REAL-TIME WATER-QUALITY MONITORING IN KANSAS

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ABSTRACT

The U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) has established a real-time water-quality notification system for 12 surface-water sites in Kansas. Real-time water-quality data, including suspended sediment, fecal coliform bacteria, nutrients, and atrazine, are estimated and displayed in real time. Information is updated every 4 hours and is available on the Internet at http://ks.water.usgs.gov/Kansas/rtqw/.
This system was developed by the USGS in cooperation with the city of Wichita, city of Olathe, Groundwater Management District No. 5, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The system allows water-resource managers to make decisions on the basis of real-time water-quality estimates, which can improve response times for drinking-water treatment and environmental monitoring. Long-term continuous monitoring will allow users to better determine and monitor the effectiveness of total maximum daily loads and the effects of resource management practices on stream water quality.

SELECTED REFERENCE