

## PROFESSIONAL LEGAL RESEARCH

Environmental law is the field of law that deals with the maintenance and protection of the natural environment, including measures to prevent pollution, conserve natural resources, and protect endangered species, as well as legislation to assign liability and remedy environmentally harmful incidents. This quick reference guide highlights the environmental law resources on Westlaw and shows you how to retrieve relevant documents.

### Environmental Law

Environmental law practice typically involves issues such as those relating to land use restrictions; pollution; and disposal of radioactive, solid, and toxic wastes. Since the late 1960s, environmental law has grown quickly and become vastly more complex.

### Environmental Law Resources on Westlaw

Westlaw includes an extensive collection of environmental law materials, including primary law, secondary sources, and federal briefs. News and business information databases cover developments in environmental issues and science. In each category listed below, a few key databases are highlighted. These databases and other environmental law–related resources can be accessed in the right frame of the tabbed Environmental Practitioner page (Figure 1). In the left frame of the Environmental Practitioner page you can do any of the following:

- Type a database identifier, e.g., **menv-st** for the Annotated Multistate Environmental, Health, and Safety Statutes database, in the *Search for a database* text box to display its Search page.
- Click **View Environmental Directory** to display the *Environmental Law* section of the Westlaw Directory.
- If you know the citation of a document, type your citation in the *Find by citation* text box.

### STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

The Federal Environmental Law–Code and Regulations database (FENV-CODREG) contains federal statutes and regulations that relate to environmental protection and conservation. The ENFLEX® Environmental, Health and Safety U.S. Code Annotated database (ENFLEX-USCA) contains federal statutes pertaining to environmental and health and safety compliance issues. The MENV-ST database contains statutes covering environmental and health and safety matters from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

**Category:**

Practice Area Fundamentals

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or click **Help** on Westlaw® for a live help session.

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## ADMINISTRATIVE MATERIALS

Decisions by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other agencies interpret laws and regulations and are often a component of environmental law research. EPA decisions are contained in the Federal Environmental Law–EPA Decisions database (FENV-EPA), as well as in a variety of other databases containing decisions, memoranda, and releases.

## CASE LAW

Court decisions that construe and review environmental laws, regulations, and agency decisions are another important source of information when you research environmental law. The Federal Environmental Law–Cases database (FENV-CS) includes cases from the federal courts that relate to environmental protection and conservation.

## SECONDARY SOURCES

The Environmental Law–Law Reviews, Texts, and Bar Journals database (ENV-TP) includes analytical texts, law reviews, practice materials, and legal periodicals that discuss environmental protection and conservation.

## FORMS AND CHECKLISTS

The Drafting Tools: Multistate Environmental Forms and Checklists database (ENVFORM-ALL) contains forms and checklists that are helpful in the practice of environmental law. To retrieve official federal environmental forms or forms and checklists in a particular area of environmental law, click a link, e.g., **Official Federal Environmental Forms**, in the *Forms, Checklists, and Clauses* section of the Environmental Practitioner page.



Figure 1. Environmental Practitioner page

For assistance using Westlaw, call 1-800-850-WEST (1-800-850-9378).  
For free reference materials, visit [west.thomson.com/westlaw/guides](http://west.thomson.com/westlaw/guides).