



# Center for Environmental Excellence by AASHTO

One Stop Source of Environmental Information for Transportation Professionals

The **Center for Environmental Excellence by AASHTO** offers a wide range of products and services to assist transportation agencies and their partners in achieving environmental excellence in delivering their transportation programs and projects. Through its information-sharing, technical assistance, partnership-building and training resources, the Center helps incorporate environmental compliance, sustainability, and stewardship into transportation planning, project development, construction, maintenance, and operations.

The Center's **Technical Working Group**—with representatives from AASHTO subcommittees and federal, state and local agencies covering transportation disciplines in the environment, planning, project development, design, construction, maintenance, operations and public transit—oversees the work of the Center. The Center works closely with the AASHTO committees and their members, and the Federal Highway Administration to tailor its products and services to the environmental needs of state transportation agencies and their partners.

**Advisory groups** comprised of state and federal transportation agency professionals, as well as environmental resource agencies, oversee the Center work. The oversight supports delivery of products and services that are easy to use, customer-focused, and based on sound planning, environmental, and engineering concepts and principles. An annual Center work plan is developed and posted on the Center website.

## CENTER PRODUCTS AND SERVICES | HIGHLIGHTS

- **Website:** A one-stop source of environmental information for transportation professionals, including Center products and programs and coverage of over 20 environmental topics.
- **Practitioner's Handbooks:** Handbooks include practical advice on environmental issues that arise during the transportation project/program lifecycle and cover diverse topics, from NEPA compliance to Project Decision-Making.
- **Peer Exchanges:** These in-person events facilitate interdisciplinary discussion among state DOT practitioners on relevant environmental issues and challenges facing transportation agencies.
- **Webinars:** Online, previously-recorded webinar presentations provide training to advance state-of-the-practice approaches on important topics, including Climate Change and NEPA.
- **Communities of Practice:** The Center facilitates an on-going dialogue with a group of invited transportation practitioners to promote environmental stewardship and encourage innovative methods for streamlining transportation delivery. The dialogue is facilitated by a senior technical expert, who prepares a report summarizing key findings.
- **Transportation Environmental Research:** The Transportation and Environmental Research Ideas (TERI) Database is a central storehouse for tracking/sharing research ideas in over 20 topics. The Center coordinates an AASHTO committee review of proposed research and research problem statements, and submission of problem statements to the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) and Surface Transportation Environment and Planning Research Program (STEP).
- **Programmatic Agreement Library and Toolkit:** The Programmatic Agreement Library (PAL) database contains executed programmatic agreements to streamline compliance and enhance environmental stewardship. The Programmatic Agreement Toolkit includes a roadmap for developing agreements, and a tracking tool to monitor short and long term benefits, non-recurring and recurring costs, quantitative benefits and other metrics.



# CENTER WEBSITE RESOURCES | HIGHLIGHTS

ONE STOP SOURCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FOR TRANSPORTATION PROFESSIONALS

<http://environment.transportation.org>

The Center website is a comprehensive resource for technical assistance, training, information exchange, partnership-building opportunities and quick and easy access to environmental tools.

- **Find It Fast:** A snapshot of website navigation with short descriptions of content contained within each section.
- **Environmental Topics:** In-depth coverage of 20+ topics, including relevance to transportation, recent developments/research, key resources, and case studies.
- **Disciplines:** Filter/sort for recent developments by environmental topic and by discipline (planning, design, construction, maintenance, operations, and project delivery). Handouts describe how the discipline is related to the environment in a transportation context.
- **Research:** A comprehensive summary of recent developments in industry research, links to research by environmental topic, a database of proposed research ideas, and a reference list of environmentally-focused Transportation Research Board Committees.
- **Meetings & Events:** A comprehensive listing, in list or calendar format with filter/sort functions, of meetings, conferences, training, webinars, workshops, and other industry-related events.
- **Get Center Updates:** Subscribe to weekly email notification of website updates, customized for your specific interests, and a quarterly email updated highlighting Center projects, products, programs and initiatives

## HOW CAN WE ASSIST YOU?

The Center's products and services are intended to serve practitioner needs. Communicate your need for environmental information, technical assistance, partnership-building or training via the Center's website at:

[http://environment.transportation.org/global/share\\_info.aspx](http://environment.transportation.org/global/share_info.aspx).

## ENVIRONMENTAL TOPICS

- Active Transportation
- Air Quality
- Climate Change Mitigation/Adaptation  
Energy/Greenhouse Gas Emissions  
Infrastructure Resilience
- Context Sensitive Solutions
- Environmental Justice
- Environmental Management Systems
- Geographic Information Systems
- Historic Preservation/Cultural Resources
- Indirect Effects/Cumulative Impacts
- Invasive Species/Vegetation  
Management
- FAST Act/MAP-21
- NEPA Process
- Noise
- Planning & Environment Linkages
- Project Delivery/Streamlining
- Section 4(f)/Section 6(f)
- Sustainability
- Waste Management/Recycling
- Water Quality/Wetlands
- Wildlife & Ecosystems



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