Florida**  
TREEO Center  
Gainesville, FL
- ♦ **University of Massachusetts at Lowell**  
EMS Service Center  
Lowell, MA
- ♦ **Virginia Tech**  
Center for Organizational and Technological  
Advancement  
Roanoke, VA
- ♦ **The Zero Waste Alliance**  
Portland, OR

For more information on the LRCs, visit  
[www.peercenter.net](http://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.

### Organizations Report:

*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 9 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> and saved over \$700K in operating costs.*

- Mark zu Hone, San Diego, CA

*Bonding agencies have indicated that they look favorably on EMS efforts. Consequently, we have been told that our EMS, when taken with other factors, could result in as much as one eighth point improvement in our bond rating.*

- Bill Peters, Jefferson County, AL

*Tri-Met's EMS set a resource conservation objective which included our diesel, electricity, natural gas and water usage. Our goal was 10% savings for 1 year. The total operational savings resulted in over \$63K for electricity and \$19K for water and sewer.*

- Kevin Considine, Tri-County Metropolitan  
Transportation District, Portland, OR

## 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 will be 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, we hope it will help make a difference in the communities that will benefit from having EMSs in place.*

- Jim Horne, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency