

## EPA Announces the Establishment of Four New Peer Centers

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Water, in cooperation with the Global Environment and Technology Foundation (GETF) announced the selection of four new Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Public Entity EMS Resource (PEER) Centers to help local governments learn more about and adopt EMSs for their operations. The new Centers are located at the University of Missouri-Rolla, Kansas State University, the University of Colorado, and EcoVenture in Oakland, California. These Centers are part of the Office of Water's ongoing Public Entity EMS Resource (PEER) Initiative.

EMSs provide organizations with a structured approach for assessing and reducing their environmental impacts on a continual basis. These new Centers join seven existing Centers around the country as part of the Office of Water's ongoing effort to promote EMS adoption by local governments to improve environmental performance and help ensure sustainable infrastructure for the future. More information about the Centers can be found at [www.peercenter.net](http://www.peercenter.net) or by contacting Jim Horne at 202-564-0571 or [horne.james@epa.gov](mailto:horne.james@epa.gov).

APWA and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) are working through a cooperative agreement with EPA's Office of Water to conduct education and outreach on EMS. As part of this project, APWA and ICMA will host a series of informational workshops across the country and develop a national web cast. More information about these and other outreach events will be available on our website as it's available. If you have any questions about APWA's EMS related events, please contact Megan Zadecky, Communications Manager for the EMS Project at 202.218.6712 or [mzadecky@apwa.net](mailto:mzadecky@apwa.net).