# ENVIRONMENTAL WEBSITE SUGGESTIONS

There are many website options for sources on environmental issues and solutions.

It may be useful to remind students to vet their website sources — are they legitimate; that is, look for the secure padlock in the URL field to indicate a "safe" website. Check to determine if it begins with *https://* which indicates it is an authenticated website.

If using Google as the search engine, students may open the Google Transparency Report website to see its safety rating. If needed, find out where the URL you are using is hosted; that is, shorten the URL to its root address (for https://www.audubon.org/our-work/climate/science, the root address is https://www.audubon.org). If the site provides data, does it give a source(s) for further research? How recent (date or how recently updated) is the information. If there still are questions about the data, confirm them with other sources (books, articles).

## Suffixes (domains) on website addresses

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| **.gov** | Fderal government site. All branches of the federal government use this domain. |
| **.edu** | Schools from kindergarten to higher education use this domain. |
| **.com** | Commercial site. Sites using this domain typically are selling or marketing a product. |
| **.org** | Typically (but not always) a nonprofit organization. Most sites using this designation provide accurate data and information. However, some nonprofits, while providing accurate data, use the data to advocate for specific points of view. |
| **.mil** | The domain used by the armed forces of the United States. |
| **.net** | Network and used for sites that typically do not fall into one of the previous domains. |

If seeking information from one domain; that is, .gov, type in your issue/question and :domain. For example, air pollution causes :gov will bring up government sites on air pollution causes. The same is true for .edu, air pollution causes: edu will give you education sites.

As your students to research information on an issue/problem, remember that New Jersey has a number of universities that offer environment-related degrees and are a good source for studies, experts and activities connected to the topic.

What follows are only suggested sites to get your students started. There are many other organizations and agencies that provide resources about the environment as well as encourage and support environmental actions. Inclusion on this list does not imply endorsement of, or agreement with the contents by the Foundation for Impact and Literacy and Learning and/or Panasonic Foundation.

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| U.S. Department of Agriculture | https://usda.gov |
| U.S. Environmental Protection Agency | https://www.epa.gov |
| U.S. Environmental Protection Agency/Energy | https://www.epa.gov/energy |
| U.S. Department of Energy | https://www.energy.gov |
| U.S. Department of Interior | https://www.doi.gov |
| U.S. Department of State | https://www.state.gov/policy-issues |
| Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy | https://www.eere.energy.gov |
| New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection | https://www.dep.nj.gov |
| National Audubon Society | https://www.audubon.org/our-work/climate/survival |
| National Centers for Environmental Education | https://www.ncei.noaa.gov |
| National Institute for of Environmental Health | https://www.niehs.nih.topics |
| National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration | https://www.noaa.gov |
| National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/Climate | https://climate.gov |
| National Air and Space Administration/Climate Change | https://science.nasa.gov/climate-change |
| National Park Service | https://www.nps.gov |
| National Resources Defense Fund | http://www.nrdc.org/news-commentary |
| About Science | https://www.science.gov |
| Rutgers Climate and Energy Institute | https://njclimateresourcecenter.rutgers.edu |
| This is Planet Ed/Aspen Institute | https://thisisplaneted.org |
| United Nations Environment Program | https://www.unep.org |
| U.S. Air Quality Index | https://airnow.gov |
| U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | https://www.fws.org |
| U.S. Geological Survey Answers | https://www.answers.usgs.gov |
| Ask MIT Climate | https://climate.mit.edu/what-can-be-done |
| Climate Change Resources | https://climatechangeresources.org |
| U.S. Geological Survey Ecosystems | https://www.usgs.gov/search |
| World Health Organization | https://www.who.int/ews-room/fact-sheets |
| World Resources Institute | https://www.wri.org |
| Zero Waste | https://zerowaste.org/food-waste |